JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOUR!

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NOTE: - All Bible texts are taken from the <u>King James Version</u>; and the compiler has supplied all emphasis throughout this Study Document.

THE SAVIOUR IN THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES IDENTIFIED: -

 The Lord proclaimed through the gospel prophet Isaiah, "I [am] the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour" (Isaiah 43:3).

Who is the Holy One of Israel? The following prophecy refers to the resurrection from the dead of God's Holy One.

" For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption." (Psalms 16:10.)

The New Testament has applied the above prophecy to the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. The apostle Peter testified on the Day of Pentecost that the prophet David "spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption" (Acts 2:31).

Even the devils acknowledged that "thou Jesus of Nazareth ... I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God" (Mark 1:24).

The apostle Peter testified concerning "Jesus" that he was indeed "the Holy One and the Just" (Acts 3:13 & 14).

- Therefore, Jesus Christ is the Holy One of God and the Saviour.
- The Lord has testified concerning himself, "I, [even] I, [am] the LORD; and beside me [there is] no saviour" (Isaiah 43:11).

Again the Lord has spoken through the prophet Isaiah, that the "God of Israel", is "the Saviour" (Isaiah 45:15).

The testimony of the Lord is clear and unambiguous concerning himself, "and [there is] no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; [there is] none beside me" (<u>Isaiah 45:21</u>).

It is interesting to take note of what the inspired apostle Peter proclaimed to the Jewish leaders of his day that helps us to identify who is the **ONLY** Saviour mentioned in the above verse from Isaiah's pen. Peter proclaimed that only in "the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, ... is there salvation". He made this point even

plainer in the following words, "for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:10 & 12).

The Lord proclaimed that "all flesh shall know that I the LORD [am] thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob" (Isaiah 49:26).

The Lord has repeated the above teaching concerning the Saviour and the Redeemer again through the prophet Isaiah, "thou shalt know that I the LORD [am] thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob" (Isaiah 60:16).

The prophet Isaiah testified that "the LORD of hosts" **IS** "the mighty One of Israel" (Isaiah 1:24).

Who is the Lord of Hosts? The prophet Isaiah has recorded king Hezekiah's prayer to the Lord of hosts, in which this righteous king identifies the Lord of hosts as being the Creator of heaven and earth. "O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, that dwellest [between] the cherubims, thou [art] the God, [even] thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth." (Isaiah 37:16.)

In the book of <u>Hebrews</u>, the apostle Paul quotes God the Father as speaking "unto the Son" and stating to the Son the following words, "Thy throne, O God, [is] for ever and ever" (<u>Hebrews 1:8</u>). This of course is a wonderful statement testifying to the Divinity of Jesus Christ, that comes to us from the Highest Authority in the Universe – namely, from God the Father himself!

The Father then addresses the Son in words that bear direct relevance to the previous verse from the book of <u>Isaiah</u> concerning the "Lord of hosts" when he states, "Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands" (<u>Hebrews 1:10</u>). The Father is identifying the Son as being the Lord who made the heavens and the earth.

These verses from the book of <u>Hebrews</u> have identified Jesus Christ, the Son of God, as being the "Lord of hosts", the Creator of heaven and earth, and therefore, who is "the mighty One of Israel", and the Saviour and Redeemer as quoted previously in the book of <u>Isaiah</u>.

- We must also take note on this important point of what the apostle Paul testified concerning <u>WHO</u> was the promised Saviour to the people of Israel. He preached that from king David's "seed hath God according to [his] promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus" (<u>Acts 13:23</u>).
- We have further testimony to this truth concerning the Redeemer being the Lord Jesus from the apostle Paul's pen, who has testified concerning Jesus Christ, "in whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins" (Ephesians 1:7).

Referring to the justification that comes by God's grace, Paul also referred to "the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Romans 3:24).

Paul also wrote that "Christ Jesus" has been "made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption" (1 Corinthians 1:30).

Jesus as our great Heavenly High Priest, "by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place¹, having obtained eternal redemption [for us]" (<u>Hebrews 9:12</u>).

Therefore, Jesus Christ is the promised Saviour to Israel and the only God as identified in the Old Testament Scriptures.

JESUS CHRIST IS THE SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD: -

- At the birth of Jesus, the heavenly host proclaimed to the shepherds by night, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." (<u>Luke 2:11.</u>)
- After Jesus stayed in the village of the Samaritans for two days, and after hearing him speak to them, they
 were able to testify concerning him, "for we have heard [him] ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ,
 the Saviour of the world" (John 4:42).

The apostle John has recorded the simple truth "that the Father sent the Son [to be] the Saviour of the world" (1 John 4:14).

