

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

“THE LORD IS MY” (PART 1)

INTRODUCTION:

A. Who is God according to you? What does God mean to you?

1. **“God is omnipotent and omnipresent** – He knows everything and is everywhere. He covers every aspect of our physical and spiritual life. Nothing is hidden and nothing is unknown to Him.” – (Good Good Life).
2. **God is holy, just merciful and loving.** This emphasizes his moral perfection and compassion. God is the Creator, Provider, and Savior which demonstrates His involvement in the world and His care for humanity – (Dr. Bob Martin III).
3. **Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “defined God as a personal, loving, and active force who is both the Creator and Sustainer of all life.** He viewed God as a personality, relatable, and present throughout the universe, who cares for and responds to humanity. King’s concept of God also included attributes like righteousness, justice, and even wrath, influenced by the writings of the ancient prophets.”

B. Peter confessed that Jesus is the Messiah (Luke 9:18-20)

- “¹⁸ And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am? ¹⁹ They answering said, John the Baptist; but some say, Elias; and others say, that one of the old prophets is risen again. ²⁰ He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Peter answering said, The Christ of God” (Luke 9:18-20).
- Parallel Passages (Matt 16:13-20; Mark 8:27-30)
- **WHO DO YOU SAY JESUS IS?**

In this lesson, we will meditate on what the Lord is to us.

I. “THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD” (Ps 23:1)

Shepherd is defined as a person who tends, feeds, and guides a flock of sheep. In Biblical times, the shepherds were responsible for the care guidance, and protection of their sheep.

- **Jesus is the Shepherd – We are the Sheep**

A. Jesus is the Good Shepherd

- “I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep” (John 10:11).
- 1. As the Good Shepherd, Christ died for His sheep (Believers).
- 2. It is through Christ’s substitutionary death, Believers are forgiven of all of their sins – past, present, and future.
- **Christ died in our place and on our behalf.**

B. Christ is the Great Shepherd

- “²⁰ Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, ²¹ Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen” (Heb 13:20-21).

1. As the Great Shepherd, Christ lives for His Sheep (Believers).

2. It is through the Resurrection that Christ makes intercession for us and meets our present needs. Christ takes great care of His sheep. We can count on Christ to meet every need in our lives.

- “Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us” (Rom 8:34).

C. Christ is the Chief Shepherd

Christ will return and transport His sheep into His presence and we will be with Him eternally.

- “¹⁷ Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord” (1 Thess 4:17).

D. How Does Christ the Shepherd Care for His Sheep?

1. Christ provides His followers with leadership, direction, and purpose in life.

2. Christ ensures that we have everything that is needed for spiritual nourishment and growth.

- “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Tim 2:15).

- “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (Ps 119:105).

3. Christ promises eternal life to His sheep and assures them that no one can snatch them from His hand.

- “²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: ²⁸ And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand” (John 10:27-28).

- **He’s a Mighty Good Leader**

Let Jesus lead you, Let him lead you, Let Jesus lead you, all the way

All the way from earth to heaven, Let Him lead you, all the way

He's a mighty good leader, Mighty good leader, He's a mighty good leader

All the way, All the way From Earth to heaven

Let Jesus lead you, All the way.

He led my mother, He led my father, He led my sister, All the way

All the way from Earth to heaven, He led my brother, all the way.

II. **‘THE LORD IS MY ROCK AND MY FORTRESS’** (2 Sam 22:2; Ps 18:2)

A. **“The Lord is My Rock”**

Rock refers to a large mass of stony matter; It represents strength, project, or a source of safety. God as the Rock means His unchanging nature and reliability.

1. God is unchanging in His character, purposes, and promises – **He Never Changes.**
 - He promised eternal life to all who believe – **God ... Cannot Lie**
“In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began” (Titus 1:2).
2. God is unchanging in His Love – He loves us the same each and every day even when we sin.
 - “God loves each of us as if there were only one of us” – (St. Augustine).
 - God’s love for us does not depend on us earning that love by how we behave. God revealed His love for us through His Son Jesus Christ.
 - “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).
 - **God is Love.** “He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love” (1 John 4:8).
 - “We love him, because he first loved us” (1 John 4:19).

B. **“The Lord is ... My Fortress”**

Fortress is defined as a fortified place, a fort, castle, or stronghold; a place of defense or security.

1. God is our fortress in the midst of chaos, storms of life, and conflicts. He will bring peace and calmness to us.
 - “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Ps 46:1).
2. God is our fortress in that nothing can separate us from His love “which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom 8:31-39).
 - God protects us with His love. With God as our fortress, we are safe and secured. No matter what happens, no matter who threatens us or what we do, nothing can separate us from the love of God.
 - **God loves us with an everlasting love**
 - “The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee” (Jer 31:3).

- **A Mighty Fortress**

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal. And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God has willed his truth to triumph through us. The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

III. **‘THE LORD IS ... MY DELIVERER’** (2 Sam 22:2; Ps 18:2)

Deliverer is defined as one who releases or rescues; a preserver; the act of delivering someone from danger or difficulty.

As sinners we were in bondage to Satan – slaves to sin – But Christ delivered us from Satan’s clutches and now we are children of the Kingdom of God. Christ rescued (saved) us from sin and death (eternal separation from God).

- “To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me” (Acts 26:18).
- “Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son” (Col 1:13).
- “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light” (1 Pet 2:9).

IV. **‘THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH’** (Exod 15:2; Ps 28:7; 118:14)

Strength is defined as firmness, power, support, fortification, refuge, force, stronghold.

A. God is the source of our power, protection, and ability to overcome challenges.

B. God is always on our side and He is fighting for us as we face the storms of life. He loves us and has our best interest at heart at all times. He is close to us when we are abused and hurting.

