"Jesus—The Rock" By Malcolm Xechariah Sunday, April 15th, 2018

The True Light. I didn't know—I don't remember asking Bob what his was sharing about this morning. So, I'm glad I didn't because I think I learned something, I gained something by not knowing beforehand. I actually had to listen, pay attention. Sometimes, you know, and I know, that when there is something before us, say, a test, for instance, a class, or school, or work, or whatever, and you've kind of got a study guide, and you go over it, and you say, kind of, "Okay, I know what's going to happen." But, I kind of am glad, this time, that I didn't know, because I learned something, and, I'm thankful for it, because, you know, as Bob mentioned, we all have our different callings and different abilities, and it's good to know that we're all different. We're not all the same. If everybody was like me, there would be a lot of places in the world that would be out of business. Because I don't like hats; I don't mind people wearing them. Some people like hats, but I wouldn't buy them. I just use that as an example. There's other places, a lot of barbers would go out of business. Whoever grows asparagus, they'd probably be out of business. I'm just saying. These are all simple examples that we can relate to, right? Anybody that's a Ford dealer, they would be out of business, because I like Chevys. So, we're all awake, amen? The title—I'll give you the title from the beginning, "Jesus, The Rock." I'm not talking about the WWE guy; I'm talking about the real Rock. Let me recite to you from the Encyclopedia Britannica and just bear with me, because I promise you it relates to the message. Bedrock. I looked up the word bedrock, and, I know you've probably heard people talk about bedrock you know a skyscraper, or some large structure, they have to drill down to the bedrock. So, a bedrock is a deposit of solid rock that is typically buried beneath the soil or other broken or unconsolidated material. Bedrock is made up of igneous, sedimentary, or metamorphic rock and it often serves as the-and remember this word-these two words: parent material. Parent material, or source of rock. Remember that phrase: 'parent material' and 'source.' Bedrock is also a source of nitrogen. Anybody—obviously, everybody's heard of nitrogen. How much of the air do you think is made up of nitrogen? 78%. 78% of what's right here in this room, almost 80%, is nitrogen. Sounds dangerous, but, it's a noble gas, as you learn from chemistry class, right, students? Bedrock is also a source of nitrogen in the earth's nitrogen cycle. So, we actually get air from rock. Something to think about, to bear in mind. Source material, parent material, source. Air, by volume, is 80% nitrogen, 20.9% oxygen. Just so we're on the same page here, there is oxygen in the air, amen? 80% nitrogen, roughly 20% oxygen. Before I even open the Bible I see that almost 80% of the life-giving air that I breathe is directly connected to bedrock. Which, according to the Bible, is a descriptor name given to God. Only in the Old Testament. Not anybody else, only God, has that name. Rock. Or Bedrock. Source, parent material you see where I'm going with this, right? Amen? You're already ahead of me. And, the manifestation of God, that same Rock, Jesus, in the New Testament. Okay? Old Testament, New Testament. Rock, rock. Of course, we're not here for a science lesson, but we are here for a source lesson. Amen? Amen.

John 10:9 I am the door: [You can just--you don't have to turn to it; we're going to read pretty fast.] by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

So, I'm connecting the two. "I am the Door..." Jesus talking. Talking about God in the Old Testament, and Jesus in the New Testament, the manifestation of God, God's Spirit in the man. Amen. "I am the door. I'm Him. I'm it." Right, right. John, ten, and thirty:

John 10:30 I and my Father are one.

So, why is Jesus saying My Father? Because He's in the flesh; God is not a man. Amen? The spirit.

First Corinthians ten, one through four. First Corinthians ten, one through four:

1 Corinthians 10:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; And did all eat the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

And that rock was what? Christ. And if you want to know where that reference is, that reference is Exodus, fourteen, and the children of Israel crossed over the sea, or under the sea, on dry land. So, the walls of the sea, by the way, were a seal to them. It says they were baptized unto Moses. So, Moses, think about Moses for a second, they were baptized into Moses, so Moses was their savior. That's why it says they were baptized unto Moses, because he was their savior. Well, guess what? Moses wasn't The Rock. Something to think about. The waters were above their head. When you get baptized, the waters are above your head. Amen? So, Moses, who was taken from the water, that's what his name means, was saved by the water. Moses, taken from the water, saved by the water. Jesus, the blood of the Covenant. So, now you have water and blood. Jesus represents the blood of the Covenant. So, why do I draw a parallel? Because when the soldier pierced Jesus in his side, what came out? Blood and water. Blood and water (John 19:34). The spirit, the water, and the blood agree in one in the Earth (1 John 5:8). And, they all put together with baptism. The study is not about baptism, it's about Jesus being The Rock, but it's hard to preach Jesus without preaching baptism, amen? I'm just saying. All right. We'll move on.

Deuteronomy— and I'm going to give you a couple of Old Testament Scriptures just so you know we're consistent with this whole Rock thing, you know?

Deuteronomy 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.

That was Deuteronomy, thirty-two, and four.

2 Samuel 22:1-2 And David spake unto the Lord the words of this song in the day that the Lord had delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul: And he said, The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;

Amen, amen.

1 Samuel 2:2 There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God.

That was said by a woman. That was Hannah, you remember her? I'm going to read it again, just for all the ladies. I'm not going to read it like a lady. I'll still sound like a dude.

1 Samuel 2:2 There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God.

Can you imagine your mother, or your grandmother saying that to you? Or your daughter? Good God Almighty. How could you think that God is only for men when you have a woman that would say something like that? Amen? Amen. I like that. You like that?

