**R913\_Rumination for July 24, 2022**

The **T**heme: **Lead Me To The Rock** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: …*when my heart is overwhelmed:* ***lead me to the rock*** *that is higher than I.*  Psa. 61:2

The **T**hots:

1. **God is the Rock –** II Sam. 22:3
2. His **O**mniscient **A**ttributes:
3. *God of my* ***R****ock; in Him will I trust: My high tower, and my* ***R****efuge,* Cf.Psa. 4:22
4. *The LORD is my defence; and my God is the* ***R****ock of my* ***R****efuge.*
5. *…my* ***S****hield, and the horn of my* ***S****alvation,* Cf. Psa. 89:26
6. *my* ***S****aviour; Thou* ***S****avest me from violence.*
7. *He is the* ***R****ock; His work is perfect:* Deut. 32:4
8. *for all His ways are* ***J****udgment:* ***J****ust and right is He.*
9. *a God of truth and without iniquity…*
10. *The LORD is my* ***R****ock,* Psa. 18:2
11. *and my fortress, and my deliverer;*
12. *my God, my strength, in whom I will* ***T****rust;*
13. *my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high* ***T****ower.*
14. His **O**mnipotent **A**ct: ***He is the R****ock* Who **F**ormed us; do not **F**orget Him.Deut. 32:18, 15b

 *Of the Rock that begat thee thou art unmindful, and hast* ***F****orgotten God that* ***F****ormed thee*.

1. He is the **O**ne and **O**nly **R**ock - I Sam. 2:2
2. *There is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside Thee: neither is there any* ***R****ock like our God.*
3. *For who is God, save the LORD? and who is a* ***R****ock, save our God?* IISam. 22:32; Psa. 18:31
4. **Christ is the Rock.** I Cor.10:4

*…they drank of that spiritual* ***R****ock that followed them: and that* ***Rock was Christ*.**

1. The **P**icture of the Rock **S**mitten to obtain Water the first time – Exo. 17:6a

*Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and* ***thou shalt smite the rock****,*

*and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink.*

1. Christ, the **R**ock, was **S**mitten on the Cross to give us the Water of Life.

When Moses **S**truck the Rock, He **S**truck the Divine-Christ Who **S**tood before the Rock!

1. The **R**esult: *there gushed out Water from the Rock.* Cf. Rev. 21:6

Cf. The **S**tatement of Christ - *And He said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega,*

*the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.*

1. The **P**icture of the Rock to be **S**poken to to obtain Water on the **S**econd occasion. Num. 20:8

*Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and* ***speak ye unto the rock*** *before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink.*

1. The Picture **S**poilt by Moses in **S**miting the Rock Twice instead of just **S**peaking to it. Num. 20:11

*And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also.*

* God’s **P**ermissive Will to allow water to come forth in spite of Moses’ Disobedience.

1. God’s **P**unishment of Moses for **S**triking the Rock Twice. Num. 20:12

*And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.*

*And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo…and the LORD shewed him all the land of Gilead, unto Dan…And the LORD said unto him, This is the land which I sware unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither.* Deut. 34:1, 4

1. The **L**esson to **L**earn: Christ could not be Sacrificed Twice.

The Lord Jesus can only be Smitten on the cross **once**.

*So Christ was* ***once*** *offered to bear the sins of many…* Heb. 9:28

*We are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ* ***once for all****.* Heb. 10:10

1. **Lead Me to the Rock**
2. *The LORD liveth…blessed be my* ***R****ock…exalted be the God of the* ***R****ock of my salvation*. II Sam. 22:47
3. *The LORD liveth; and blessed be my* ***R****ock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.* Psa. 18:46
4. *In God is my salvation and my glory: the* ***R****ock of my strength, and my* ***R****efuge, is in God.*  Psa. 62:7
5. *And they* ***R****emembered that God was their* ***R****ock, and the high God their* ***R****edeemer.* Psa. 78:35
* *And when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take, eat:*

*this is My body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of Me.* I Cor. 11:24

*Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee*

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 913**

1. **Rock of Ages**

“*Rock of Ages*” is a classic hymn written by Augustus M. Toplady, with music by Thomas Hastings which has endured through the ages. This very personal hymn uses pronouns such as *I* and *me* rather than *we* and *our*, focusing on individual salvation and relating the sentiments so expressed in those meaningful words to us personally.

Legend has it that Toplady composed the lyrics of this hymn when he was travelling along a gorge in Burrington Combe, England. He was then caught in a fierce storm and took shelter in a gap in the gorge. It was there that he wrote the lyrics of this age-old hymn. Although some researchers might disagree with this or if the incident actually took place, the spot is now marked with a plague inscribed with these words: “*Rock of Ages: This rock derives its name from the well-known hymn written about 1762 by the Rev A M Toplady who was inspired whilst sheltering in this cleft during a storm.*”

Also, *notwithstanding the bitter pamphlet war between Augustus Toplady and John Wesley over the correctness of Calvinist/Reformed theology versus Arminian theology, there has been speculation by some, that although Toplady was a*[*Calvinist*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calvinist)*, the edited version of the words, "Be of sin the double cure, Save from wrath, and make me pure," suggest he agreed with the teachings of the*[*Methodist*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Methodist)*preacher under whom he received his religious conversion, and of his contemporary,*[*John Wesley*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Wesley)*, who taught the "double cure", in which a sinner is saved by the*[*atonement*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atonement_in_Christianity)*of Jesus, and*[*cleansed from inbred sin*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Entire_sanctification)*by the infilling of the Holy Spirit. However, Toplady's own published 1776 hymn text, the version now referred to as 'alt', contains a variant different from Wesley's teachings and reads: "Be of sin the double cure, Save me from its guilt and power".*

[*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock\_of\_Ages\_(Christian\_hymn)*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_of_Ages_%28Christian_hymn%29)

Be it as it may, this lovely hymn has warmed the hearts of many of all ages through the ages in varied circumstances and is still loved by many today sans denominational barriers and beliefs.

 This hymn *Rock of Ages* is indeed the “rock” of hymns that has lasted through the ages and has encouraged many Christians caught in a variety of circumstances to make the words personal and the song meaningful as they sing out the words to verbalise their feelings and emotions. Of course, the Rock of Ages points to Jesus Christ and the Shelter He can be to all people who would go to Him to seek Shelter and Refuge in whatever circumstances.

In contrast to many sentimental and superficial songs we know today, this classic hymn and its words has sustained many Christian saints through the ages. Do you know it for yourself?

You can check on these beautiful words from:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUU5MSTyoBA> **REFLECT**.

1. ***Lead me to the Rock that is higher than I.*** Psa. 61:2
* **The Word of God is the** **Rock** of our **F**aith – Be **F**ounded on the **R**ock, and not upon sand.

Matt.7:24-25 *– Whosoever heareth these sayings of Mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a Rock: And 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.***

* **God is the** **Rock** –Above all **F**ortunes; He is our **S**afety and ***S***ecurity; no one can touch us!

Psa. 61:2 – *lead me to the* ***Rock*** *that is higher than I.*

* **Christ is the** **Rock** – He will **F**ollow us to **P**rotect and **P**rovide for us with God at the **F**ront.

I Cor. 10:4 – *they drank of that spiritual Rock that Followed them: and that* ***Rock*** *was Christ.*

 ***Build on the Rock and not upon the Sand!*** **REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder**: *To be* ***S****afe and* ***S****ecure, Be* ***F****ounded on the Word,*

 ***F****ollow its teachings to lead to God*

*and be* ***F****ound in Christ Who* ***F****ollows us to* ***P****rotect and* ***P****rovide.*