

The Ebenezer 12-24-17

1 Samuel 7:12 *Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far the LORD has helped us."*

PART ONE: Rocks of the Scriptures

When Samuel led the Israelites to their victory over the Philistines, he set a stone up and called it the Ebenezer, the stone of help. Stones have had a great place in scripture. Consider:

Jacob's Stone – Gen 31:45, 35:14

Rock of Horeb - Ex 17:6

Rock of Sinai – Ex. 33:22,

Rocks are a part of judgment

Stoning – Leviticus 24:10, etc

The Law of Moses – Deut 5:22

God is repeatedly called a rock in Scriptures:

De 32:4 "The Rock! His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He.

Ps 31:3 For You are my rock and my fortress;

Isa 30:29 To go to the mountain of the LORD, to the Rock of Israel

PART TWO: The Rock that is Christ

A. We are told that these rocks looked ahead at Jesus:

1Co 10:4 *and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ.*

B. Consider then three things about Jesus as the Rock

(1) Jesus the Building Stone – 1 Peter 2:4-7

Ps 118:22 The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief corner stone.

Mt 21:42 Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'?

(2) Jesus the stone of Judgment – Luke 17:1-2, John 12:48

Mt 18:6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

(3) Jesus the stoning stone – Isaiah 8:14-15

Mt 21:44 "And he who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust."

PART THREE: The Rock of My Salvation

When Jesus died, he was placed in a rock

Lu 23:53 And he took it down and wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid Him in a tomb cut into the rock, where no one had ever lain.

When we die in Christ in baptism, we are placed in the Rock

Ga 3:27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

This Rock is like the one where Moses and Elijah were in; it permits us to come near to God