So, who is my Rock, my Fortress my Strong Tower, my Help, my way out of no way, my Protector? My protector from bullying, amen? My protector from sexual harassment, amen? My protector from a mean boss, amen? My protector from people who would speak against me at my job, to belittle me in front of others, amen? My protector for my online being bullying, amen? Jesus, God, our Rock, Strength, Foundation, Protection, Help. #9:47#

So, I looked up this word, 'rock,' and I used these references for Old and New Testaments and Strong's Concordance, and let me say one thing, you can draw all these references online, you know, from online concordance, but it seems, and I know this to be a fact, I have a written concordance, you know, pretty big book, and there are words in my concordance—it's kind of old—that are not online. They've been removed. So, it pays to have the books. Books are still in style, amen? Because, when people start revising things they revise things out of the book. And, then you're lost because, and, I want to make this point; because it wasn't in the online version thereof, Strong's New Testament 4073 is the reference number 'rock,' and we're talking about rock; rock, bedrock, bedrock was not in the one online. Bedrock, that's what I started with. Bedrock Bedrock here, bedrock there, and that's why I gave you that reference from the Encyclopedia Britannica, so that we can make a comparison between the two. I'm talking about rock. What kind of rock are we talking? We're talking about the parent; we're talking about the source material, the rock of all rocks, amen? Bedrock, rocky crag suitable solid foundation, large rock formation. Let me draw your attention to Matthew, chapter 16, and we'll go all the way through. Now, Bob already read this, and he stopped. And, he stopped right before I would begin. But, I'll go ahead and read it from the beginning, where he started, just so you know the context of what I'm saying. Matthew, chapter sixteen, thirteen through eighteen:

Matthew 16:13-16 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

That ought to just make you shout, amen?

Matthew 16:17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

I think that's where you stopped, wasn't it? This is where I begin:

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Now, watch this, watch this: Jesus, the stone, the Bedrock, the, the source set at naught of the builders, become the head of corner, this is my statement, the Cornerstone, still talking about Jesus, designated Peter the little stone. Not the source, not the parent material, little stone, because Peter understood. If you didn't know, now you do. The little stone. He designated Peter the little stone to open the locks of salvation to the masses. Jew and Gentile. There can be only one Rock, One Source. Now, why do I say he opened the locks? Because He gave Peter the keys to the Kingdom. Keys are for locks. Amen? And I'm closing.

Jesus, the Rock of our life-giving air. See, it's time to bring the air in. Jesus, the Rock of our life giving air, we breathe. Our foundation, our Bedrock our parent Source, Jesus. Ephesians, chapter two, we're going to read eleven, twelve, and nineteen. Ephesians, chapter two, eleven, twelve, and nineteen. And, I'm only going to read part of eleven, because I'm trying to make a point here.

Ephesians 2:11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles...

That's verse eleven, now verse twelve:

Ephesians 2:12 That at that time ye were without Christ, [in time past Gentiles, that's us.] being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

Can anybody say that when you were without Christ that you had some kind of hope? It doesn't exist! There is no hope outside of Christ! Verse 19:

Ephesians 2:19-20 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, [now that you know Christ, amen, you're no more strangers and foreigners] but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets...

Now, that's some heavy stuff, right there: "...upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets..." Do you know how many people who were in business, they just want to be anywhere near somebody who has a foundation of success in business. You just mention some dude's name, and they'll go, "Oh, he's the greatest visionary known to man!" Am I telling the truth? Amen. The only Visionary I know that was the greatest, is Jesus. Amen? If you ain't down with Jesus, you in the wrong place, amen? Your foundation is sinking sand, amen? Our hope is built on nothing less—yes, sir—than Jesus blood and righteousness, amen. Good God. I've got to take my glasses off. I can't see now. They got fogged up.

Ephesians 2:20 ...built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone;

Oh, back to that rock again. That parent material, that Source. Jesus, The Source, the Rock, the Strength, the Strong Tower, the righteous runneth into it and are safe (Proverbs 18:10), amen? Just His name alone sends the demons on the run! Amen. You notice anybody when they start talking about, "Oh, my God," they don't ever say, "Oh, my devil." When they start time they start talking about BC and AD. and then they made up other words because they want to take out before Christ, and after the death of Christ. Even time starts with Jesus, amen? This is 2018. 2018 since what? Since the death of Jesus, Amen. It's Jesus all the way, amen? The Rock, the Source, the parent material, amen? That'll make you shout, won't it?

I'm going to close, brother Pete, would you put up that audio lyric file? And, Brother Jerry, he's going to regale you with tales from the past; no, he's going to play an audio file for you. Check it out.

Who Do Men Say I Am

Who do men say I am?

Jesus looked at his disciples with loving eyes to see to them who could he be.

Some say thou art Elias, some are saying a major prophet from on high.

But with those same loving eyes he asked," whom say ye that I am? – He's the Son of Man.

Truly thou art the Christ, the Son of God who reigns supreme and lives above.

And upon The Rock he built his church, and to Peter he gave the key.

Through his blood all men on earth could be set free.

He told them much later he had to die. This is why He came. And the reason why, He would explain.

Because of the price of Adam's sin, I'll deliver my life to sinful man.

The prophets have spoken concerning me. I do this through my love.

I'll redeem lost man with my blood.

But if I be lifted up I will draw all men to me.

With my resurrection power, men should know throughout the land, the Messiah from On High is who I am.

So it pleased the Lord to bruise Him, and we esteemed Him smitten of God and afflicted.

By His stripes we're healed.

By His blood we're overcome.

Give the Lord a praise.