

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

JESUS CHRIST: THE BELIEVER'S ROCK

SCRIPTURE READING:

- “²The 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. ³I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies” (Ps 18:2-3).
- “Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste” (Isa 28:16).
- “²⁴Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: ²⁵And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. ²⁶And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: ²⁷And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it” (Matt 7:24-27).
- “And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ” (1 Cor 3:1)

INTRODUCTION:

- A. A Rock is defined biblically as a symbol of stability, permanence, strength, dependability and steadfastness. A Rock stresses the faithfulness and unchanging Nature of God.**
- B. As Believers, Jesus is our Rock – we can always trust, love, hope, endure and believe in Him.** Christ is the foundation of the Believer's life – He is the foundation upon which we should build our lives.
- C. Jesus is the Rock that will never move – He is unchanging and He is the truth – He stands firm and throughout all eternity.**
 - “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever” (Heb 13:8).
- D. Christian Quotes about Christ the Rock:**
 1. “Any other foundation will fail, but Christ is a steady Rock to build your life on.” – Billy Graham
 2. “All self-effort is but sinking sand. Christ alone is the Rock of Our Salvation.” – Harry A. Ironside
 3. Jesus is the Rock upon which He builds His Church (Matt 16:18).

As our Rock, Christ is:

I. The Believer's Redeemer (Ps 44:26; 78:35; Isa 47:4)

Redeemer means one who redeems – someone who repays, recovers, saves or exchanges something for something else.

A. Christ is the Believer's Redeemer

1. Christ bought the Believer's Redemption from Sin – Christ rescued or saved the Believer from Sin.
2. Christ paid the Ransom for the Believers Release from Sin and its Punishment.
 - “Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many” (Matt 20:28).
 - “Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time” (1 Tim 2:6).

B. The Benefits of Redemption

1. Eternal Life (Rev 5:9-10)
2. Forgiveness of Sin (Eph 1:7)
3. The Gift of Righteousness – Overflowing Grace (Rom 5:17)
4. Adoption into the Family of God (Gal 4:5)
5. Peace with God (Col 1:18-20)
6. The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 6:19-20)
7. Freedom from “The Curse of the Law” (Gal 3:13)
8. Deliverance “From All Iniquity” – Sin's Bondage (Titus 2:14)

• **The Resurrection is a Certainty**

When Sir Michael Faraday (a great scientist from the 1800s), was dying, some journalists questioned him about his speculations for a life after death. “Speculations!” he said, “I know nothing about speculations. I'm resting on certainties. I know that my Redeemer liveth, and because He lives, I shall live also.” - Source: The Speaker's Quote Book, Roy B. Zuck (Ministry 127).

II. The Believer's Comforter (2 Cor 1:3-5)

Comforter means “one who administers comfort or consolation; one who strengthens and supports the mind in distress and danger” (Webster 1820 Dictionary).

A. Christ comforts Believers by providing us with strength, encouragement, peace and hope to deal with our hardships.

B. The more the Believer suffers, the more comfort Christ gives – If you are experiencing anxiety or feeling overwhelmed with problems and difficult situations – allow God to comfort you.

○ **Christ Comforts Us When We Are Hurting** (Ps 34:17-20)

When you feel like giving up on life, the burden is too much to bear, do not hide from God and do not give up on Him and His abilities. We can run to God – He is Our Refuge and Our Strength, Our ever-present Help in times of Trouble (Ps 46:1).

C. Jesus visited the sisters, Mary and Martha, who were mourning the death of their brother Lazarus (John 11:1-45).

1. Jesus informed Martha and Lazarus would rise again – come back to life (vv. 20-24).
2. Jesus comforted the sisters by bringing Lazarus back to life – “Lazarus, Come Forth” (vv. 43-44).

D. In John 14, Christ informed His Disciples that He would soon be going away.

They were shocked, saddened and perplexed. Christ comforted His Disciples with the promise that is comforting to us today and with the assurance of the continued presence of the Holy Spirit to be our Comfort and Guide.

- The Believer is comforted with Christ’s Promise to Return – The Second Coming – and take Believer’s to Heaven
- “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also” (John 14:1-3).

III. The Believer’s Provider (Matt 6:33; Phil 4:19)

Provider means “one who provides, furnishes or supplies; one who procures what is wanted” (KJV Dictionary).

A. Christ is the Provider of Physical Needs – Food and Clothing

1. When Jesus was healing and the crowd had not eaten, He multiplied “five loaves and two fishes” and fed about “five thousand men, beside women and children.” There were twelve baskets full of fragments after the feeding (Matt 15:13-21).
2. When Adam and Eve sinned and their eyes were opened to their nakedness, God provided clothing – “Fig Leaves” – for them (Gen 3).
 - Even when we sin, God still provides for us.

B. Jesus is the Provider of Rest for His People (Ps 23:2; Matt 11:28-30)

1. We experience rest by placing our trust in Jesus.
2. We experience rest by turning our lives over to Christ and following Him wherever His path may lead.

C. Jesus is the Provider of Direction

Jesus guides and directs our steps, so we can fulfill His Great Purpose for us (Ps 37:23-24; 40:2; Prov 20:24).

D. Jesus is the Provider of Grace – His Undeserved Favor

Grace allows us to forgive those who wrong us, to serve our families and others, to forgive ourselves and to have the strength to get through the day.

E. Jesus is the Provider of a way to escape when we face Temptation (1 Cor 10:31).

1. God has promised to provide us with a way to defeat any temptation that comes our way.
 2. God has given us the resources – His Word and His Spirit – to overcome temptation.
- Jesus quoted Scripture each time (three times) when He was tempted by Satan in the wilderness (Matt 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13).
 - “⁹Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. ¹⁰With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. ¹¹Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee” (Ps 119:9-11).
 - “The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul” (Ps 121:7).

MEMORY VERSE:

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Ps 46:1).

CONCLUSION:

A. As Our Rock, Christ is the Believer’s – Redeemer, Comforter and Provider.

B. My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found:
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand: all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

C. ABC’s of Salvation

- **A – Admit** that you’re a sinner and that you cannot save yourself (Rom 3:23, Eph 2:8-9).
- **B – Believe** that Jesus died on the Cross and rose again for your sins (Rom 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-4).
- **C – Confess**/Call on Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior (Rom 10:9-13)

**From the Teaching Ministry of:
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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).