

THOU HAST MADE A HEDGE ABOUT HIM

Job 1:10: *Hast Thou not made a hedge about him, and about his house and about all that he hath on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.*

Isaiah 5:2: *And He fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and He looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.*

INTRODUCTION

From the lips of satan came these accusing words unto God. They were the gripes of a very jealous and envious devil. He was bellyaching to the Lord.

1. **Because he can't stand this holiness man living a victorious life**
2. **Because Job was getting ahead financially**
3. **Because Job was protected by God, and satan can't get at him to bankrupt him**



satan appearing before God to accuse Job.

These words reveal an outstanding truth: If the devil had his way, every child of God would be defeated, destitute, and diseased. It made the devil mad for Job to get ahead and prosper financially. The enemy of our soul cannot refute the fact that God blesses His children as much as He can trust them with earthly possessions.

Deuteronomy 8:18: *But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is He Who giveth thee power to get wealth, that He may establish His Covenant which He swore unto thy fathers, as it is this day.*

Psalms 1:3: *And He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth His fruit in His season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever He doeth shall prosper.*

Proverbs 3:9-10:

⁹ Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

¹⁰ So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

2 Chronicles 26:5: And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God: and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper.

2 John 1:2: For the truth's sake, which dwelleth in us, and shall be with us for ever.

Notice now where the hedge of God was located:

- 1. About Job**
- 2. About his house**
- 3. About all that he has**
- 4. On every side**



Job and his children.

I am amazed at the extent to which the Lord will protect His children. God never challenged the accuracy of satan's observations. Did you notice that? In **Zechariah 2:5**, it says **God puts a wall of fire around us when we are living right.**

Zechariah 2:5: For I, saith the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.

He takes it away when we turn from righteousness and commit iniquity.

Isaiah 5:5: And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to My vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up, and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down.

2 Peter 2:20-21:

²⁰ For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

²¹ For it had been better for them not to have known the way of Righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the Holy

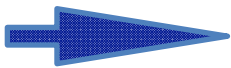
Commandment delivered unto them.

Satan is aware of our possessions. He knows that for the most part, most people's possessions possess them. Yet, here is a man possessing his possessions, and yet is keeping the victory. Job is a different breed of saint who is living above the temptation of making things his god. God can trust Job with much, for he uses it for the Glory of God and not for consuming it upon his own lusts. This is a big irritation to the devil. He boils over with the insults about this holy man, Job.

**. . . most people's
possessions
possess them.**

Since his first false accusation didn't get him the desired results, he tried another approach. Satan challenged God to strip Job of all his wealth and insinuated that Job would blow up and backslide if God did that. Job showed how a soul can live in victory and be so in love with the Lord that all his earthly goods are insignificant to him.

The size of your pocketbook, your purse, your bank account, the number of titles to land, your race, color, or social standing in the community will mean very little if they give you a big head.



God does not look at what you have, but what you do with what you have, and what you allow it to do to you.

The Lord is no respecter of persons. He only looks at the heart. If your eye is single to the Glory of God, your faith is unwavering, and your love is pure and unselfish, then there is no good thing that the Lord will withhold from you.

Matthew 6:22: The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

James 1:6-7:

⁶ But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like the wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

⁷ For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

Psalms 84:11: For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that

walk uprightly.



satan arguing with
God about Job.

Satan presses false charges against Job. He is trying to infer that Job is only serving the Lord and living a righteous life because it is very profitable for him to do so. Satan wants God to take all these earthly goods away and watch how Job will react. If only you could realize how the devil also accuses you before God day and night.

This fact is recorded:

Revelation 12:10: And I heard a loud voice saying in Heaven, Now is come Salvation, and strength, and the Kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

The devil is a slanderer, and it looks very much to me like you will not have to leave the church to find people who are in business with the devil. The spirit of satan has slipped into the hearts of some professing Christians, also. They rant and rage against one another just like the devil does.

