

THAT ROCK WAS CHRIST

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, ² all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them,

and that Rock was Christ. ⁵ But with most of them God was not well pleased, for *their bodies* were scattered in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. ⁷ And do not become idolaters as *were* some of them. As it is written, "*The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.*"* ⁸ Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; ⁹ nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; ¹⁰ nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

¹² Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.

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We should understand how the Holy Spirit uses types in the Scripture. He uses things that are seen to teach us things that are unseen. Not all objects are types.

We are sure of our typology when the Bible tells us an object is a type:

Viz. 1 Corinthians 10:4- **"...that Rock was Christ."**

When we are presented with a type in Scripture, we should meditate on what we know about the object, and then compare that with the truth that we learning; e.g. "sheep" as a type of believers.

John 10:1-6

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. ² But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵ Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶ Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them.

What do you know about sheep?

They are not very smart; they are easily distracted;
they are weak;
they will only follow a trusted leader.

Are those characteristics of sheep also true of believers?

What do we know about a rock? Immovable, ageless, firm foundation, stronghold, strong, immovable, and safe (cleft: crack or crevice).

When the Holy Spirit uses more than one person (Moses, Isaiah, David, and Jesus Himself) with the same type we can be assured of its value as a type.

How is "rock" a type in these texts?

Psalm 18:1-3

I will love You, O LORD, my strength.

² The LORD is my **rock** and my fortress and my deliverer;

My God, my strength, in whom I will trust;

My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

³ I will call upon the LORD, *who is worthy* to be praised;

So shall I be saved from my enemies.

Isaiah 32:1-4

Behold, a king will reign in righteousness,

And princes will rule with justice.

² A man will be as a hiding place from the wind,

And a cover from the tempest,

As rivers of water in a dry place,

As the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

³ The eyes of those who see will not be dim,

And the ears of those who hear will listen.

⁴ Also the heart of the rash will understand knowledge,

And the tongue of the stammerers will be ready to speak plainly.

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³ When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?"

¹⁴ So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

¹⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed* in heaven."

²⁰ Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.

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Matthew 16:18, the truth of Christ, not Peter and the Roman Catholic church.

Let's examine a specific use of rock as a type of Christ [1 Cor 10:4].

Exodus 17:5-6

⁵ And the LORD said to Moses, "Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go. ⁶ Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, which the people may drink."

The rock is the type of the Lord Jesus Christ who was smitten at Calvary and from Whom flows the gift of salvation, redemption and pardon.

Exodus 33:19-23

¹⁹ Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." ²⁰ But He said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live." ²¹ And the LORD said, "Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. ²² So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. ²³ Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen."

The rock here represents the Lord Jesus Christ.

We sing "Rock of Ages, Cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee," that is the thought from this passage of Scripture. God the Father can only look upon us with favor as we are hidden in Christ.

It is only in Christ that we understand anything about God.

Numbers 20:1-13

Then the children of Israel, the whole congregation, came into the Wilderness of Zin in the first month, and the people stayed in Kadesh; and Miriam died there and was buried there.

² Now there was no water for the congregation; so they gathered together against Moses and Aaron. ³ And the people contended with Moses and spoke, saying: "If only we had died when our brethren died before the LORD! ⁴ Why have you brought up the assembly of the LORD into this wilderness, that we and our animals should die here? ⁵ And why have you made us come up out of Egypt, to bring us to this evil place? It *is* not a place of grain or figs or vines or pomegranates; nor *is* there any water to drink." ⁶ So Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the door of the tabernacle of meeting, and they fell on their faces. And the glory of the LORD appeared to them.

⁷ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ⁸ "Take the rod; you and your brother Aaron gather the congregation together. **Speak to the rock** before their eyes, and it will yield its water; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give drink to the congregation and their animals." ⁹ So Moses took the rod from before the LORD as He commanded him.

¹⁰ And Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock; and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels! ¹¹ Then Moses lifted his hand and **struck the rock twice** with his rod; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank.

¹² Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them."

¹³ This *was* the water of Meribah, because the children of Israel contended with the LORD, and He was hallowed among them.

How did Moses provoke God? It is true that Moses struck the rock a second time, but Moses is not chastened for striking the rock. What then is the provocation?

Moses did not believe and thus hallow God.

Take your concordance and go "rock hunting."

Deut 32:4

He is the Rock, His work *is* perfect;
For all His ways *are* justice,
A God of truth and without injustice;
Righteous and upright *is* He.

4 the sure foundation, stability, security, firmness

Deut 32:13

"He made him ride in the heights of the earth,
That he might eat the produce of the fields;
He made him draw honey from the rock,
And oil from the flinty rock;

13 honey is rich food, water is refreshing

Deut 32:15

¹⁵ "But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked;
You grew fat, you grew thick,
You are obese!
Then he forsook God *who* made him,
And scornfully esteemed the Rock of his salvation.

Jeshurun

— a poetical name for the people of Israel, used in token of affection, meaning,
"the dear upright people"

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15 God is the source of salvation

Deut 32:18

Of the Rock *who* begot you, you are unmindful,
And have forgotten the God who fathered you.

18 God is the source of life

Deut 32:30

How could one chase a thousand,
And two put ten thousand to flight,
Unless their Rock had sold them,
And the LORD had surrendered them?

30 God is our owner

Deut 32:31

For their rock *is* not like our Rock,
Even our enemies themselves *being* judges.

31 God is perfect and unchanging

Deut 32:37

He will say: 'Where *are* their gods,
The rock in which they sought refuge?

37 the ungodly are not trusting in the True Rock

One more:

Matthew 7:24-29

²⁴ "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

²⁶ "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

²⁸ And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, ²⁹ for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

Matthew 7:24, the true foundation

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