

# The ROCK

Pg 1

“Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant, that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; and all did eat the same spiritual food; and **all did drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock (*petras*) that followed them: and that Rock (*Petra*) was the Christ.**” But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Nor be you idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.' Nor let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day twenty-three thousand. Nor let us tempt **the Christ**, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents. Nor murmur, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now all these things happened unto them for examples, and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world have come.” (1 Corinthians 10:1-4-11)

**Rock:** from the greek word *petra* which means: a mass of connected rock; solid or native bed-rock rising up through the earth.

**Rock:** from the greek word *petras, or petros* which means: a detached piece of rock, a boulder. (Usually not translated 'a stone' - *lithos*)

Here Jesus is being called '**that Rock (*Petra*)**' – that same **spiritual Rock (*petras*) that followed** the Israelites during their Exodus wanderings and travels. Keep in mind, that the detached 'spiritual' Rock is one and the same as the solid bed-Rock – Christ! The detached 'spiritual' rock is 'Him' who '**followed**' and led the Israelites in their Exodus journeys – as '**if**' detached from the bed-Rock. For us today Jesus is both the solid bed- Rock (*Petra*) - the Christ; and He is the detached spiritual Rock (or Living Stone) – Christ in us by His Spirit!

Consider these remarkable statements of Jesus:

“Labor not for the food which perishes, but for that food which endures unto everlasting life, which the Son of Man shall give unto you; for on Him has God the Father set His seal. Then they said unto him, 'What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?' Jesus answered and said unto them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe on Him whom He has sent.' They said therefore unto Him, 'What sign do You show us then, so that we may see, and believe You? What work do You perform? Our fathers ate manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.” Then Jesus said unto them, 'Truly, truly, I say unto you, Moses did not give you that bread from heaven; but My Father gives you the True Bread from heaven. For the Bread of God is He who comes down from heaven, and gives life unto the world (Jesus). Then they said unto Him, 'Lord, forevermore give us this bread.' And Jesus said unto them, **I am the Bread of Life; he who comes to Me shall never hunger; and he who believes on Me shall never thirst.**” (John 6:27-35)

Jesus **is** our spiritual food! Jesus **is** our spiritual drink! Jesus **is** that spiritual Rock that satisfies our thirst forevermore! And that Rock is Christ Jesus!

Although, perhaps, alluded to, this Spiritual Rock that the people drank from, was not the literal rock that Moses struck on two occasions. Jesus was not that earthy bed-rock, nor did that earthy bed-rock literally follow the Israelites on their journeys, nor did that earthy water that came forth from the earthy rock forever satisfies their thirst! Please read about these incidents in Exodus 17:1-7, and Numbers 20:1-13 .

# The ROCK

Pg 2

Notice, that in both incidents, the LORD. Jehovah, was there! In Exodus the LORD said “I will stand before you there on the rock...” And in Numbers it says, “So Moses took the rod from before the LORD just as He had commander him.” Consider also these words of Moses:

“... I will proclaim the name of **the LORD**; ascribe greatness unto our God. **He is the Rock**, His work is perfect; for all His ways are just-judgments; a God of truth and without iniquity, just and upright is He.” (from the song of Moses – just before his death – Deuteronomy 32:1-4)

It is clear from these Verses, and many others, that the LORD (Jehovah) is the **Rock** (*tsur* - bed-rock) of the Israelites. It is also clear that the Israelites were 'under the Cloud' being led by the LORD (Jehovah) – a Pillar of Cloud by day, and a Pillar of Fire by night. Paul also confirms that “**that Rock (petra) was the Christ!!**”

Now Consider this discussion between Jesus and His disciples:

“When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, 'Who do men say that I the Son of Man am?' And they said, 'Some say that You are John the Baptist: some say, Elijah; and others say, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.' Then He said unto them, 'But who do you say that I am?' And Simon Peter answered and said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered and said unto him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona; for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven! And I say also unto you that you are Peter (**Petros**), and upon **this Rock (Petra)** I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven; and whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Then He charged His disciples that they should tell no man that He is the Christ. (Matthew 16:13-20)

Jesus said, “upon **this Rock (Petra)** I will build My church” – upon the fact that He is 'the Christ, the Son of the living God.' This is a bed-rock title that speaks of the foundational nature of Christ in all things pertaining to the Church – the Body of Christ! He is the Rock of salvation for us the Church; His word, His teachings, are the solid-rock foundation that we build our lives upon; He is our true Advocate before our Father; He is the Amen, the Faithful and true Witness, ...!

Finally: “In You, O LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame. Deliver me in Your righteousness, and cause me to escape. Incline Your ear unto me, and save me. **Be You my Rock of habitation** (refuge), to which I may continually enter; for You have given commandment to save me; **for You are my Rock and my Fortress!!**” (Psalm 71:1-3)

## JESUS is...

**the Rock,  
who is the Christ!**

**He is the Rock of our Salvation, and the Rock of our refuge!  
Jesus is that spiritual Rock that satisfies our thirst and our hunger forevermore!**

**Thank You Jesus! Thank You Father! Thank You Holy Spirit!  
In You I take my refuge; in You I place my Trust !!!**