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What is Salvation? (Part 1)

To begin this study, as should be done with any serious word study, with the root for the word **salvation**. (From an article by Jeff A. Benner, from his Biblical Hebrew E-Magazine, August, 2008; Issue #045)

For the LORD your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you. (KJV, Deuteronomy 20:4)

The Hebrew word translated as "save" in the verse above, is the verbal root **ישע Y-Sh-Ah**, (Strong's #3467) meaning to rescue. The context of this word throughout the Tenack (Old Testament) is to rescue someone from his enemy, a trouble or illness, such as can be seen in the verse above.

Another form of this verb is **מושיע moshi'ah**. This is the "hiphil participle" form of the verb. A hiphil verb changes the action of the verb into a causative and would literally be translated as "to cause one to be rescued." A hiphil participle verb changes the action of the verb into active and would literally be translated as "causing one to be rescued" or it can be one who performs the action of the verb which would then be translated as "one causing another to be rescued."

The word **מושיע moshi'ah** literally means "one causing another to be rescued," or simply, a "rescuer," but this word is usually translated as "deliverer" or "savior."

*And when the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer (**moshi'ah**) to the children of Israel, who delivered (**the verb Y-Sh-Ah**) them, even Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother. (KJV, Judges 3:9)*

*he God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour (**moshi'ah**); thou savest (**the verb Y-Sh-Ah**) me from violence.* (KJV, 2 Samuel 22:3)

The word **ישועה** **yeshu'ah**, (Strong's #3444) is a noun derived from the verbal root **ישע** **Y.Sh.Ah**, (Strong's #3467) which means "relief" in the sense of being rescued from an enemy, trouble or illness. The King James Version translates this word as help, deliverance, health and welfare, but most frequently as salvation.

*And he said, If the Syrians be too strong for me, then thou shalt help (**yeshu'ah/relief**) me: but if the children of Ammon be too strong for thee, then I will come and help (**the verb Y-Sh-Ah /rescue**) thee.* (KJV, 2 Samuel 10:11)

*And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save (**the verb Y-Sh-Ah/rescue**) us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation (**yeshu'ah /relief**).* (KJV, Isaiah 25:9)

The name Joshua is written as **יהושע** **yehoshu'ah**, (Strong's #3091) and is the name/word **יה** **yah**, (**Strong's #3050, a form of the name/word YHWH**) and the word **ישועה** **yeshu'ah**, (Strong's #3444) meaning "rescue." The name then means, "Yah is rescue."

The Aramaic form of the Hebrew name **יהושע** is **ישוע** **yeshu'a**, (Strong's #3442), the name many use for the name "Jesus" which is the Latin transliteration of the Greek **Iesous**, which is the Greek transliteration of the Aramaic **Yeshua**, which is the Aramaic transliteration of the Hebrew **Yehoshuah**.

[End of Citation]

From this root word study we can say that in the Bible, Salvation means to be rescued, from imminent danger, by a deliverer, a Messiah. The bible tells us that our Messiah is Jesus, The Son Of God!

But now, what does it mean for us today?

Who needs salvation?

The answer is: anyone who wants to escape the wrath of God.

And yes, there is an upcoming judgment over all mankind. There is an end of days, a final reckoning for the just and the unjust. This might not sound politically correct to many humanists today, but it is written all over the bible.

Let's search in the Bible for a definition of Gods Wrath.

Isaiah 26:20-21; (One New Man (ONM))

20. *My people! Get out of here! Enter your chambers and shut your doors about you. Hide yourself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation has passed.* **21.** *For, behold, the LORD* comes out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity. The earth also will disclose her blood, and will no longer cover her slain.*

Isaiah 65:11-12; (One New Man (ONM))

11. *But you are those who forsake the LORD*, who forget My holy mountain, who prepare a table for Fortune, and who fill up mixed wine for Destiny.* **12.** *Therefore I shall number you to the sword and you will all bow down to the slaughter, because when I called, you did not answer. When I spoke, you did not hear, but brought chaos before My eyes and chose that in which I did not delight.*

Isaiah 66:15-18; (One New Man (ONM))

15 *For, behold, the LORD* will come with fire and like a whirlwind with His chariots, to render His anger with fury and His rebuke with flames of fire.* **16.** *For by fire and by His sword will the LORD* plead with all flesh, and the slain of the LORD* will be many.* **17.** *Those who sanctify themselves and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the middle, eating swine's flesh, then the reptile and the mouse will be consumed together, says the LORD*.* **18.** *And I AM knows their works and their thoughts. It will come that I shall gather all nations and tongues, and they will come and see My glory.*

Jeremiah 6:19; (One New Man (ONM))

19. *Listen, O earth! Behold, I AM will bring evil upon this people, the fruit of their thoughts (2 Cor. 10:5), because they have not heeded My words or My Torah (Teaching), but they rejected it.*

Psalms 50:3; (One New Man (ONM))

