

July 3, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

Isa. 12:2 *Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD Himself, is my strength and my defense; He has become my salvation.*

What a beautiful reminder for us today. God is our salvation. The Hebrew word for *salvation* is **yeshua ti** which means *to deliver, help, to bring freedom or make secure and save*. This word is given as a Hebrew name: Joshua. The one who led the children of Israel into the promised land. And of course, this name was also given to our Savior; Yeshua Hamashiach which means the deliverer and savior, Jesus the Christ.

Isaiah identifies the LORD as his salvation. Because of this, he has nothing to fear. And, then he extols the character of the LORD by stating the He is our strength and our defense. You see, Jesus not only brought freedom to the captives (of sin), but He also strengthens us to face the attacks of the evil one and He defends us by His great name. Moses used this same name in **Ex. 14:13** *Moses answered the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again.*

Then Isaiah makes a statement of clarification. He says: *He has become my salvation*. Here is the important point for all people. Jesus has come to be the Savior of the world, but unfortunately, many people will not accept Him. This takes place when we make the choice to accept the salvation of the LORD that is provided to us through Jesus. No one can make that choice for you. You must decide to trust Him as your personal Savior and then follow Him as your LORD.

The icing on the cake for me in this passage is that Isaiah wanted to make sure everyone else knew Who he was talking about: *the LORD, the LORD Himself*. Don't be confused by all of the false claims of religions. There is only one Savior and Deliverer. His name is Jesus the Christ, the Savior of the world. As Peter proclaimed to the religious leaders of the day in **Acts 4:8-12** *Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: “Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. Jesus is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.’ Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”*

Dear LORD, we praise You that You are the way, the truth and the life and that no one comes to the Father except through Jesus. You are our only hope of salvation. In Jesus Name, Amen.