



GOD spoke to Moses: "Take the staff. Assemble the community, you and your brother Aaron. Speak to that rock [don't hit it like before] that's right in front of them and it will give water. You will bring water out of the rock for them; congregation and cattle will both drink." Numbers 20:7-8, The Message

JESUS CONQUERED EVEN DEATH—THE WEAPON FORMED TO OVERTHROW YOU

God sent his own representatives with the breaking news that Jesus had risen from the dead, just as he said. The angels asked, "Why seek ye the living among the dead?" Luke 24:5. The huge boulder that once blocked the tomb's entrance was rolled away. The grave clothes that bound him were left there. Death lost its power to hold Jesus. Oh death, where is your sting? Oh grave, where is your victory? "God will bring down their strongest walls, their impenetrable defenses, and grind them to the ground until they are only dust," Psalm 25: 12, The Voice. God took something that appears so final to man and supernaturally changed its disposition to live and never die again. God proved he always has the final word. Corruption put on incorruption. Mortal put on immortality. The power of Holy Spirit replaces everything subject to death with eternal life; the same power that resurrected Jesus resurrects anything dead, dying, decayed, or destroyed in your life. Romans 8:9-11, The Message seals this image of God's most honorable intention toward you. "But if God himself has taken up residence in your life, you can hardly be thinking more of yourself than of him. Anyone, of course, who has not welcomed this invisible but clearly present God, the Spirit of Christ, won't know what we're talking about. But for you who welcome him, in whom he dwells—even though you still experience all the limitations of sin—you yourself experience life on God's terms. It stands to reason, doesn't it, that if the alive-and-present God who raised Jesus from the dead moves into your life, he'll do the same thing in you that he did in Jesus, bringing you alive to himself? When God lives and breathes in you (and he does, as surely as he did in Jesus), you are delivered from that dead life. With his Spirit living in you, your body will be as alive as Christ's!" Jesus took the death out of life on earth. Resurrection!

IF WHAT IS IN YOUR HAND SEEMS DAMAGED, BUILD WITH IT ANYWAY

Having supernatural favor, Nehemiah's Spirit-led mission rebuilt the city's walls using the wasteland's charred rocks. Amidst back-to-back adversity, the people restored an impenetrable defense in 52 days. "When Sanballat heard that we were building the wall again... filled with anger he made fun of the Jews. He said..., "What are these weak Jews doing? Are they going to build things again for themselves? Will they give gifts on the altar in worship? Will they finish in a day? Will they get good stones for building from the dust, seeing they are burned?" Tobiah the Ammonite was near him and said, "If a fox would jump on what they build, he would break their stone wall down!," Nehemiah 4:1-3, NLV. Covering us, the Lord preserves us fireproof to stand the heat. Desire restoration? Recall this promise if your dream is under fire. "Look, a righteous King is coming, with honest princes! He will shelter Israel from the storm and wind. He will refresh her as a river in the desert and as the cooling shadow of a mighty rock within a hot and weary land," Isaiah 32:1-2, The Living Bible.

CARVED OUT OF THE SAME ROCK, YOU WON'T CAVE IN THE MIDST OF TESTING

"Listen to me, you who are following what is right and good, and who are looking for the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were cut out, and to the hole from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father, and to Sarah who gave birth to you in pain. When he was but one, I called him. Then I brought good to him and made him many," Isaiah 51:1-2, NLV. "Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader *and* the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection]. He, for the joy [of obtaining the prize] that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising *and* ignoring the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Just think of Him Who endured from sinners such grievous opposition *and* bitter hostility against Himself [reckon up and consider it all in comparison with your trials], so that you may not grow weary *or* exhausted, losing heart *and* relaxing *and* fainting in your minds," Hebrews 12:2-3, AMP. "Abraham did not doubt God's promise. His faith in God was strong, and he gave thanks to God. He was sure God was able to do. what He had promised," Romans 4:20-21, NLV. Use faith like your ancestors to penetrate impossibilities.

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Thought for Transformation

Naturally, water can corrode a rock, but not supernaturally. Jesus, the Rock of our Salvation, is never porous. All other foundations are unpredictable.

The Rock is God's Gem

When we lack understanding of how to treat what is valuable, misuse is unavoidable. Proverbs 26:8 cautions not to be "as he that putteth a precious stone in a heap of stones." God honored Jesus when others didn't know how to treat heaven's best gift to earth. "The stone that was put aside by the workmen has become the most important stone in the building. The Lord has done this. We think it is great!, Psalms 118:22-23, NLV. As you build, keep Jesus as the Chief Cornerstone.

Words from Dave in the Cave

"With my voice I cry to Adonai, with my voice I plead to Adonai for mercy. Before him I pour out my complaint, before him I tell my trouble. When my spirit faints within me, you watch over my path. By the road that I am walking they have hidden a snare for me. Look to my right, and see that no one recognizes me. I have no way of escape; nobody cares for me. I cried out to you, Adonai; I said, You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living." Psalm 142:2-6, CJB. Incomparable, The Rock to always have, hold and to hide in.