

Psalm 35:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Draw out also the spear, and stop the way against them that persecute me: say unto my soul, I am thy salvation.

Analysis

The Hebrew verb for 'draw out' (reyq) suggests both unsheathing a weapon and barricading a way, combining offense and defense. The petition 'say unto my soul, I am thy salvation' reveals the psalmist's deepest need—not merely deliverance from enemies but assurance of God's saving presence. The Hebrew 'yeshua' (salvation) foreshadows Christ as Yeshua, the ultimate fulfillment of God's saving word to troubled souls.

Historical Context

In ancient warfare, blocking an enemy's path was strategic for cutting off escape or pursuit routes. David's request reflects tactical military thinking applied to spiritual warfare, trusting God to both fight and reassure.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. What would it mean for you to hear God say 'I am your salvation' today?
2. How can God's word bring assurance even while battles rage around you?

Interlinear Text

אָמַר רְדָךְ וְלֹקֵב אֶת־עֲשָׂרָת־יִשְׂרָאֵל
Draw out also the spear and stop the way against them that persecute

H7324 H2595 H5462 H7125 H7291 H559

אָנָּב לְנַפְשִׁי וְיִשְׁעָתָה־נֶּגֶד
unto my soul I am thy salvation

H5315 H3444 H589

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 27:2 (Parallel theme): When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

Isaiah 12:2 (Salvation): Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

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