

**A GREAT ROCK IN A WEARY LAND**  
**Deuteronomy 32:1-4, 31**

**Introduction:**

A. *“Do you believe in rock in the church?”*

1. *There is no church without “The Rock!”*
2. *Not only should the “Rock” be in the church, the church should be on the “Rock”.*
3. *Jesus is our Rock!*

B. *Moses is the one who started comparing God to a rock.*

1. *The commandments were written on tablets of rock.*
2. *Moses was hidden in the cleft of the rock....*
3. *It was from the smitten rock that waters flowed...*
4. *How natural for Moses to apply the figure of a rock to Jesus.*

C. *When men have lost faith in religion, they seek something solid to hang on to....*

1. *Some seek:*

- a. *The rock of philosophy..,*
- b. *The rock of intellect and knowledge...*
- c. *The rock of humanism....*
- d. *The rock of pleasure...*

2. *Only to find later that they built not on a rock, but on sand.*

3. *Men tend to make a rock out of that which they consider superior to them.*

4. *The “rock” of many is their Money.*

5. *The “rock” of others is their Morality.*

6. The “rock” of nations is their Military.

- a. Should be strong...
- b. Should not be our main line of defense.

D. The Believer’s Rock is Jesus!

1. “My faith is built on nothing less;  
Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame;  
But wholly lean on Jesus’ name.”
2. The only rock that will last forever...
3. This Rock will never be beaten or broken with the winds and waves of time or eternity.

E. In the Bible God is a type of rock in many ways:

1. A Shelter – Psalm 63:2-3 “Lead me to the rock that is higher than I, for thou hast been a shelter to me”
2. A Defense – Psalm 18:2 “The Lord is my rock and my fortress.”
3. A Dwelling Place: Psalm 90:1 “The Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.”
4. A Hiding Place: Isaiah 32:2 “And a man shall be as a hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.”
5. A Firm Foundation: Psalm 40:2 “He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.”
6. A Smitten Rock: “As Moses smote the rock in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be smitten.”

F. Today we see Jesus as “A Great Rock in a Weary Land”

1. A great mountain of a rock.
2. Casting a shadow from the heat of the sun on the weary traveler.

**I. Jesus is the ROCK OF REFUGE!**

A. *Isaiah 32:2 "...an hiding place from the wind..."*

1. *What a marvelous description of Christ!*
2. *The desert winds are so dangerous:*
  - a. *Scorching / Blistering / Burning*
  - b. *Dries out the moisture of the body.*
  - c. *Grit / Sand / Wind*
3. *A weary traveler would look for refuge.*

B. *In today's world, there are many winds blowing:*

1. *Winds of grief and sorrow;*
2. *Winds of war and international strife;*
3. *Winds of terrorism;*
4. *Winds of political unrest, etc.;*
5. *There are literally storms all around us.*
6. *Recall the night when the disciples were crossing the sea...*
  - a. *"Master, we perish!"*
  - b. *"There was a great calm."*
7. *David said in Psalm 31:20 – "Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues."*
8. *You need not fear the winds when Jesus hides you!*
  - a. *Stay close to the Rock!*
  - b. *The only place of safety.*

C. *Wind in the Bible is also symbolic of the Judgment of God.*

1. *Psalm 1:4 – “The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.”*
2. *Remember Daniel’s interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream?*

- a. *Dreamed of Gentile Dominion:*
- b. *Saw a gigantic figure:*

- 1) *Head – Gold*
- 2) *Brest – Silver*
- 3) *Body – Brass*
- 4) *Legs – Iron*
- 5) *Feet – Clay and Iron*

- c. *Then a Rock was cut out, but not by human hands.*

- 1) *Jesus*
- 2) *Rock smote the image and broke it to pieces.*
- 3) *Pulverized it to powder.*

- d. *Then the wind of God’s judgment blew.*

- e. *Daniel 2:35 - “Then the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, the gold was broken in pieces and together became like chaff of the summer’s threshing floor and the wind carried them away.”*

3. *Christ the Rock, is also our refuge from God’s Judgment.*

- a. *Judgment is coming!*
- b. *“It is appointed unto man....”*
- c. *Jesus will provide a hiding place.*

- d. *“Rock of ages cleft for me;  
Let me hide myself in Thee.  
Let the water and the blood,  
From Thy wounded side which flowed;  
Be of sin the double cure;*

*Save from wrath and make me pure.”*

*4. He is our Rock of Refuge / our hiding place.*

## **II. Jesus is our ROCK OF RELIEF**

*A. “... a covert from the tempest....” (Isaiah 32:2)*

- 1. A tempest is stronger than the normal wind storm.*
- 2. Jesus is our relief...*

- a. He takes away our anxieties and tensions.*
- b. He is our covert / Relief.*

*B. Remember what Jesus said to Jerusalem before His Crucifixion?*

- 1. “Oh, Jerusalem, Jerusalem.....”*
- 2. Mother hen sees the danger and hides her chickens under her wings.*

- a. When afraid the little chickens run under mother’s wings;*
- b. Later stick their heads out ... all is well.*

*3. So, Jesus wants us to run to him:*

- a. No worry ...*
- b. He would over shadow us – He is our Relief*

*D. The Tempest may howl, the disappointments may  
Come.*

- 1. “Our Disappointments are His Appointments”*
- 2. Sorrow comes / Bereavement comes*
- 3. “In the world ye shall have tribulation...”*

E. *Jesus is our Rock:*

1. *Of Refuge*
2. *Of Relief*

### **III. *Jesus is our ROCK OF REFRESHMENT***

A. *"...as rivers of water in a dry place..." (Isaiah 32:2)*

1. *Jesus came to quench our thirst with Living Water.*
2. *The last appeal God made to man in the Bible:*

*"The Spirit and the bride say come; and let him that heareth say come; and let him that is athirst come; and whosoever will let him take the water of life freely."*

B. *Thirst is a terrible pain*

1. *Had rather be hungry...*
2. *We cannot live long without water.*
3. *Jesus is our life-quenching water in this worldly desert in which we live.*
  - a. *He refreshes our soul.*
  - b. *He sustains our life.*
  - c. *He "...leads me beside the still waters."*

C. *This world cannot offer anything that is continually satisfying.*

1. *We drink of earthly fountains, only to thirst again.*
2. *Jesus said to the Samaritan woman, "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst again." John 4:4*

3. *John 7:37 – “If any man thirst let him come unto me and drink...”*
4. *The Rock of Refreshing*

D. *But, not only is He our Rock of:*

1. *Refuge;*
2. *Relief;*
3. *Refreshment;*

#### **IV. *Jesus is our ROCK OF REST***

A. *“...as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.”*

1. *We certainly live in a weary land.*
  - a. *Weary land of body / mind / soul.*
  - b. *We seem to grow more weary every day.*
  - c. *Where can we find rest unto our souls?*

2. *Vacations offer, if any, only temporary rest.*

B. *Isaiah shows us the way to find rest in the shadow of the Rock.*

1. *Weary traveler, may I invite you to come to the Rock today?*
2. *David said in Psalm 121:5-6 “The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.”*
3. *Jesus said in Matthew “Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden...”*

**Conclusion:**

A. *Jesus is our Rock of:*

1. *Refuge*
2. *Relief*
3. *Refreshment*
4. *Rest*

B. *When a seeking sinner meets the seeking Savior,  
He finds refuge, relief, refreshment and rest.*

1. *A Hiding Place from the wind;      REFUGE*
2. *A Covert from the tempest;      RELIEF*
3. *As Rivers of Water in a dry place;  
   REFRESHMENT*
4. *As a Shadow of a Great Rock...      REST*