

BOOK OF ISAIAH

Outline

Chapter 51

1. **CHAPTER 51** This chapter promises Israel (Judah) that, even though they will go into Babylonian captivity, they will ultimately be freed **PHYSICALLY AND SPIRITUALLY**. (Free at last, free at last, Thank God Almighty, I'm free at last! 😊) God is painting the picture of this nation as being the Messianic nation and that the **day** was coming (as Pastor said this morning, "**TODAY** is the day of salvation--" we are living in the "**TODAY**" **AGE OF GRACE**), when **ALL** who call upon the Name of the Lord shall be delivered from the **CAPTIVITY OF SIN** and be made **RIGHTEOUS in JESUS CHRIST!**

Verse 1: "...look unto the **ROCK** whence ye are hewn."

QUESTIONS: Where did God first introduce the "**pattern**" the **ROCK** would illustrate in scripture?

ANSWERS: **Exodus 17:6** "Behold, I (*God*) will stand before thee there upon the **ROCK** in Horeb (*Sinai*); and thou shalt **SMITE** (*remember last week the scripture in Isaiah told us that Jesus gave His back to the SMITERS*) the **ROCK**, and there shall come **WATER** out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel."

Notice where God is **positioned**. *Hmmmmmm, wonder why?*

Moses, in his song in Deuteronomy 32:3-4, tells us plainly **WHO THAT ROCK IS!**

"Because I will publish the **name of the Lord**: ascribe ye greatness unto our God. **HE IS THE ROCK...**"

In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul, through scripture interpreting scripture and through the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit had **THE ROCK revealed** to him:

"...for they (*Israel*) **drank** of that spiritual **ROCK** that followed them: and that **ROCK WAS CHRIST.**" I Corinthians 10:4

*******Notice that the **ROCK** is associated with giving **WATER** to those who **THIRST**. (That's an unusual rock!) Again, God was using the physical to illustrate what He would do in the **SPIRITUAL**, that is, the unseen part of us, yet that part which is of eternal value. The Lord Jesus said this **WATER** was coming when He preached the Sermon on the Mount:

"Blessed are they which do hunger and **THIRST** after **RIGHTEOUSNESS**: for they shall be **FILLED.**" Matthew 5: 6

And we thought the "**ALL YOU CAN EAT**" buffet at the restaurants was good, but Jesus has something **INFINITELY BETTER** and **FILLING!** It's the **POWER** of His Holy Spirit in the believer!!!

Remember, with Moses the **ROCK** was to be **SMITTEN** and then it would give forth **WATER**. Prior to the crucifixion and following up on His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus stood up at the feast and boldly announced:

"If any man **THIRST**, let him come unto me and **DRINK**. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow **RIVERS OF LIVING WATER**. (But this spake He of **the Spirit**, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)" John 7: 37-39

Furthermore, as **our ROCK**, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, hung dead upon Calvary's Cross, the Roman soldier pierced HIS SIDE and "forthwith came there out **BLOOD** and **WATER**." (John 19:34.) The **BLOOD** signified **REDEMPTION** and the **WATER** signified the **OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!**

REMEMBER: Just as God opened the **SIDE** of **FIRST ADAM** to draw out his **bride**, Eve, so did God, through a Roman's soldier's spear, open the **SIDE OF SECOND ADAM**, Jesus, to bring forth **HIS BRIDE, HIS CHURCH!** (Hallelujah!!! That is definitely chandelier swinging and pew jumping news!)

Look back at the original text in Exodus 17:5. Notice what Moses held in his hand--the **ROD**. **For what had the ROD been previously used?** **What does the ROD symbolize in Scripture?** Hint: Remember **Aaron's ROD**.

In Exodus 33:17-23 there is more understanding regarding the **ROCK** and is the setting where Moses petitions God to show him **God's GLORY**:

"And he (*Moses*) said, I beseech thee, shew me thy **GLORY**. And He (*God*) said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the Name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy. And He (*God*) said, Thou **canst not see my FACE**: for there shall no man see me, and live. And the Lord said, Behold, there is **A PLACE BY Me**, and thou shalt stand upon a **ROCK**: And it shall come to pass, while my **GLORY** passeth by, that I will put thee in a **CLIFT** of the **ROCK**, and will cover thee with my Hand while I pass by: And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my **back parts**: but **MY FACE shall not be seen.**"

Remember, the people were under the **LAW**--Moses was the **LAW-GIVER**. The Bible tells us that the **LAW** was a "ministration of **DEATH**" and that the "letter of the **LAW KILLETH**." (2 Corinthians 3: 6-7) **UNREGENERATE MAN CANNOT SEE GOD AND LIVE!** The **Law** gives us **KNOWLEDGE** of **SIN**, but **NO POWER** to change our condition. **UNHOLY MAN** cannot **BEHOLD HOLY GOD**.

There was **A PLACE IN THE ROCK** for Moses, however, because Jesus had not yet come to **REDEEM** and **CHANGE US** by the Spirit, Moses could only see the **BACK PARTS**, **NOT HIS FACE**. Moses got a "snapshot" of God's **GLORY**--the **GLORY** that would hover over the Ark of the Covenant in the Tabernacle.

HOWEVER!!! Millennia would pass, but God's **GLORY** was a-coming!!! His **GLORY** would have a **FACE!!!** Look at the most wondrous news that planet Earth would ever receive:

"And the Word was made **FLESH**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld **His GLORY**, the **GLORY** as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

Listen to Jesus' own words in His High Priestly prayer to the Father prior to the crucifixion:

"And now, O Father, **GLORIFY** thou me **WITH THINE OWN SELF** with the **GLORY** which I had with thee before the world was." (John 17:5)

*****BUT HERE IS THE CLINCHER AS EXPLAINED BY THE GREAT APOSTLE PAUL IN 2 CORINTHIANS 4: 4, 6 :**

"But if our Gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the **GLORIOUS** gospel of Christ, who is the **IMAGE of God**, should shine unto them....For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of knowledge of the **GLORY** of God **IN THE FACE OF JESUS CHRIST.**"

Moses could only "see" God's "Back Parts." Because of Calvary, we can "Turn our eyes upon Jesus and look full into His Wonderful Face!"

PRAISE BE TO GOD FOREVERMORE!!! HE IS OUR ROCK AND WE CAN "SEE" HIS FACE!!!

Worship with us as we watch the following video!