The devil wanted God to remove the hedge from Job. It is the Lord Who puts it there in the first place. You also have that hedge about you even if you are not aware of the fact.

Mark 12:1: And He [Jesus] began to speak unto them in parables. A certain man planted a vineyard, and set an hedge about it, and digged a place for the winefat, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country.

Isaiah 5:2a: And He fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein:

We are the Lord's property when we are saved and born-again. We are not our own, for we are bought with a price.

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1 Corinthians 6:19-20:

¹⁹ What? Do you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which you have of God, and ye

are not your own?

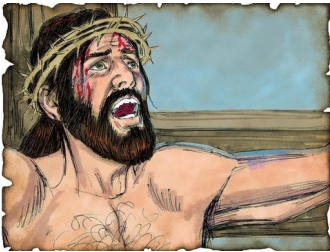
20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Acts 20:28: Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His Own Blood.

1 Peter 1:18-19:

18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

19 But with the Precious Blood of Christ, as a lamb without blemish and without spot.



This is the Precious Blood of the Lord Jesus which was spilled on the Cross of Calvary for our redemption and salvation. No honest man would fence in property that did not rightfully belong to him. Neither would the Lord do it. The Lord has a personal claim upon us and actually, *HE owns me*. This ought to be in our conscious mind day and night.

Luke 18:7: And shall not God avenge HIS OWN ELECT, which cry day and night unto Him with them?

John 10:3-4:

3 To Him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear His Voice; and He calleth His Own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.

4 And when He putteth forth His Own Sheep, He goeth before them, and the Sheep follow Him: for they know His Voice.



John 13:1: Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour was come that He should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved His Own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end.

Here satan rants, raves, and rages in the most dramatic way ever shown in the

Bible. He is wanting God to take away everything He has given to Job. Salvation is not confiscation. God doesn't command your soul against your will, nor your tithes and offerings. God has a personal interest in us, and we in Him.

Song of Solomon 2:16a: My beloved is Mine, and I am His:

2 Timothy 1:12d: . . . He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day.

We are kept by the power of God through faith (1 Peter 1:5); and what we possess is also kept by the same power of God when we commit it into the Lord's hands. If I am a good steward of that which God has entrusted to me and have used my possessions wisely for the upbuilding of God's Kingdom, there is no way for the hedge to be removed of God's protecting power. God watches over us and will not let anyone hurt us.

We are kept by the power of God through faith.

Isaiah 27:3: I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.

There are thousands of acres of land in the United States that are not fenced in because they are practically worthless. Fertile fields carefully guarded by fences are clearly seen everywhere, also. So this hedge about Job and about all he has on every side is placed there by God. This hedge denotes the precious possessions of God. The devil can't get through it, he cannot destroy anything within the hedge of God.

What does God see in us that is worthwhile? We may be inclined to feel that



God has gotten a bad bargain when He got us. Just look at Calvary and you will see what He paid for our souls. Look at the *price* Jesus was willing to pay for our ransom.

Matthew 20:28: Even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.

1 Timothy 2:6: Who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Just look at the ransom and you will see that you and your goods are precious

and valuable to the Lord.

When the angels sinned, there was not provided a Saviour. But when mankind was tricked by the devil and deceived and fell from God's Grace, God came down immediately and *Promised* the Redeemer to Adam and Eve. God Promised His choicest possession in the Person of His Only Begotten Son to rescue us from eternal ruin. God is telling us all — those who are saved, as well as every sinner — that HE LOVES YOU.



This fence or hedge suggests Divine protection as well as Divine property; therefore, for the devil - *no trespassing*. Satan walked around the acres and acres of Job's land and life, and he found everything enclosed. He could not find a loophole anywhere or a weak spot where he could get in.



God has Promised to KEEP us who have been redeemed by the Blood of Jesus. Never forget that.

Here are some of the Bible references which the Lord repeatedly gives to remind us of His KEEPING and PRESERVING and PROTECTING power to those who trust Him.

KEEPING, PRESERVING, PROTECTING . . .

