

SERIES – THE POWER OF A SONG II

The Rock To Cling To, 8/27/23

Psalm 18:1-6

Rock of Ages – by Augustus Toplady (1776)

Verse 1 – *Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which
flowed, be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make
me pure.*

- The Lord is our rock that we can rely on
- We can build our lives on his teachings

Verse 2 – *Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.*

- We all make mistakes and need the help of the Lord

Verse 3 – *Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for
grace;*

Foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

- On our own we fall short, but with Christ's Spirit we develop the fruit of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control

Verse 4 – *While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close
in death; when I soar to worlds unknown,
See thee on thy judgment throne;
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.*

- Christ gives us hope of an eternity with him

*It's more important to get right with the Lord than getting our
theology right.*

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Psalm 18:1-6 - I love you, O Lord, my strength. ²The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. ³I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, so I shall be saved from my enemies. ⁴The cords of death encompassed me; the torrents of perdition assailed me; ⁵the cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me. ⁶In my distress I called upon the Lord; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.

Deuteronomy 32:1-4 - Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak; let the earth hear the words of my mouth. ²May my teaching drop like the rain, my speech condense like the dew, like gentle rain on grass, like showers on new growth. ³For I will proclaim the name of the Lord, ascribe greatness to our God! ⁴The Rock, his work is perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God, without deceit, just and upright is he.

Ephesians 2:19-22 - So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God,²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone;²¹ in him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

I Corinthians 10:1-4 - I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ.