



THE
LORD
IS MY
ROCK

MY FORTRESS, AND MY DELIVERER

Psalm 18:2

Dichotomy of the Rock

By Pastor Sabu Samuel

*Be my rock of refuge,
to which I can always go;
give the command to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.
-Psalm 71:1-3*

When you think about a rock there are several images that can come to mind. For me when I think of a rock, I think of something hard, tough, and durable. It could be small or massive in size. What is fascinating about God being the rock is that he is all those things and yet at the same time he is tender, merciful and compassionate. This is what we call a dichotomy of a rock.

The first thing I want to point out is God is our refuge and safety. The word refuge here can also mean to put your trust in, In this passage, God is pictured as a place you can go for safety and a place where you can put your trust. It is comforting to know that God's presence is a safe place. You can trust God with your fears, your concerns, your worries, and all of your emotions because they are safe with him. Since God is also the one who can be trusted this means you never have to hide anything from him. You are an open book in front of him. Life has a way of making you feel overwhelmed, when this happens you can run to the rock and find a place of refuge and safety. Another fascinating benefit of God being your rock is you can find rest in him. God being a rock in your life is all about finding rest in him. If you are stressed, you can go to the rock and find relief. If you are tired you can go to the rock and find rest. God is the one you can go to in every season of life and find refuge, safety, and rest because he can be trusted.

You have two choices in how you live your life. You can run to the rock and live in a place of refuge, rest, protection, and hope or you can live outside of his care. If you are in Christ and you refuse to run to God for refuge, then you are living outside of your privilege. God wants to be the rock in your life. He wants to hide you so you can be protected in him and be your place of safety. In an ever-changing world, it is good to know that we can be hidden in God who is our rock. Dear reader, let me encourage you no matter what is going on, run to God who is your rock because there really is no better place to be. Lean in and lean on as you walk with Christ.

Rooted in Rock: Finding Strength and Stability in Christ

By Joshua Joseph

...And the high priest takes the hyssop, dips it into the clay pot, and sprinkles it on the leper. This is the process of ceremonial cleansing in the Old Testament.

Look at that hyssop for a second. It grows in rocky soil and shoots its roots deep into the rough terrain, penetrating rock and wrapping itself around each broken bit. Winds might blow, water might pour, but it's not going anywhere because it's ROOTED.

We, like this hyssop, have a rock to root onto; not of this world, but rather one which was broken and crushed for our deliverance, healing, anxiety, and pain. Often, we think a job, a new friend Group, or even a relationship will be a rock you can hold and root yourself onto. Yet we get disappointed time after time, leaving with more pain and brokenness.



But to those who have been in broken relationships and disappointments, I can promise you that you have a rock to hold onto. Shoot your roots deep down into Christ, who was broken for you. This means you don't have to figure everything out or struggle to find it. Where you don't have to shoot deep down into rocks that could hurt you and cut you; You don't have to fit into the norms and cultural ideologies of this world, because there is a way-maker in this world who u have latched onto blazing trails for you.

We all have been in positions where we search, seek, and find, but some, are often misled and find the wrong rock, which is small and weak, attaching themselves to it. For others, it is a toxic soul tie where we get attached to a certain person thinking this is God's plan. Trying to receive love, affection, and our daily dose of emotions from them, but the truth is that there is one who split himself; Broken into pieces so you could latch on to your father's arms and not a person knee-deep in sin and lust. He wants you to root on Him in the deeeeeeeep soils of life so he can provide you with your desires and needs. You might be a broken mess full of hurt and not knowing what to hold onto in life right now but like how Job said your roots may grow old in the ground and your stump dies in the soil, yet at the scent of water, you who is rooted will bud and put forth shoots like a plant.

So that the next time when a 1000 falls at your side; and 10,000 at your right hand, it won't come near you. You'll be like the plant that's planted near streams of water, which yields its fruit in any season and whose leaf does not wither like others whatever you do prospers beyond imagination . Stay rooted stay blessed.

Weekly Meetings

Date	Time	Location
Monday	10:30 AM	@ Church
Tuesday	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	@ Zoom
Friday	10:00 AM - 11:00AM	@ Zoom
Saturday	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	@ Church

Mark Your Calendar

Event	Date	Location
Retreat	8/30 & 9/01	<u>@Retreat Center</u>

Pray For Nations

Country	Capital	Population est.
<u>Japan</u>	Tokyo	123,953,000
<u>Jordan</u>	Amman	11,680,000
<u>Kazakhstan</u>	Astana	20,485,000
<u>Kenya</u>	Nairobi	51,563,000
<u>Kuwait</u>	Kuwait	5,184,000