

The Rock House Church

April 30, 2017

Today God IS MY

Focal Point

“As for me, I KNOW my REDEMER LIVES!”

“I will not rush by a new revelation of the holiness of God.”

TODAY'S THINKING: C. S. Lewis once said, *“There are no ordinary people. You are never talking to just a “mere mortal.” It is the “Immortals” that we joke with, work with, marry, snub, and exploit--- immortal horrors or everlasting splendors. Our charity must be a real costly love.”*

How do I look at people? Do I see them as just another person, a person who is in my way? Or do I see them through Father's eyes of love? A person that Father loves and doesn't even know it. A person going to their eternal destination with God or away from God---how do I see people? (Just Thinking)

TODAY'S SONG: REVIVE US AGAIN

We praise Thee, O God! For the Son of Thy love, For Jesus Who died, And is now gone above.

REFRAIN: Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Hallelujah! Amen. Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Revive us again.

We praise Thee, O God! For Thy Spirit of light, Who hath shown us our Savior, And scattered our night.

REFRAIN: : Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Hallelujah! Amen. Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Revive us again.

All glory & praise To the Lamb that was slain, Who hath borne all our sins, And hath cleansed every stain

REFRAIN: : Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Hallelujah! Amen. Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Revive us again.

All glory and praise To the God of all grace, Who hast brought us, and sought us, And guided our ways.

REFRAIN: : Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Hallelujah! Amen. Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Revive us again.

Revive us again; Fill each heart with Thy love; May each soul be rekindled With fire from above.

Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Hallelujah! Amen. Hallelujah! Thine the glory. Revive us again.

TODAY'S QUESTION: Where do you live? In the WHY? HOW COME? WAHT IF? And NOW WHAT?

ANOTHER SONG: YOU BROUGHT US OUT: Gaither

O Lord you brought us from a mighty long way, a mighty long stay in the wilderness.

O Lord You brought us through the thick and thin, through the fire and wind to a better place.

You brought us out, to bring us in.

Out of chains and the bonds of man.

Out of death, and the curse of sin, through the desert sand, to the promise land.

O Lord you brought us from a mighty long way, a mighty long stay in the wilderness.

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TODAY'S ENCOURAGING WORD: *“I will never leave you stranded or all alone—I can't!*

My Love for you keeps Me with you---all the time---where ever you go—I go too! The truth is you can't

"LIVE" without Me because I AM LIFE and apart from ME is only death. Look into the "EYES" of MY LOVE and live today---TODAY is MY gift to you." YOUR FATHER

"A Christian is a PERSON in whom Christ is happening!"

"Father--I am going to believe--I am the person You say that I am."

"I Will not Rush By A New Revelation of the Holiness of God."

ANOTHER SONG: OVER AND OVER AGAIN: Jeff Easter

I've stood on the bank of a wide raging river; Trusting that I'd get across.

I've made my way through some valleys and deserts. Believing that I'd never get lost.

I've been at the foot of what felt like Mt. Everest; Knowing I'd have the strength for the climb

'Cause through every trial, each test and temptation, One thing is sure every time:

Over and over, again and again, God is faithful.

Over and over, again and again, Through it all

He's made me able To stand and survive, to come through alive

When it sure looked like I couldn't win.

Jesus is with me so I claim the victory Over and over again.

If you ask me why I have no hesitation, God does what He says He will do.

I'd simply say every battle has taught me There's nothing He won't help me through.

So why should I dwell on the hardships and struggles When I look just beyond them I see

The way this will end is with great celebration, Deep in my heart I believe:

Over and over, again and again, God is faithful.

Over and over, again and again, Through it all

He's made me able To stand and survive, to come through alive

When it sure looked like I couldn't win.

Jesus is with me so I claim the victory, Over and over again.

TODAY'S WORD: LUKE 19:10 *"For the Son of Man has come to seek--to save that which was lost."*

Philippians 2:5-11 *Have **this attitude** in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be ^[f]grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a **bond-servant**, and being made in the **likeness of men**. ⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of JESUS EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, that every tongue will confes--Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Matthew 5:3 *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."*

Colossians 1:27-29 *We are His saints to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ. ²⁹ For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.*

Hebrews 7:25 *Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.*

TODAY'S QUESTION: Where do you live? In the "WHY?" In your "HOW COME me LORD?" Or "WHAT IF, I had said this or done that?" And "NOW WHAT?"

SPURGEON: — Revelation 16:15 "Blessed is he that watches."

"We die daily," the apostle said. This was the life of the early Christians, they went everywhere with

their lives in their hands. Today we are not called to pass through the same fearful persecution and if we were, the Lord would give us grace to bear the test. The tests of our Christian life, at this present moment, though outwardly don't seem so terrible, are yet more likely to overcome us than even those of the fiery age.

