

God is the rock – Pt 1 God is **the Rock** of Israel

This is our first study on the topic – God is the Rock. In this teaching we establish three points – (1) After Moses gave a charge to Joshua he spoke a song to Israel – God is the Rock of Israel, the Rock of our salvation, (2) After God delivered David out of the hand of his enemies he spoke a song – God is my rock, blessed is my rock, and (3) David elsewhere in the scriptures spoke of God as the Rock.

Our three points established from the scriptures –

1. After Moses had given charge to Joshua he spoke the words of this song to Israel (Deut.31: 22, 23 & 30)–

* God is **the Rock** of Israel

“He is **the Rock**, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he” (Deut.32: 4).

2. After God delivered David out of the hand of his enemies he spoke the words of this song–

* God of my rock in Him will I trust – he is my shield, horn of my salvation and my high tower

“The God of **my rock**; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour” (2 Sam.22: 3).

3, David also spoke of God as –

* **the Rock** of Israel

“The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me” (2 Sam.23: 3)

Illustration

When I was a young lad my parents had friends who drifted away because they went to Knox theological college in Dunedin and he went on to be a Presbyterian minister. When Karen and I came to the knowledge of the truth of scripture I popped out to see him and asked “why do you use the Good News version of scripture?” He told me – “God told him it was the best”...I haven’t seen him since. If you were to search the Good News version for the word “rock” you would find that every occurrence except ONE, has been changed, and there is NO reference to God being “the Rock”.

Question to think about.

i) From within the context of the scriptures – what does it mean for God Almighty to be “the Rock”, and “my rock”? ii) Is it important that God is “the Rock”?

Answer from the scriptures

i) Meaning of God being “the Rock”, “my rock” – derived from context.

“My rock” – “he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him” (Ps.92: 15).

“their rock” – their rock, and the high God their redeemer” (Ps.78: 35).

“The Rock” – His work is perfect, immovable in truth and judgment – Deut.32: 4 –

“He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he”.

ii) If God is the Rock, and my rock, then it is important – because His word says so!

The Good News version changes the word “rock” to protector, defender, saviour, mighty. But just as God was Israel’s Father, their Saviour, He is also the Rock of Israel. Let us continue this study next week and ascertain if God our Father, our Saviour is also our Rock, hence, for us today – His work is perfect, His ways are judgment, a God of truth is He! Amen!