

## **No One But God Brought Salvation For Us!**

Isaiah 59 14-21(16b-20)

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### **I. Historical Background & Biblical Context**

Across the Old Testament, one steady theme keeps showing up: humanity fails, and God steps in. From Genesis to the prophets, people prove over and over that they cannot save themselves. Whether it's sin in the garden, corruption before the flood, fear at the Red Sea, or rebellion in the wilderness. Even Israel's leaders, judges, kings, and prophets fall short. The pattern is clear, when the situation is broken beyond human ability, God moves. He delivers, preserves, and makes a way, showing that salvation has never come from human strength, worthiness, or consistency, but from His mercy and power alone.

By the time we reach Isaiah 59, that theme reaches its peak. God looks for someone to step in and bring justice, someone to stand in the gap and finds no one. That moment isn't isolated; it's the conclusion of everything that came before it. Humanity had the opportunity and failed, so God declares through His actions: "I will do it Myself." His own arm brings salvation, pointing forward to the ultimate Redeemer. The message is undeniable and consistent throughout: **no one but God brought salvation for us.**

### **II. The Lesson: No One but God brought Salvation for Us!**

#### **1. vv. 16b-17. God Steps In**

Here's where everything shifts! And if we're paying attention, this is the Gospel before we ever get to the New Testament. The text says, *"His own arm brought salvation."* In other words, God saw the mess, saw the absence of anybody qualified to fix it, and made a divine decision: "I'm stepping in Myself."

And let's be clear God doesn't outsource this work. He doesn't raise up another imperfect leader, because every leader up to this point had already shown their limits. He doesn't sit back hoping humanity will eventually get it right. God takes initiative. He moves first. That's grace at its core.

We say it all the time, *"If you want something done right, do it yourself."* But what God does here isn't reaction, it's redemption. He steps in perfectly, righteously, and with full authority. Isaiah describes Him putting on righteousness like a breastplate and salvation like a helmet. That's not just imagery that's theology. It shows that everything God does is rooted in His own character. He doesn't borrow righteousness, **He is righteousness!**

This is what some call a divine warrior picture. God personally entered into the brokenness of humanity, not just to observe it, but to overcome it. And if we follow that thread all the way through Scripture, it lands us at Jesus. Because God didn't just step in symbolically. He stepped into time, into flesh, into our reality. Christ is God stepping into the battlefield of sin and winning a victory we could never secure.

## 2. **vv.18-19**. **God Deals with Sin Seriously**

Now here's something we can't afford to water down: when a Holy God steps in, He doesn't ignore sin, He confronts it head-on. The text says He repays according to deeds and brings justice to His adversaries. That lets us know God's salvation isn't casual, and it's definitely not compromised.

God is love, but He is also Holy. And His holiness means sin has to be addressed, not excused. So when God moves, He deals with: Rebellion, injustice and wickedness fully and righteously!

We know that sin has consequences. Evil isn't getting a free pass. And justice isn't just an idea, it's something God actively establishes. This keeps us grounded in our thinking, because it reminds us that salvation isn't God pretending sin didn't happen, it's God dealing with sin the right way.

But right in the middle of that weight, we get this powerful assurance:

“When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him.”(kju)

That’s not just poetic language that’s a promise of divine resistance. When evil rises, God doesn’t retreat. He responds!

So no matter how overwhelming things may look: God is not outmatched, surprised and isn't scrambling. He is fully in control and always has a standard! A line that evil cannot ultimately cross.

### **3. vv. 20-21. The Promise of The Redeemer**

Now we arrive at the promise that brings it all together: “A Redeemer will come to Zion...” This is where Isaiah lifts our eyes beyond the immediate moment into God’s ultimate plan. This isn’t about temporary relief or short-term deliverance, this is about **eternal salvation**.

The Redeemer comes for those who turn from evil, that is, those who repent. And what He brings isn’t just rescue, but covenant. God promises His Spirit and His Word will remain. We can have assurance that this salvation isn’t fragile or temporary, it’s secure and lasting.

And let’s not miss it this is clearly pointing to Jesus. He’s the One who stood in the gap, made intercession, and accomplished what no one else could!

That’s the beauty of this text. It shows us that long before the cross, God already had a plan in motion. And when the time came, He didn’t send just anyone, He came Himself in the person of His Son. Which brings us right back to the truth we can’t move off of : **No one but God brought salvation for us!!**

### **III. Application and Reflection.**

Let’s be clear and grounded here. This passage destroys any idea that salvation comes from human effort. It's not behavior modification, religious performance, or moral improvement. It is divine intervention! God didn’t just assist humanity, He rescued humanity. That’s why grace

is so powerful. Because it reminds us: We didn't earn, deserve or initiate it! **No one but God brought salvation for us!**

### **a) Application: How We Live This Out**

Now here's where we bring it home, not just a bible study, but transformation.

### **b) Stay Humble About Your Salvation**

If God had to step in Himself, that means we were completely incapable. That should kill pride. You're not saved because you're better, stronger and because you figured it out. You're saved because God stepped in! This produces humility and gratitude

### **c) Reflect God's Character in a Broken World**

Even though we didn't bring salvation, we are called to represent the Savior. This is key: We should reflect God's character of justice, righteousness, truth.

So when the world: Twists justice, silences truth and lowers standards, We pursue justice rightly, speak truth boldly, and we live Holy! Not to earn salvation, but to display it. When the world won't do right, we should be first in line pointing back to God's standard.

### **d) Trust God to Do What You Can't**

There are situations in life you can't fix: broken systems, deep injustice, personal struggles This text reminds us: God specializes in stepping into impossible situations. So we don't carry the weight of being the savior we trust the One who is.

## **IV. Conclusion**

Isaiah 59 isn't just exposing sin, it's revealing grace. Because right when humanity proves it can't come through. God shows that He already has. And that's the foundation of everything we believe:

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