

ROCK OF AGES



Loud Cry Compendium

ROCK OF AGES

Throughout Scripture, Jesus is referred to by many different names and these names are not without reason. These names reflect a different attribute of Himself and some of these names include: 1) **The Lamb of God**, for He is the True Sacrifice that takes away the sins of the world; by His shed blood we can receive forgiveness of sin, 2) **The Word of God**, for He is the very word of the Father in bodily form, and by this Word, all things were made and 3) **The Great Shepherd**, because we are His people, and the sheep of His pastures and He looks after and cares for us as a shepherd tends to his earthly flock.

But the name that we want to focus on today is none of the above but another name by which Christ is referred to multiple times throughout the Old and the New Testament and that name is **The Rock**.

Let us therefore dig deeper into the Word of God and see how Christ is revealed as the Rock.



ROCK OF AGES

The Altar of Stone:

In the Old Testament, during the days of the Patriarchs, God had commanded these holy men of old to construct **altars of stone**, upon which to offer up their sacrifices to Him. These altars were to be made from rock or stone which was **not to be hewn or cut with any tool**. By cutting or chiselling them with a tool, they would have been symbolically "**polluted**" or "**defiled**". The rocks here used were a foreshadowing to Christ as we will see later, therefore, as Christ was undefiled and without spot or blemish, so were the rocks of the altar to be undefiled. *Jesus was the "the lamb" but He was also "the altar" upon which the lamb was sacrificed.*

Genesis 8:20; 12:7; 13:18; 22:9; 26:24-25; Exodus 20:25

The Struck Rock:

Here we see that because of the Israelites murmuring and lack of faith in God to provide all of their needs, God asked Moses **to strike the rock in Horeb**. By doing this, the rock poured forth a multitude of water and the children of Israel were able to be refreshed on their journey. Likewise, **Christ Himself was struck for us**, He was **wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities** and **with His stripes, we are healed**. It is only by this striking of the True Rock, that the waters of the Spirit could be poured out upon us, that we, like the children of Israel in the wilderness, may have life, *eternal life*.

Exodus 17:1-6; Isaiah 53:4-5; John 7:37-39; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4



ROCK OF AGES

The Ten Commandments written on Two Tables of Stone:

There is much contention in the Christian world today that the 10 Commandments are no longer needed to be observed by the Church. They say that the 10 Commandments were for the Jews, that those who observe the Law of God are legalistic in their beliefs. Now it is true that in its ceremonial context the law was nailed to the Cross, however which law are we speaking about? Are we speaking about the 10 Commandment Law written upon **two tables of stone, written by the finger of God Himself** or are we referring to the ceremonial law, written by Moses, written in a book, which foreshadowed the coming of Christ and His role?

In all aspects of the ceremonial law, it showed us a greater reality. For example, the literal lamb which was to be without any physical defect and offered upon the altar, pointed to Christ, **the Lamb of God** who takes away our sins. The high priest of the Old Testament and His role, pointed to Christ **the Great High Priest** and His role of intercession for us before the Father. The Hebrew temple of which all these ceremonies took place pointed us to the true **Temple in Heaven**, where Christ is doing His work of intercession.

However, the 10 Commandments were given for **all mankind**, and not solely to the Jewish nation.

Is it only for the Jews not to kill, or steal or covet? Or is it only for the Jews not to worship any other God but the Lord Jehovah?

We know the Stone pointed us to Christ and the mere fact that the Law was written on Stone, by God Himself, shows us that God Himself upholds His Law and Christ came to magnify that Law and make it honourable among all mankind.

Exodus 31:18; 32:15-16; Deuteronomy 10:1-2,4-5; 31:24-26; Isaiah 42:21; Matthew 5:17-20; John 14:15



ROCK OF AGES

The Stone Cut without Hands:

In the days of the Babylonian captivity of the children of Israel, Nebuchadnezzar had a dream. In this dream, it was revealed by the Prophet Daniel, that it pertained to the end of time. The king of Babylon saw an image, constructed of various metals, from the head to the toes, which represented the various kingdoms that were to come into existence after Babylon and at the end of the dream there was a "**stone cut without hands**" which struck the toes of the image and destroyed the entire image. This stone eventually went on to become a great mountain encompassing the entire earth.

The stone which destroyed the image represented none other than Christ, who, at His Second Coming shall destroy all the kingdoms of this earth and His Kingdom, *the Kingdom of God*, shall rule into all eternity.

Daniel 2:31-35; 38-45; Micah 4:1-2

Goliath struck down with a stone:

In the days of young David, before He became King of Israel, he came up against the Philistine giant, Goliath. It was during this battle, that God commanded David to choose 5 smooth stones, of which he used just one to bring down Goliath. Likewise, when we face the "giants of our lives" and are going through our personal battles, may we also choose the Rock, Jesus Christ, for He will give us the victory as He gave David the victory, as we trust in Him and have faith. If we believe, we shall see the glory of God. The battle is not ours but God's. He shall fight for us and we shall hold our peace.

1 Samuel 17:40,49-50; John 11:40; Exodus 14:14; 2 Chronicles 20:15



ROCK OF AGES

The Chief Cornerstone:

From a proper study of the Old Testament, we can see that the Rock represented none other than Jesus Christ. It is only therefore fitting the words of Jesus to Peter, "**upon this Rock, I will build my Church**". Many take these words to mean that Jesus was saying to Peter, that the Church would be built upon him (Peter). There are some Churches today that even teach that Peter was the first pope because Jesus committed the Church to Peter's keeping. Again, **this is not Biblical**. Many years after Jesus's ascension, Peter himself in his 1st Epistle, told his audience that he was not to be exalted above them, for he was simply an elder in the Church.

1 Peter 5:1.

The fact of the matter is, God never changes, **Malachi 3:6**. Christ is the Rock of the Old Testament and He is the Rock of the New Testament and upon Him, is the Church built for there is no other foundation but Jesus Christ, **1 Corinthians 3:11. Jesus is the Chief Cornerstone** which the builders rejected, **Ephesians 2:19-22, 1 Peter 2:3-8; Romans 9:31-33**.

We must fall upon the Rock that our old sinful nature may be broken and Christ may recreate us into His image, if not, as we see in **Nebuchadnezzar's dream**, if the Rock falls upon us, we shall be completely destroyed at the 2nd Coming of Christ, **Luke 20:17-18**. Therefore, let us not be like the foolish man who built his house upon the sand, but rather, by God's grace, may we be likened unto the wise man, who built his house upon the Rock, and that Rock is Christ, **Matthew 7:24-27**.



"A Tried Stone" is Christ, tried by the perversity of man. Thou, O our Saviour, hast taken the burden; Thou hast given peace and rest; Thou hast been tried, proved by believers who have taken their trials to Thy sympathy, their sorrows to Thy love, their wounds to Thy healing, their weakness to Thy strength, their emptiness to Thy fullness; and never, never has one soul been disappointed. Jesus, my Tried Stone, to Thee will I come, moment by moment. In Thy presence I am lifted above pain. *"When my heart is overwhelmed, lead me to the Rock that is higher than I."* **Psalm 61:2.**

When I meditate upon this fountain of living power from which we may draw, I mourn that so many are losing the delight they might have had in considering His goodness. We are to be sons and daughters of God, growing into a holy temple in the Lord. "No more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God.... Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone."

Ephesians 2:19, 20. This is our privilege.

Our High Calling, pg. 54

"Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste."

Isaiah 28:16

Interested in more studies?

Visit our website today.

Spread the Word!



www.loudcrycompendium.com



loudcrycompendium@gmail.com



[@loudcrycompendium](https://www.facebook.com/loudcrycompendium)