We have to bear the sneer mocking of the world—that is not a little thing---its flattery enticements, its soft words, its oily speeches, its assertive, its hypocrisy, and they are far worse. Our danger is that we grow rich and become proud, that we give ourselves up to the fashions of this present evil world, and lose our faith. Or if wealth be not the problem, worldly care is just as mischievous. If we cannot be torn in pieces by the roaring lion, then we may be hugged to death by the bear, the devil doesn't care which it is, so long as he destroys our love to Christ, and our confidence in Him. I fear that the Christian church is far more likely to lose her integrity in these soft and silken days than in those rougher times.

We must be awake NOW as we navigate this enchanted ground called life and are most likely to fall asleep to our own undoing, unless *our faith in Jesus be our daily reality*, and our *love to Jesus a passionate flame on fire for God*. Many in these days of easy profession are likely to prove tares, and not wheat or hypocrites with fair masks on their faces, but *not the true-born children* of the living God.

Christian, do not think or be deceived, that these are times in which you can be exempt from being very watchful or filled with a holy passion---***No you need these things more than ever!***

Now may God the eternal Spirit display His omnipotence in you, TODAY, that you may be able to say, in all these softer things, as well as in the rougher, "We are more than conquerors through Him that loved us."

TODAY'S HUMOR: *"Imagine if trees gave off "WiFi" signals, we would be planting so many trees and we would probably save the planet too. Too bad they only produce the oxygen we breath! (Unknown)*

TODAY'S QUESTION: Where do you live? In the "WHY?" In your "HOW COME me LORD?" Or "WHAT IF, I had said this or done that?" And "NOW WHAT. I've sinned again or done it again?"

Allison Bown: Is Your New Man Hiding in Plain Sight?

I've heard it (or thought it) more times than I can count:

"I want to see myself as the New Creation I am in Christ... but it's hard."

And yes, it being hard is *totally* true—if you're looking for the wrong person. (allow me explain...)

We recently celebrated Easter, that glorious morning of an empty tomb. Note the word *empty*. There was no old Jesus to be discovered, or revived or patched back together. The former earthly Jesus was gone.

And what's hugely amusing is: As the first New Man (Colossians 1:18), Jesus was hard for His friends to recognize!

At the tomb, He talks to Mary Magdalene and she initially thinks He's the gardener. The two guys He walks with to Emmaus have no clue who He is until late in the day. Even after the disciples had seen Him a few times after the resurrection, they still didn't immediately identify the new Jesus while they were fishing.

Why does this keep happening? Possibly because...

It's hard to recognize the New Man if you're looking for the old one.

As the angel had asked the women at the tomb, "Why do you seek the living among the dead?" — it's hard to see the Christ in you when you're looking in the graveyard of your old man who's dead. (Colossians 3:3)

Of course, Jesus is the same, yesterday, today and forever. But how He was with His friends on earth had changed completely – which kind of freaked them out at times. More than once He had to reassure them to "Be at peace."

You'll need to look with your New Creation eyes, not your old ones, to find your New Man manifesting in your life.

Our old man lenses are clouded with doubt, fear and worry. Like Saul before he became Paul, traditions and religious ideas may have blinded us to just how amazing Jesus is and how transformed we are and are becoming in Christ.

No wonder Paul prayed this great prayer for... “... *the eyes of your understanding being enlightened...*” Why? What do we need to see? “...*that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe.*”

Okay... how does that happen? By me trying harder to get it right? “...*according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.*” Ephesians 1:18-21

So if I'm looking from an earth-bound perspective to discover the fullness of life in Christ, it could be right in front of me, but I won't see it. I'm looking in a problem-solving graveyard for a Jesus (and me) that is not there!

Still Thinking: I saw a driver cut into a space between two cars, not because there was room but because they were going to make a left hand turn and they were in the right hand lane, so they, gray car, put their blinker on and when the person in the left lane, in a red car, didn't let them in they just moved over anyway. They didn't hit the car but the red car driver had to put on his brakes to avoid an accident.

What happened next is what I want to talk about. The driver in the red car sped up, moved over to the right lane and pulled alongside the gray car, but the driver in the gray car moved over to the far left turning lane not paying any attention to the red car driver. The red car driver then changed lanes again but couldn't get to the gray car that was already going around the corner so the red car driver got on the bumper of the next car and followed him very, very close down the road then passed him on the right and pulled in front of him almost cutting him off. Road Rage!! Who is the biggest loser here?

Just wondering what happens in our brain when we let it get out of control? Maybe a chemical imbalance? Or worse!!

So what if the driver if the red car was you and you blessed the driver that just cut you off instead of cursing him? Who is the winner then? WWJD?

TODAY'S QUESTION: Where do you live? In Questions or In Faith?

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, thank You for choosing me to be Your child. I am not going to question the “whys” of my life or the “how comes” of Today, but today I choose to believe, I am who, I am the person You say that I am —Your holy, dearly loved child ... equipped to do----by You, empowered to be---by the Holy Spirit and enveloped to live----in Jesus Christ. With thanksgiving and all Praise---I Bless the Name of Jesus my Redeemer today. In Jesus' Name, Amen