July 31, 2012 was a very interesting day as the Lord shared many things with me in the span of one hour. Thinking that He was finished, I sat quietly and meditated on all that He had shared, but He was not done. I heard: "I want you to google soteria." I actually saw the word written out. Someplace in the recesses of my mind I recalled the word, but I had no idea what it meant.

At first, I wondered why the Lord would direct me to the Internet. After all, if it related to something in scripture, surely, I could find it with the references at my disposal. The Lord knows best, so I obeyed. There is a reason why it had to be done this way.

Soteria is a transliterated word from the Greek, but it is not an Anglicized word that is used in English Bible translations. With a few clues I could have discovered its meaning, but I had no clues to go on. The Lord knew that and spared me from spending unnecessary time searching.

So, the lesson learned from this is to obey the Lord to the letter (actually literally, in this case).

This is what I discovered.

The first citation that appeared in the search was in reference to a secular service provided for the mentally ill.

According to Wikipedia, Soteria is a community service that provides a space for people experiencing mental distress or crisis. Based on a recovery model, common elements of the Soteria approach include primarily non-medical staffing; preserving a resident's personal power, social networks, and communal responsibilities; finding meaning in the subjective experience of psychosis by "being with" clients; and no or minimal use of antipsychotic medication (with any medication taken from a position of choice and without coercion). ... Soteria houses are often seen as gentler alternatives to a psychiatric hospital system perceived as authoritarian, hostile or violent and based on routine use of psychiatric (particularly, antipsychotic) drugs. Soteria houses are sometimes used as "early intervention" or "crisis resolution" services.

We will come back to this at the end.

The second citation that appeared in the search was from Greek mythology. Soteria was the name for the Greek goddess or spirit of safety, and of deliverance and preservation from harm.

The third citation that appeared in the search was a Bible study tool using a Greek Lexicon to explain the word soteria according to scripture. Obviously, this is what the Lord wanted me to see and to study.
Soteria is the transliteration of the Greek word σωτηρία and is most often translated into English as the word salvation.

According to Strong's Concordance, soteria [G4991] is the" feminine of a derivative of G4990 as (properly abstract) noun; rescue or safety (physically or morally): - deliver, health, salvation, save, saving." G4990 is the transliterated word soter, which comes "from G4982, a deliverer, that is, God or Christ: - saviour." G4982 is the transliterated word sozo, which comes "from a primary word sos (contraction for the obsolete saos, "safe"); to save, that is, deliver or protect (literally or figuratively): - heal, preserve, save (self), do well, be (make) whole."

According to the New Englishman's Greek-English Concordance and Lexicon, soteria appears in the New Testament 45 times. Here are a few examples (transliterated words added):

(69) And He raised up a Horn of salvation [soteria] for us in the house of His servant David;
(70) even as He spoke through the mouth of His holy prophets from the age before: (71) Salvation [soteria] from ones hostile to us, and from the hand of all the ones hostile to us, ...
(77) to give a knowledge of salvation [soteria] to His people by remission of their sins...
(Luke 1:69, 70, 71, 77 LITV)

"And there is salvation [soteria] in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved [sozo]." (Acts 4:12 NASB)

In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation [soteria]—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise....
(Ephesians 1:13 NASB)

But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation [soteria]. For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation [soteria] through our Lord Jesus Christ.... (1 Thessalonians 5:8-9 NASB)

After these things I heard something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah! Salvation [soteria] and glory and power belong to our God.... (Revelation 19:1 NASB)

I do not believe the Lord meant for me to simply do a word search. When presented with the word salvation or deliverer, most Christians understand the significance of these words even if they have no clue as to their Greek origin in the word soteria. So, what did the Lord want me to see in this word?

Perhaps, it is discovered by comparing the Hebrew and the Greek. In scripture, the Hebrew language sets the meaning for the Greek, especially when Hebrew text (Old Testament) is quoted in Greek text (New Testament). Consider two verses (transliterated words added).

For so hath the Lord commanded us: I have set thee for a light of nations—for thy being for salvation [G4991, soteria] unto the end of the earth.' (Acts 13:47 YLT)
And He saith, 'It hath been a light thing that thou art to Me for a servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and the preserved of Israel to bring back, and I have given thee for a light of nations, to be My salvation [H3444, *yeshuah*] unto the end of the earth.' (Isaiah 49:6 YLT)

The last part of Acts 13:47, which uses the word *soteria*, is quoted from the last part of Isaiah 49:6, which uses the word *yeshuah*, thus giving *soteria* the same meaning as *yeshuah*.