3. *Our God will come and will not keep silence: a fire will devour before Him, and it will be very tempestuous all around Him.*

1Thessalonians 4:1-11; (One New Man (ONM))

1. *And concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you do not need it to be written to you,*

2. for you know accurately that the Day of the Lord is coming as a thief at night. 3. When unbelievers would say, "Peace and safety," (Jer. 6:14; 8:11, Ezek. 13:10) then sudden destruction is standing near just as travail would be in the womb, and they would not escape. 4. But you, brothers, are not in darkness, so that the Day would overtake you as a thief: 5. for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night and not of darkness: 6. we should therefore not sleep like the rest but we should be watchful and we should be sober. 7. For those who are sleeping sleep of night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night: 8. but, since we are of day, we should be sober, putting on a breastplate of faith and of love and for a helmet the hope of salvation: 6 (Isa. 59:17) 9. because God did not put us here to be subject to wrath but to gain salvation through our Lord Y'shua Messiah, 10. the One Who died instead of us, so that whether we would be awake or we would sleep we will live together with Him. 11. On this account you must continually exhort one another and you must steadily build up one another one on one, just as you are doing.

2 Thessalonians 1:3-8; (One New Man (ONM))

3. We must give thanks to God always concerning you, brothers, just as He is worthy, because your faith is increasing bountifully and the love of each one for one another fills all of you, 4. so that we boast of these things in you to the congregations of God concerning your patience and faithfulness in all your persecutions and afflictions which you are enduring, 5. evidence of the righteous judgment of God for you to be considered worthy of the Kingdom of God, for which you are now suffering, 6. since it is just for God to repay affliction to those who afflict you 7. and to you, the ones who are now being afflicted, grant in turn relief from persecutions with us, by means of the revelation of the Lord Y'shua from heaven with His powerful angels 8. in flaming fire, giving vengeance to those who have not known God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Y'shua, 9. who will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His strength, 10. when He would come with His holy ones to be glorified and to be marveled at in that Day by all who believe, because our testimony was believed by you. 11. And we are always praying on your behalf that our God would judge you worthy of the calling and He would fill you with every delight of goodness and work of faith in power, 12. so that the name of our Lord Y'shua would be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and Lord Y'shua Messiah.

2Peter 3:1-14; (One New Man (ONM))

1. Now beloved, I am writing this second letter to you in which I am stirring up the pure understanding by way of a reminder

2. to recall the words spoken before by the holy prophets and the command of our Lord and Savior through your apostles. 3. Since you know this first, that mockers will come to you with their mocking in the last days when they indulge their physical nature in their own desires that defile 4. and asking, "Where is the promise of His coming?" For our fathers slept from the time of the Promise, thus everything remains as it was from the beginning of creation. 5. For they willfully forget that long ago the heavens were created, then earth came out from water, then through water, being held together by the Word of God,

6. through which the world, when it was inundated by water, was destroyed:

7. but now the heavens and the earth are reserved by the same Word, being kept for fire on the Day of Judgment and the destruction of the ungodly people.

8. But this one thing must not escape your notice, beloved, that one day with the Lord is as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day. (Ps. 90:4) 9. The Lord does not tarry with His promise, as some consider slowness, but He is patient with you, not wanting any to be destroyed but all to come to repentance.

10. But the Day of the Lord will come like a thief, on which Day the sky¹ will pass away with a roar and the elements from which all things are made will be destroyed, being burned up, and the earth and the deeds of all on it will be laid bare² in this Day.

11. Thus, while everything is being destroyed in this manner, it is necessary for you to be in holy conduct and pieties, 12. awaiting and hastening the coming of the Day of God, because of which the flaming heavens³ will be destroyed and heavenly bodies will be destroyed, being dissolved by the heat. 13. But now we are looking for a new sky and a new earth according to His promise, in which righteousness dwells.

(Isa. 65:17; 66:22, Rev. 21:1) 14. For which reason, beloved, since you expect these things you must now make every effort to be found spotless and blameless in Him in peace.

If you really want to read about Gods Wrath, you have to look into The Book of Revelations or as commonly known, The Apocalypse.

Let's read Revelation 14:9-11; (New Living Translation (NLT))

9. Then a third angel followed them, shouting, "Anyone who worships the beast and his statue or who accepts his mark on the forehead or on the hand 10. must drink the wine of God's anger. It has been poured full strength into God's cup of wrath. And they will be tormented with fire and burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and the Lamb. 11. The smoke of their torment will rise forever and ever, and they will have no relief day or night, for they have worshiped the beast and his statue and have accepted the mark of his name."

Also, let's read Revelation 14:17-20; (New Living Translation (NLT))

17. After that, another angel came from the Temple in heaven, and he also had a sharp sickle. 18. Then another angel, who had power to destroy with fire, came from the altar. He shouted to the angel with the sharp sickle, "Swing your sickle now to gather the clusters of grapes from the vines of the earth, for they are ripe for judgment." 19. So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and loaded the grapes into the great winepress of God's wrath. 20. The grapes were trampled in the winepress outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress in a stream about 180 mile long and as high as a horse's bridle.