Genesis 28:15: And behold, I AM with thee, and will KEEP thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.

Joshua 24:17: For the LORD our God, He it is Who brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed:

1 Samuel 2:9: He will KEEP the feet of His saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail.

1 Samuel 30:23: Then said David, Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which the LORD hath given us, Who hath PRESERVED us,

and delivered the company that came against us into our hand.

2 Samuel 8:6: *Then David put garrisons in Syria of Damascus: and the Syrians became servants to David, and brought him gifts. And the LORD PRESERVED David whithersoever he went.*

Nehemiah 9:6: *Thou, even Thou, art LORD alone; Thou hast made Heaven, the Heaven of Heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and Thou PRESERVEST them all; and the host of Heaven worshippeth Thee.*

Job 10:12: *Thou hast granted me life and favour, and Thy visitation hath PRESERVED my spirit.*

Job 29:2: *Oh that I were as in the months past, as in the days when God PRESERVED me.*

Psalms 12:7: *Thou shalt keep them, O LORD; Thou shalt PRESERVE them from this generation for ever.*



Job in happier days.

Psalms 31:23: *O love the LORD, all ye His saints: for the LORD PRESERVETH the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.*

Psalms 32:7: *Thou art my hiding place; Thou shalt PRESERVE me from trouble; Thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance.*

Psalms 34:20: *He KEEPETH all His bones: not one of them is broken.*

Psalms 37:28: *For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not His saints; they are PRESERVED FOR EVER; but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.*

Psalms 40:11: *Withhold not Thou Thy tender mercies from me O LORD: let Thy lovingkindness and Thy truth continually PRESERVE me.*

Psalms 41:2: *The LORD will PRESERVE him, and keep him alive: and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and Thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.*

Psalms 97:10: Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: He PRESERVETH the souls of His saints; He delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.

Psalms 127:1: Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the LORD KEEP the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

Proverbs 2:8: He KEEPETH the paths of judgment, and PRESERVETH the way of His saints.

Isaiah 31:5: As birds flying, so will the LORD of Hosts defend Jerusalem; defending also He will deliver it; and passing over it He will PRESERVE it.

Isaiah 42:6: I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will KEEP thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles.

Isaiah 49:8: Thus saith the LORD, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will PRESERVE thee, and give thee for a Covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages:

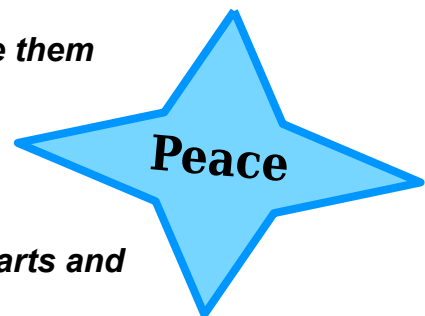
John 17:11: And now I AM no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to Thee. Holy Father, KEEP through Thine Own Name those whom Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, as we are.

John 17:15: I pray not that Thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that Thou shouldest KEEP them from the evil.

Philippians 4:7: And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall KEEP your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:23: And the very God of Peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be PRESERVED blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Thessalonians 3:3: But the Lord is Faithful, Who shall stablish you,



and KEEP you from evil.

2 Timothy 4:18: And the Lord shall deliver me from evil work, and will PRESERVE me unto His Heavenly Kingdom: to Whom be Glory forever and ever. Amen.

Jude 1: Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and PRESERVED in Jesus Christ, and called:

Revelation 3:10: Because thou hast kept the Word of My patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

SPECIAL NOTE: There is not only protection for our soul, but also for our earthly body. This includes our heart, mind, and our earthly possessions.

There is not only protection for our soul, but also for our earthly body.

This hedge of God placed about His saints by the Lord declares unto us that God wants us more than the devil wants us back. Satan walked all about the hedge of God and couldn't find a loophole anywhere in it or any weak spot. God has promised to keep and preserve His children, and here you see it in action.

Psalms 34:7: The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them.