**Yehoshuah to Yeshua to Jesus**

To further understand the word *soteria*, we need to see that *yeshuah* is one of several words that have the same or similar meaning.

The Greek name *Iēsous* or *Jesus* is of Hebrew origin and is derived from the Hebrew word *yehoshua* transcribed into *Yehoshuah* or *Joshua* [Strong's Concordance H3091].

Strong compares this word to *Hosea* or *Hoshea*, meaning "deliverer" [H1954], and to *Yeshua*, meaning "he will save" [H3442]. Both *Hoshea* and *Yeshua* come from the Hebrew word *yasha* [H3467], which is a primitive root word meaning "to be open, wide or free, by implication, to be safe." The words *salvation*, *save*, *deliver*, *preserve*, and *rescue* are built into its meaning. The feminine passive participle of *yasha* is *yeshuah* [H3444], meaning "something saved" or "salvation." The Hebrew word *shua* is a noun that refers to "a cry for help" or "a saving cry, such as a shout when in need of rescue." We could say that God is a saving cry.

In an article titled *The Messiah's Hebrew Name: "Yeshua" or "Yahshua"?* Dr. Daniel Botkin wrote:

"The English form *Jesus* is derived from the New Testament Greek name *Ihsouß*, pronounced "Yesous." According to Strong's, *Yesous* (Strong's #2424) is "of Hebrew origin" and can be traced back to Joshua's Hebrew name, *Yehoshua* (#3091, [wwwhy]). But how do we get the Greek *Yesous* from the Hebrew *Yehoshua*? Someone armed with nothing more than a Strong's Concordance may have difficulty answering that question. Someone who reads the Bible in Hebrew, though, knows that the name *Joshua* sometimes appears in its shortened form, *Yeshua* (wvy). In Neh. 8:17 it is apparent even in English: "Jeshua the son of Nun." (The letter *J* was pronounced like a *Y* in Old English.) Strong does not tell the reader that the Greek *Yesous* is actually transliterated from this shortened Hebrew form, *Yeshua*, and not directly from the longer form *Yehoshua*. The process from "Yehoshua" to "Jesus" looks like this:

Hebrew *Yehoshua* à Hebrew *Yeshua*
Hebrew *Yeshua* à Greek *Yesous*
Greek *Yesous* à English *Jesus*

There is no "sh" sound in Greek, which accounts for the middle "s" sound in *Yesous*. The "s" at the end of the Greek name is a grammatical necessity, to make the word declinable.

In Neh. 8:17, Joshua's name is 100% identical to the name which today's Messianic Jews use for the Messiah, *Yeshua* (wvy). Strong's confirms this pronunciation, and tells us that
there were ten Israelites in the Bible who bore this name (#3442). Therefore, the shortening of Yehoshua to Yeshua predates the Christian era by at least 500 years. ... The form Yeshua existed for several hundred years before the Messiah was even born. Even in the pre-Christian Septuagint, we see the Greek form IHSOUS (Yesous) in the title of the Book of Joshua. (This is also proof that Yesous has no connection to the pagan god Zeus.)"

Putting all of this together, we can clearly see that at the heart of all these Hebrew words is the whole matter of salvation or deliverance by means of a savior or deliverer, and this all speaks of Yeshua or our Lord Jesus who is the Savior and deliverer of the whole world and of all mankind.

**Yeshua for Salvation**

Now, here is a question: Since the word soteria is equivalent to the word yeshuah, or the shortened form yeshua, which also is the Hebrew name for Jesus, that is, Yeshua, what if we substituted the word Yeshua for salvation where it appears in scripture? Perhaps, it would make scripture come alive in a new way, and even offer further proof that the Lord of old testament scripture is the same Lord of new testament scripture.

Consider these verses (transliterated words added).

"The LORD [Yah] [H3050] is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation [H3444, yeshua]; this is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will extol Him." (Exodus 15:2 NASB [TSS])

Making the substitution reads: The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my Yeshua. A shortened version reads: Yah has become my Yeshua, or the LORD has become my Jesus.

