

Psalm 119:166

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

LORD, I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments.

Analysis

LORD, I have hoped for thy salvation לְשֹׁׁעַתְךָ שָׁבָרְתִּי יְהֹוָה (lishu'atekha sivarti YHWH)—Savar means 'hope, wait, expect with confidence.' Yeshu'ah ('salvation, deliverance') appears—the root of Yeshua/Jesus. The conjunction: **and done thy commandments** וְמִצְוֹתְךָ עֲשִׂיתִי (umitzvotekha asiti). Hope and obedience form one seamless response. Asah ('do, make, accomplish') indicates active, tangible obedience to mitzvot (commandments).

This anticipates James 2:14-26: faith without works is dead. Jacob echoes this verse precisely in Genesis 49:18: 'I have waited for thy salvation, O LORD.' Biblical hope always works while it waits.

Historical Context

The verse reflects the already/not-yet tension of redemptive history. Israel hoped for ultimate deliverance while obeying present commandments. Christians await Christ's return (Titus 2:13) while keeping His commands (John 14:15). Hope isn't passive wishing but active, obedient expectation.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does true hope for God's salvation express itself in present obedience to His commandments?
2. What would change in your life if you truly 'hoped' (sivarti—waited with confident expectation) for God's yeshu'ah (salvation/Jesus)?
3. How does the connection between waiting for salvation and doing commandments challenge both legalism and antinomianism?

Interlinear Text

עֲשִׂיתִי מִצְוֹת יְהָוָה לִשְׁוֹעָתְךָ שָׁבֵךְ רָתָי
and done thy commandments for thy salvation waited on me O LORD I have hoped
H6213 H4687 H3068 H3444 I have hoped

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 49:18 (Salvation): I have waited for thy salvation, O LORD.

Psalms 119:174 (Salvation): I have longed for thy salvation, O LORD; and thy law is my delight.

Psalms 4:5 (References Lord): Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.

Psalms 50:23 (Salvation): Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

Psalms 119:81 (Salvation): My soul fainteth for thy salvation: but I hope in thy word.

John 7:17 (Parallel theme): If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.