Psalms 125:2: As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the LORD is round about His people from henceforth even for ever.



God's hedge serves a special purpose. The farmer expects a harvest. He has found it necessary to fence in his stock of chickens, cattle, horses, etc. and to fence out the intruder and devourers. He fences in his crops lest anything hurt them or destroy all his labors

Isaiah 27:3: I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.

Fences also suggest separation...

John 15:19: *If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.*

The CHRISTIAN is to be SEPARATED from the world.

Exodus 33:16: *For wherein shall it be known here that I and Thy people have found grace in Thy sight? It is not that Thou goest with us? so shall we be separated, I and Thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth.*

Leviticus 20:24b: *I AM the LORD your God, which have SEPARATED you from other people.*

Numbers 16:9: *Seemeth it but a small thing unto you, that the God of Israel hath SEPARATED you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to Himself to do the service of the Tabernacle of the LORD, and to stand before the congregation to minister unto them?*



Children of Israel leaving Egypt.

1 Kings 8:53: *For Thou didst SEPARATE them from among all the people of the earth, to be Thine inheritance, as Thou spakest by the hand of Moses Thy servant, when Thou broughtest our fathers out of Egypt, O LORD God.*

Ezra 10:11: *Now therefore make confession unto the LORD God of your fathers, and do His pleasure: and SEPARATE yourselves from the people of the land, and from the strange wives.*

Nehemiah 9:2: *And the seed of Israel SEPARATED themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers.*

Nehemiah 10:28: *And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinims, and all they that had SEPARATED themselves from the people of the lands unto the Law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one having knowledge and having understanding.*

Romans 1:1: Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, SEPARATED unto the Gospel of God.

2 Corinthians 6:17: Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye SEPARATE, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.

Revelation 18:4: And I heard another voice from Heaven, saying, COME OUT of her, MY PEOPLE, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not any of her plagues.

Isaiah 32:2: And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert form the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

Colossians 3:3: For ye are dead [to self], and your life is hid in Christ in God.

John 10:1: Verily, verily I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.

John 10:9: I AM the door: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.



Jesus is willing, ready, and waiting to save you from all of your sins. The altar is open and you are welcome to come and pray.

GOD'S PROTECTIVE HEDGE

INTRODUCTION:

An Example — The Hornets



I had an experience in San Francisco, California, which taught me the value of God's Hedge. We were dining at the Fisherman's Wharf on the seacoast and were fortunate to secure a table where there were bay windows projecting out towards the sea. We could not only see straight out but far to the south as well as towards the north.

Two families just left the restaurant with their children and were exchanging parting words. They took some time to finish their conversation so the children began to play tag around the bushes and shrubs just outside the bay windows when all of a sudden, the children screamed and were fighting the air. We looked to see hornets attacking the children and stinging them.

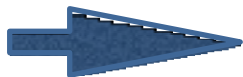
Quick as a flash, it came to my mind to get the hornets' attention by taking my pocket pen knife out and tapping on the window. It got their attention. They swarmed and then started for me in a fury! Their heads hit the window so hard that it sounded like machine gun fire, although maybe not so loud. They hit the window with such force that it knocked them out. They would fall on the windowsill and down to the ground, knocked out.



The parents, in seeing what we had done to divert the hornets away and off their children, waved their hands at us, threw kisses, and even wrapped their arms around themselves as they pointed out their message of love and gratitude. As they were hurrying to leave, they kept this up until they were far out of sight.

I was still standing there watching out the window when **all of a sudden the Lord spoke this message to my heart.** He said, ***“My son, you have often wondered about My protective hedge that I placed around Job and the Children of Israel. Just as this window is an invisible wall between you and the hornets, so is My Presence around about you and all of My children who walk by Faith. Those hornets could see you, but they could not get to you. And satan can see you but he cannot get to you because of My protecting Presence.”***

I began weeping for joy and have thanked the Lord many times since for this marvelous revelation of HIS DIVINE HEDGE OF PROTECTION.