- “¹⁷ The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. ¹⁸ The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. ¹⁹ Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all” (Ps 34:17-19).

1. The Lord does not deliver us from trouble; He delivers us out of trouble.
Believers are not immune to trouble, but we have a Mighty Deliverer.

2. We are to stand up for the Lord at all time – even in the midst of chaos and confusion. We can go to God at **any time** with our concerns and troubles. God is always on the side of the righteous.

- It is better to be divided by truth than to be united in error. It is better to speak the truth that hurts and then heals, than falsehood that comforts and kills” – (Adrian Rodgers).
- **If You Call On Jesus**
If you call on Jesus, He will answer prayer.
If you call on Jesus, He will answer prayer.
Call Him when you need Him, He will answer prayer.
Just call Him when you need Him, He will answer prayer.
He will hear you when you call Him, He will answer prayer.
He will hear you when you call Him, He will answer prayer.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- A. Christ is the Good Shepherd** – He died for us; He is the Great Shepherd. He lives for us; He is the Chief Shepherd – He is returning for us and we will be with Him forever.
- B. Christ is Immutable** – unchanging in His love promises, purposes and character.
- C. God delivered us (Believers) from sin and death (eternal separation from God) through His Son Jesus Christ.**
- D. God is always on the side of the righteous. Call on Jesus – He will answer your prayers.**

MEMORY VERSE:

- **“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him” (2 Cor 5:21).**
- **“(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation” (2 Cor 6:2).**

CONCLUSION:

- A. When blood from a victim must flow, this Shepherd by pity was led,
 To stand between us and the foe, and willingly died in our stead (Thomas Kelly).**
- B. ¹⁶Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, ¹⁷Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work” (2 Thess 2:16-17).**

Salvation begins and ends with God. We can do nothing to be saved based on our own merit – we must accept God’s Gift of Salvation.

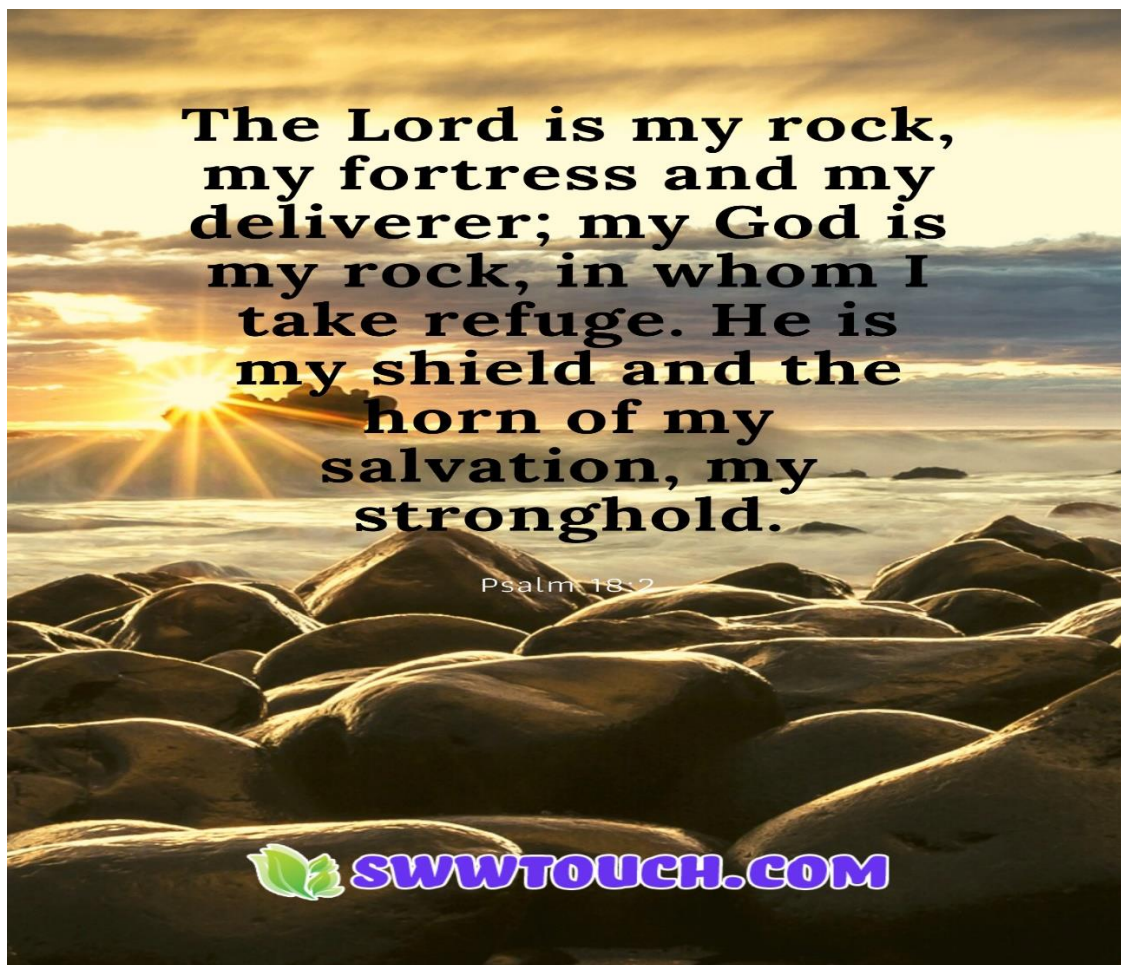
“⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast” (Eph 2:8-9).

Jesus Christ is the only means by which we can have our sins forgiven and Heaven is our home.

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)

Note: All Definitions are from the KJV Dictionary



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