

The Gospel of Salvation

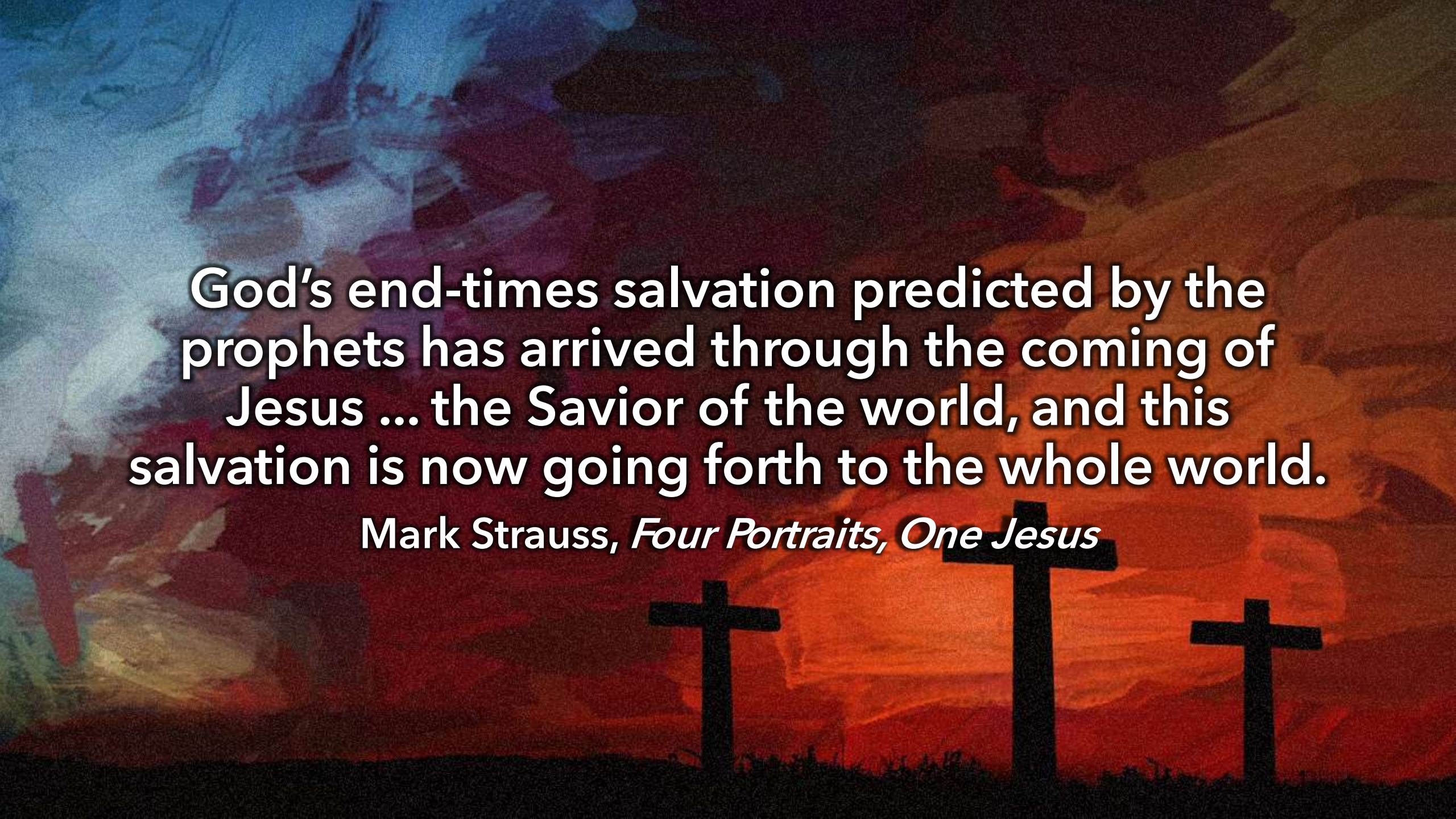
Luke 19:10



The background is a textured, painterly scene of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with vibrant, blended colors of orange, red, and purple, with some darker, more turbulent-looking areas. In the foreground, three dark, simple wooden crosses stand on a dark, silhouetted horizon line. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

**For the Son of Man has come to seek
and to save that which was lost.**

Luke 19:10 NASB



God's end-times salvation predicted by the prophets has arrived through the coming of Jesus ... the Savior of the world, and this salvation is now going forth to the whole world.

Mark Strauss, *Four Portraits, One Jesus*

The Center of the Gospel

- The noun "savior" (Gr. *sōtēr*) is used five times in the Gospels and Acts, all occurrences being in Luke-Acts except for one in John - Luke 1:47; 2:11; John 4:42; Acts 5:31; 13:23.
- The verb "save" (Gr. *sōzō*) is used sixty-six times in the Gospels and Acts, thirty occurrences being in Luke-Acts - Luke 8:12; 9:56; 13:23; 19:10; cf. 6:9; 7:50; 8:36, 48, 50.
- The noun "salvation" (Gr. *sōtēria* or *sōtērion*) is used fifteen times (12:3) in the Gospels and Acts, thirteen occurrences being in Luke-Acts - Luke 1:69, 71, 77; 2:30; 3:6.

The Center of the Gospel

- Luke centers his Gospel on Jesus as the divine Savior who fulfills the purpose of God and rescues humanity from sin. The gospel of Jesus is good news because it announces that ...
 - Jesus is Savior, Christ, and Lord - Luke 2:10-11, 25-32; cf. Isa 52:7.
 - Divine salvation for all people - Luke 3:3-6; cf. 7:27; Isa 40:3-5 LXX; Luke 5:20-26; cf. 7:48-50; 15:4-32 (esp. vv. 7, 10, 22-24, 31-42).
 - The death of Christ accomplishes what we cannot (i.e., reconciliation with God) - 18:24-27; 23:33-46; cf. Rom 5:6-11.

The Progress of the Savior

- The Gospel of Luke, unlike the other Gospels, devotes a considerable amount of space to the “journey” of Jesus to Jerusalem - Luke 9:51-19:44; cf. 9:51; 13:22, 33-34; 18:31.
- Jesus’s journey *to* Jerusalem in Luke sets the stage for the gospel’s journey *from* Jerusalem in Acts and underscores the universal scope of salvation - Luke 24:46-49; cf. Acts 1:8.
- The salvation that Jesus offers extends beyond perceived human boundaries (e.g., gender, number or magnitude of sins, ethnicity), making everyone a prospect for forgiveness - Luke 5:20-26; 7:36-50; 23:33-34; 24:46-47.

The Fulfillment of the Plan

- The phrase "it is/was necessary" (Gr. *dei*) occurs sixty-four times in the Gospels and Acts, forty occurrences being in Luke-Acts - Luke 2:49; 4:43; 9:22; 17:25; 22:37; 24:7, 26, 44.
- Jesus fulfills the eternal purpose of God because of his role as the Son of God/Man, the King/Christ, the Savior, and the Prophet - Luke 1:31-33, 68-69; 2:10-11; 5:20-26; 7:16 (cf. 8:39); 9:56a; 19:10; 24:13-27, 44-51.
- The arrival of the Spirit certifies the advent of the last days and the accessibility of salvation - Luke 1:13-15, 35; 2:25-35; 3:15-17, 21-22; 4:1, 14-21; 10:21-24; 11:13; 12:10; 24:49.

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