- The apostle Peter has exhorted his readers to "grow in grace, and [in] the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).
- Through "the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ" he has "abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel" (2 Timothy 1:10). This verse would indicate that there is no life (that is no eternal life) and immortality apart from the gospel of Christ.

GOD OUR SAVIOUR: -

We are exhorted by the apostle Paul to "trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe" (1 Timothy 4:10).

Concerning the Christians at Ephesus, the apostle Paul wrote that they had "first trusted in Christ"; and he further recorded concerning them and their faith in Christ, "in whom ye also [trusted], after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation" (Ephesians 1:12 & 13).

- Therefore, trusting in the Living God who is the Saviour of all mankind is actually trusting in "Christ, the Saviour of the world" (John 4:42).
- The apostle Paul had God's word "committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour". Then in the next verse he refers to "the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour" (<u>Titus 1:3 & 4</u>). Therefore the Lord Jesus Christ **IS** God our Saviour!
- The apostle Jude points us "to the only wise God our Saviour" who shall receive "glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever" (Jude 25).

¹ The Greek expression that has been translated as "into the holy place" is "eis ta hagia". It literally can be translated as "into the sanctuary".

THE SAVIOUR FROM SIN: -

- The heavenly angel testified to Joseph as to the reason why he should call Mary's firstborn son Jesus, "for he shall save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). Jesus is the Saviour, or the One who saves his people from their sins!
- The apostles testified to the Jewish leaders when being tried for their faith, that God had exalted Jesus Christ "with his right hand [to be] a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins" (Acts 5:31).
- The Scripture "preached before the gospel unto Abraham, [saying], In thee shall all nations be blessed" (<u>Galatians 3:8</u>).

The reason that Paul calls this promise that God made to Abraham "the gospel" is because it is in reality a promise to Abraham and "to thy seed, which is Christ" (Galatians 3:16).

The apostle Peter repeated this gospel promise in his preaching, "And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed." (Acts 3:25.) And the blessing that our Saviour Jesus Christ brings us in the gospel is given us in the next verse, "Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities." (Acts 3:26.)

- The following prophecy from the pen of the prophet Isaiah refers to the Redeemer (that is, the One who redeems his people), who we already know is the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. It is of interest on the point that we are examining under this SECTION.
- " And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD." (Isaiah 59:20.)

When the apostle Paul quotes this prophecy in his epistle to the <u>Romans</u>, he gives us further information concerning "the Deliverer" and his saving mission for his people.

"There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob" (Romans 11:26).

Paul exhorted Titus to look "for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ". He adds concerning our Saviour, that he "gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity², and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (<u>Titus 2:13 & 14</u>).

THE SAVIOUR FROM THE COMING WRATH: -

- Through Christ our Saviour "we shall be saved from wrath through him" (Romans 5:9).
- Paul records the following truth concerning Jesus our Saviour, when he writes to the Thessalonians, that Christ
 has "delivered us from the wrath to come" (1 Thessalonians 1:10).

² The Greek word that is translated as "iniquity" is the Greek word "anomia" – <u>See Strong's Concordance; Greek, No. 458.</u> This Greek word is defined as "Lawlessness" - <u>A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature</u>, by W. Bauer, Translated and revised by W. F. Arndt, F. W. Gingrich, and F. W. Danker; pages 71 & 72. Our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ gave himself to redeem us from all lawlessness.

"For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Thessalonians 5:9.)

The only remedy for us to be saved from the wrath of God is to believe on the Son of God, otherwise as John testifies, "he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

THE SAVIOUR FROM CORRUPTION AND MORTALITY: -

■ The apostle Paul exhorted the gospel worker Titus to look "for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (<u>Titus 2:13</u>).

It is at the time of this glorious event, that our Saviour Jesus Christ shall "appear the second time without sin unto salvation" for all those "that look for him" (Hebrews 9:28).

And the apostle Paul comforted the Philippian Christians with the following exhortation concerning their looking to heaven and the 2nd Coming of the Saviour, that "we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body" (Philippians 3:20 & 21).

And what will this "glorious body" be like that the saints will be changed to at this time? Paul has given us the answer to this question in his 1st epistle to the <u>Corinthians</u>. Concerning the resurrection of the dead he writes, "It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body." (<u>1 Corinthians 15:42 - 44.</u>)

"Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal [must] put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory." (1 Corinthians 15:51 - 54.)

The saying that Paul quotes from in <u>verse 54</u> is taken from the book of <u>Isaiah</u>. When we examine the original setting of this prophecy, we find that concerning the Lord that "He will swallow up death in victory", and the righteous will say "in that day, Lo, this [is] our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this [is] the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation" (Isaiah 25:8 & 9).

The redeemed will finally proclaim, "Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb" (Revelation 7:10.)