**THE HORN OF SALVATION**

Lu 1:69 And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;

1. Zechariah's song at the birth of his son (John the Baptist)
   1. Portrays Jesus as "a horn of salvation."
      1. The horn is used in the O T to signify great strength

Ps 18:2 The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

Ps 132:17 There will I make the horn of David to bud: I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

* + 1. The symbolism is derived from those animals whose horn is the source of their strength and power.
    2. In prophetic language, the horn is also a symbol of political and national power

Da 8:3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. 4 I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great. 5 And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. {a notable...: Heb. a horn of sight} 6 And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power.

Zec 1:18 Then lifted I up mine eyes, and saw, and behold four horns.

The horn of salvation is an appropriate designation of Jesus as the all-powerful Saviour. He is the strong horn of salvation, the matchless Saviour who came to bring redemption and freedom to the human race.

Fully confident of Christ's saving power, Zechariah sang, Lu 1:68 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, 69 And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;

The horn metaphor is also used as a sign of exaltation as well as the strength

1Sa 2:10 The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.

The exaltation of Christ as the horn of salvation is best expressed in Paul's masterpiece of Christ's ultimate exaltation: Php 2:9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

Anciently horns were fixed to the altar to provide protection and security for those threatened by danger to their lives. Anyone who was pursued by an enemy could cling to the horns of the altar and be protected from harm. This act gave immunity for the one in danger

1Ki 2:28 Then tidings came to Joab: for Joab had turned after Adonijah, though he turned not after Absalom. And Joab fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD, and caught hold on the horns of the altar.

As the horn of our salvation, Jesus provides full protection to those who seek Him. As the horn of salvation, Christ has all strength and power to save, protect, and keep us from falling.

Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

As in the case of Nathanael who prayed for the coming Messiah, God has visited His people and raised up a horn of salvation for them. Let us thank God for the mighty power and protection we have in Christ, the horn of salvation.