Behold, El [God] is my salvation [H3444, yeshua]; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for in Yah Yahweh [LORD GOD] [H3050] is my strength and song; and he has become my salvation [H3444, yeshua]." (Isaiah 12:2 TSS [NASB])

Making the substitution reads: Yahweh is my strength and song, He has become my Yeshua. A shortened version reads: Yahweh has become my Yeshua, or the Lord God has become My Jesus.

Further proof is discovered in the next verse of Isaiah 12, which is quoted by Jesus in John's gospel in light of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Therefore, you will joyously draw water from the springs of salvation [yeshua]. (Isaiah 12:3 NASB)

Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" (John 7:37-38 NASB)

The springs of salvation and the rivers of living water are Yeshua. They are not simply things or concepts; they are the person of our beloved Lord Yeshua. He is the living water, the very springs
of life. You will joyously draw water from the springs of *Yeshua*! From your innermost being will flow rivers of *Yeshua*!

Undoubtedly, the ancient Hebrews prayed about the springs of salvation many times without realizing that their words were acknowledging that the Lord of the old testament era would be and is Jesus of the new testament era. Simply, the Son of God is the Lord of the Bible, and He is life itself; everything associated with life springs forth and flows forth from *Yeshua* and is *Yeshua*.

**Salvation for All**

In this light, it is vital that we see that He is more than *Yeshua* to His body of believers; He is the salvation of all mankind. *Yeshua* is salvation of the whole world. He was salvation, the *Yeshua* of the whole world *then*, and He is the *Yeshua* of the whole world *today* and for the *ages to come*. He is *Yeshua* of all the peoples to the ends of the earth.

"All the earth will worship You, and will sing praises to You; they will sing praises to Your name." Selah. (Psalm 66:4 NASB)

Many more believed because of His word; and they were saying to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this One is indeed the Savior of the world." (John 4:41-42 NASB)

We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world. (1 John 4:14 NASB)

And so, all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "THE DELIVERER WILL COME OUT OF ZION, AND HE WILL TURN AWAY UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB.... (Romans 11:26 NKJV)

For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially *but not exclusively* of believers. (1 Timothy 4:10 NASB [writer's comment])

For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. (Ephesians 5:23 NASB)

That Your way may be known on the earth, Your salvation [*Yeshua*] among all nations. Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy; for You will judge the peoples with uprightness and guide the nations on the earth. Selah. Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us. God blesses us, that all the ends of the earth may fear Him. (Psalm 67:2-7 NASB)

The cry of the Psalmist (67:2) could be reworded: *That Your Yeshua may be known among all the nations!* *Yeshua* does not merely offer salvation or deliverance to the world; He is salvation itself. Again, salvation is the person of the Lord Jesus. He is the Savior of the individual believer. He is the Savior of His body. He is the Savior of new covenant Israel. But—He is not exclusively the
Savior of these, which are simply different ways of describing the same thing; He is the Savior of the whole world, which includes all of the adamic race—past, present, and future, none excluded.

**Yeshua Comes with His Reward**

Consider another verse from Isaiah.

> Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth, say to the daughter of Zion, "Lo, your salvation [yesha, H3468] comes; behold His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him." (Isaiah 62:11 NASB)

Here we have another word meaning deliverance, safety, or salvation derived from yesha. Perhaps, this could be rephrased: "Lo, your Jesus or Joshua comes, behold His reward is with Him." This is not far off the mark, for these are Jesus' exact words; offering yet another proof that *Yeshua* is Jesus.

> "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done." (Revelation 22:12 NASB)

He is doing this in some measure in this age, but He will especially do it in the age(s?) to come.

**Yeshua Unto the Ends of the Earth**

Let us reconsider these two verses (transliterated words added).

> For so hath the Lord commanded us [believers]: I have set thee [refers back to us] for a light of nations—for thy being for salvation [soteria, yeshua] unto the end of the earth.' (Acts 13:47 YLT)

> And He saith, 'It hath been a light thing that thou art to Me for a servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and the preserved of Israel to bring back, and I have given thee for a light of nations, to be My salvation [yeshuah, soteria] unto the end of the earth.' (Isaiah 49:6 YLT)

Who is to be My *yeshua* unto the ends of the earth? God’s salvation unto the ends of the earth is none other than His Son. Jesus is to be unto the ends of the earth. *Yeshua* is to fill the earth with His very life until He is all in all so that, at the consummation of the ages, God the Father may be all in all (Colossians 3:11; 1 Corinthians 15:28).