Let's read Revelation 16:1; (New Living Translation (NLT))

1. Then I heard a mighty voice from the Temple say to the seven angels, "Go your ways and pour out on the earth the seven bowls containing God's wrath."

If you read thru revelation chapter sixteen (16), you'll get a full grasp of what Gods Wrath means for the unbelieving End of Days generation.

I think by now you understand that God will judge all and everyone of those who rejected his Son Jesus, our lord and savior, On That Day.

Now you know that salvation is a big thing, really important for everyone to understand.

Please stop and read the following carefully:

Hebrews 1:9. The Lord does not tarry with His promise, as some consider slowness, but He is patient with you, not wanting any to be destroyed but all to come to repentance.

God does not want ANY to be destroyed **but all** to come to repentance. I ask you then, how can you say that salvation is only for those predestined, and that the rest will be destroyed? That he decided that beforehand?

God has sent his messengers, since days of old, to let you know that you have a choice to make. There will be no excuse. He sent Jesus in the last days, his only begotten Son to give us testimony of The Way, The Truth and The Life.

Let's read Hebrews 1:1-4;

1. Long ago and in many various ways when God spoke to our fathers, He spoke through the prophets. 2. On the last of these days, He spoke to us through a Son, Whom He appointed heir of all, through Whom He also made the universe: 3. He is the radiance of the glory and representation of His nature, and carries everything by the power in His word. After He made Himself purification for our sins, He sat at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

4. then He became so much higher in rank than the angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

God has spoken to our fathers, the seed of Abraham, since long ago. He spoke thru the prophets Samuel, Ezra, Nehemiah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi, King David, Samuel, Elisha and John the Baptist and The Son Of God, Jesus.

The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob sent his servants, and last his only begotten Son, and they were killed. A message to escape the Wrath was sent, but only a few paid attention.

There are three parables that show this in a powerful way, Matthew 22:1-14, Mark 12:1-12 and Luke 20:9-19. I'll focus in the one written by Matthew.

Allow me to illustrate a bit more.

Let's read the parable of the Kings Son Wedding Banquet.



Let's read Matthew 22:1-14; (King James Version (KJV))

1. And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, 2. The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, 3. And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.

This parable is about a biblical truth, about a King that in reality is God the Father. As we read the parable, the reader must bear in mind that it is a story based on the Jewish wedding feast and royal banquet traditions that are familiar to the Middle East, and very relevant in the time of Jesus. In this story, God the father made a marriage for his son, Jesus. It is a royal banquet, at the Kings palace, the Kingdom of Heavens.

It was an ancient custom in the Middle East to send forth the Kings servants twice out to call the invitees.

- The first time the servants went out was to deliver the wedding invitation. It was a formal notification that the King is "calling" them to a feast.

Those who the king "calls" are expected to make the necessary arrangements, to 'cleanse themselves'. To make time and honor the Son and the King at the banquet by attending the special occasion, as a show of respect and obedience. The servants also deliver a wedding garment specially prepared for the wedding of the Kings Son. No other garment is allowed. The person that was 'called' by the King must wear that wedding garment. He will not be allowed into the banquet without it.

- The second time the King sends his servants is to require their immediate presence. To advise that the hour has come, the fat calves are roasted and warm, ready to be served. It would be an offense to the King, if the person who he 'calls' does not come. It's an unpardonable disrespect to the Son when they make false excuses for not coming.

4. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. 5. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: 6. And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.

God the Father sent his servants, the Prophets, to "call" Israel to repent. The Torah has their testimonies, the books of the prophets, like Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Elisha and the last of them, John the Baptist, whose head was cutoff by King Herod.

In Luke 20:37-39, the writer expands with additional information; the husbandmen kill the Son.

37 But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. 38 But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. 39 And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him.

In these parables, all the servants were killed, when they delivered the Kings calling. It is a direct parallel to what the writer of the epistle to the Hebrews 1:1 when he said; 1. *"Long ago and in many various ways when God spoke to our fathers, He spoke through the prophets. 2. On the last of these days, He spoke to us through a Son, Whom He appointed heir of all, through Whom He also made the universe."*

God the Father has been calling everyone to return to him. He has called many to the wedding of the Lamb. But no one has listened. Instead they killed the heir, his only begotten son. Let's continue now with reading the parable of the kings Son wedding feast.

Matthew 20:7; *But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.*

This was in the year 70ad, when General Titus sacked the gold in the Holy Temple and destroyed it completely. Jerusalem was laid plane, not a stone was left unturned and it burned to the ground. More than a million Jews were killed and those that survived were sent as slaves to Rome. And so, the Rome Coliseum was built with the Temple treasure and Hebrew slaves.

This is Gods Wrath. And there is more coming.



End of Part 1.

Kindly go to Part 2.