

On What Rock Do You Build Life?

International Bible Lesson

Psalms 95:1-11

Sunday, December 14, 2014

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“O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation” (Psalm 95:1—KJV).

“O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!” (Psalm 95:1—NRSV).

The Bible encourages us to build our lives upon God as a sure and solid rock foundation who will never fail. Interestingly, God commanded Moses to bring forth water from a rock for His people and their livestock, and he did. As our rock, we can trust God to meet our physical and spiritual needs. God put Moses in the cleft of a rock to protect him, and we can go to God as our rock to protect and save us according to His perfect will. The Holy Spirit inspired Moses to call the Lord “The Rock.” Moses wrote, “The Rock, his work is perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God, without deceit, just and upright is he” (Deuteronomy 32:4). Whatever people ultimately trust becomes their rock. Moses wrote of the enemies of God, “Indeed their rock is not like our Rock; our enemies are fools” (Deuteronomy 32:31). King David trusted in the LORD as his rock: “The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer” and “The LORD lives! Blessed be my rock, and exalted be my God, the rock of my salvation” (2 Samuel 22:2, 47). Jesus compared following His teachings to living on a rock foundation, “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock” (Matthew 7:24). Jesus declared He would build His church upon the rock of Peter’s confession: “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16-18) Edward Mote sang, “On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.” — © Copyright 2014 L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

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Thinking Further

1. How important is music and singing to you? How important do you think music is to God? Give reasons for your answers.
2. How does thinking about God as the “rock of your salvation” give you encouragement for living each day?
3. What does Psalm 95:2 encourage you to do whenever you worship God and pray to God?
4. Whenever anyone feels fearful or discouraged, what can you tell them about God that may help them by turning their attention to Psalm 95?
5. Why do you think the psalmist tells believers to kneel before God? What are some of the ways believers can kneel before God without physically being on their knees? Why are these ways important?