But, how will our Lord Jesus, the *Yeshua* of the whole world, reach the ends of the earth? He will do it through His body, the deliverers *yeshua* of the world. How can this be?

The body is the temple of the spirit of God (1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; Ephesians 2:22). The body has the seed of God abiding within each member (1 John 3:9). This seed is a treasure hidden in earthen vessels (2 Corinthians 4:7) that is being matured to birth into an immortal, glorified,
spiritual body through resurrection and transfiguration into the image of the Yeshua of the world. Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27).

The body of Christ is the complement of Him who fills all in all! This is the new covenant Israel, the ones who are having His laws put into their minds and written on their hearts (Galatians 6:16; Hebrews 8:10). New covenant Israel may be a new term to some and perhaps a controversial one for others. According to Paul, the Israel of God, today, is the new creation where there are no more barriers based on bloodline; it is all based on faith, the faith of Abraham.

What a destiny for all who are called and chosen to reign with Christ in the ages to come!

The phrase the end of the earth has been underlined in the above verses to highlight again the fact that deliverance is universal in its application.

'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as Your possession.' (Psalm 2:8 NASB)

Do we not think that the Son has asked and the Father has given this to His Son?

And Jesus [Yeshua] came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. (Matthew 28:18 NASB [CJB])

These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness [Complement] of Him who fills all in all [the One completing the all in all]. (Ephesians 1:19-23 NASB [CLV])

Many more verses could be presented, but these prove the point.

But, what does soteria or deliverance mean from one end of the earth to the other? What will it look like?

Due to the rebellious nature of the ancient sons of Israel, the Lord threatened to destroy all of them and start over, but Moses pleaded for their lives and the Lord responded.

So, the LORD said, "I have pardoned them according to your word; but indeed, as I live, all the earth will be filled with the glory of the LORD." (Numbers 14:20-21 NASB)

In other words, in spite of man’s carnal nature, which the ancient Israelites were a prime example of, God is going to fill the whole earth with His glory. Habakkuk makes it very clear that glory will be extensive.
"For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea." (Habakkuk 2:14 NASB)

The waters cover the whole of the seas, for that is the nature of the seas or oceans. In like fashion, the glory of the Lord is going to fill the whole earth, nothing excluded, for that is the purpose of God. Jesus is the Man in glory, and He is going to fill the whole earth with His glory. This is as comprehensive as it can get. ALL!

As believers in this present age, we have much to be encouraged about and much to encourage the world with, even a world that it appears antichrist at the moment. A day is coming very soon when the world will want to know the good news of the kingdom of God, that is, the kingdom or reign of the heavens. What is the kingdom of God? It is the all in all of God, ta panta or the all.


The inhabitants of the earth will seek answers from a people who have a hope to share with them—a people who will be yeshua to them because they have been fully conformed through bodily resurrection and transfiguration (Matthew 17:2; Romans 8:23-25, 29; Philippians 3:11; 1 John 3:2) into the image of the Yeshua of the world. They will be in the all of God. Think about it!

Soteria House

We started with the world’s use of the word soteria as a service for those with mental illness and Soteria houses that provide "crisis resolution" services. In the days to come, many are going to find themselves in the midst of crisis and may, in fact, seek for mental health.


The good news is that true crisis resolution is available in Yeshua. He is the only way out of crisis and into glory, and we, as His people, are to be the Soteria House to the whole world. This is what it means to be part of new covenant Israel, even unto the ends of the earth.

Finally, the word soteria has a gematria of 1419, and so do the following verses that speak of Yeshua, our Joshua who is coming to lead us into the promised land of the kingdom—our immortality (1 Corinthians 15:22-23, 50-57; 2 Corinthians 5:1-5) brought about through the redemption of our body (Romans 8:23) through resurrection and transfiguration.

Salvation belongs to the LORD; Your blessing be upon Your people! Selah. (Psalm 3:8 NASB)

"I also shall make him My firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth." (Psalm 89:27 NASB)

On the glorious splendor of Your majesty and on Your wonderful works, I will meditate. (Psalm 145:5 NASB)

HalleluYAH!