Study the Scriptures in the Word of God on this subject of *God's Hedge*. Notice, there are additional terms used of a similar nature, serving the same purpose.

I. THE HEDGE

➤ Present:

Job 3:23: Why is light given to a man whose way is hid, and whom God hath hedged in?

Matthew 21:33: *Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country.*

Mark 12:1: . . . *a certain man planted a vineyard, and set a hedge about it . . .*

➤ Taken away:

Psalms 80:12: *Why hast Thou then broken down her hedges, so that all they which pass by the way do pluck her?*

Psalms 89:40: *Thou hast broken down all his hedges . . .*

II. FENCE:

➤ Present:

Numbers 32:17b: . . . *and our little ones shall dwell in the fenced cities because of the inhabitants of the land.*

Isaiah 5:2a: *And He fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it . . .*

III. FORTRESS:

➤ Present:

2 Samuel 22:2a: *And he said, the LORD is my rock, and my Fortress . . .*

Psalms 18:2a: *The Lord is my rock, and my Fortress . . .*

Psalms 31:3a: *For Thou art my rock and my Fortress . . .*

Psalms 71:3: *Be Thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: Thou hast given commandment to save me; for Thou art my rock and my Fortress.*



Psalms 144:2a: My goodness, and my Fortress . . .

Jeremiah 16:19a: O Lord, my strength, and my Fortress . . .

➤ Taken away:

Isaiah 17:3a: The fortress also shall cease from Ephraim. . .

Isaiah 25:12: And the fortress of the high fort of thy walls shall He bring down, lay low, and bring to the ground, even to the dust.

Hosea 10:14a: Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy people, and all the fortress shall be spoiled . . .

Lamentations 2:8: The LORD hast purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion: He hath stretched out a line, He hath not withdrawn His Hand from destroying: therefore He made the rampart and the wall to lament; they languished together.

IV. STANDARD:

➤ Present:

Isaiah 59:19: So shall they fear the Name of the LORD from the west, and His Glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

V. STRONGHOLDS:

➤ Present:

Proverbs 18:10: The Name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

Nahum 1:7: The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and He knoweth them that trust Him.

➤ Taken away:

Psalms 89:40b: . . .Thou hast brought his strong holds to ruin.

VI. SHIELD:

➤ Present:

Genesis 15:1b: *After these things, the Word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I AM thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.*

2 Samuel 22:3a: *The God of my rock; in Him will I trust: He is my shield, and the horn of my salvation.*

Psalms 144:2b: *. . . my shield, and He in Whom I trust; Who subdueth my people under me.*

Psalms 18:35a: *Thou hast also given me the shield of Thy salvation . . .*

Proverbs 30:5: *Every Word of God is pure: He is a shield unto them who put their trust in Him.*



VII. WALL:

➤ Present:



Zechariah 2:5: *For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.*

➤ Taken away:

Isaiah 5:5c: *. . . and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down.*

Lamentations 2:8c: *. . . therefore He made the rampart and the wall to lament; they languished together.*

More:

Reversed Judgment — a strange hedge (wall)

Hosea 2:6: *Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and make a wall, that she shall not find her paths.*

Job 19:8: *He hath fenced up my way that I cannot pass, and He*

hath set darkness in my paths.

Man a Hedge

***Ezekiel 13:5:** Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the **hedge**, for the House of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord.*

***Ezekiel 22:30:** And I sought for a man among them, that should rise up the **hedge**, and stand in the gap before Me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.*

Man a Fortress and Tower

***Jeremiah 6:27:** I have set thee for a **tower and a fortress** among My people, that thou mayest know and try their way.*



Man a Wall

***Jeremiah 15:20a:** And I will make thee unto this people a fenced brazen **wall** . . .*

God a Buckler

***Psalms 18:2:** The Lord is my Rock, and my Deliverer; my God, my Strength, in Whom I will trust, my **Buckler**, and the Horn of my Salvation, and My High Tower.*

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