

The Rock House Church

April 23, 2017

Today God IS MY

Only HOPE! I TRUST You, JESUS Today!

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

TODAY'S Thinking: Milan Kumar: "Your eyes are useless when your mind is blind."
"If we were to live in HIS Presence---what would change? Would Our EYES sometimes see the Light or be full of LIGHT---His Light? Would we see our life differently seeing it from HIS perspective? Could we LIVE from and in the POWER that is in the NAME of JESUS?
My Choice today: Walk blind and dead---OR---Walk in LIGHT with Resurrection Power!!

TODAY'S SONG: **SOLID ROCK**

My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus' blood and righteousness;

I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;

In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood;

When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found;

Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

LORD I NEED YOU by Matt Maher Chris Tomlin

Lord, I come, I confess; Bowing here I find my rest; Without You I fall apart;

You're the One that guides my heart

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You; Every hour I need You; My one defense, my righteousness;

Oh God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more; Where grace is found is where You are

And where You are, Lord, I am free; Holiness is Christ in me

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You Every hour I need You My one defense, my righteousness

Oh God, how I need You

To teach my song to rise to You when temptation comes my way

When I cannot stand I'll fall on You; Jesus, You're my hope and stay

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You Every hour I need You My one defense, my righteousness

Oh God, how I need You

You're my one defense, my righteousness Oh God, how I need You

My one defense, my righteousness Oh God, how I need You

TOZER: "Jesus Christ knows the worst about you. Nonetheless, He is the One who loves you most."

Your Bible is meant to be BREAD for daily use, not CAKE for special occasions.

Lysa Terschkeurst: "God loves us way too much to answer our prayer at any other time than His right time"

TRUST=Waiting in Me; Attitude of expecting; Read Word let Spirit illuminate; See Me in everything!

STILL Thinking: Do you have a storm brewing in your life? Where is God in it? "Think PRESENT." "He Lives in your heart!!" "His Resurrection LIFE is mine TODAY: Our enemy has sent a storm into my life to shake me up! But something is stirring---the Angel rolls back the stone---To let me "IN"---new life in me is awakened!! New Trust--Resurrection Life---Activated in me with POWER! New Empowerment Power to Silence the storm---Peace and Confidence in Him. I Speak to my storm. GET out of my boat, my comfort zone, and walk on the water. JESUS is calling "COME" (Mark 4: 37-41)

GRACE: True Story: I left work early so I could have some uninterrupted study time right before the final in my Youth Issues class. When I got to class, everybody was doing their last minute studying. The teacher came in and said he would review with us for just a little bit before the test. We went through the review, most of it right on the study guide, but there were some things he was reviewing that I had never heard of. When questioned about it, he said that they were in the book and we were responsible for everything in the book. We couldn't really argue with that.

Finally it was time to take the test. "Leave them face down on the desk until everyone has one and I'll tell you to start," our professor instructed.

When we turned them over, every answer on the test was filled in! The bottom of the last page said the following:

"This is the end of the Final Exam. All the answers on your test are correct. You will receive an 'A' on the final exam. The reason you passed the test is because the creator of the test took it for you. All the work you did in preparation for this test did not help you get the A. You have just experienced...grace."

He then went around the room and asked each student individually, "What is your grade? Do you deserve the grade you are receiving? How much did all your studying for this exam help you achieve your final grade?"

Now I am not a crier by any stretch of the imagination, but I had to fight back tears when answering those questions and thinking about how the Creator has passed the test for me.

Discussion afterward went like this: "I have tried to teach you all semester that you are a recipient of grace. I've tried to communicate to you that you need to demonstrate this gift as you work with young people. Don't hammer them; they are not the enemy. Help them, for they will carry on your ministry if it is full of GRACE!"

Talking about how some of us had probably studied hours and some just a few minutes but had all received the same grade, he pointed to a story Jesus told in Matthew 20. The owner of a vineyard hired people to work in his field and agreed to pay them a certain amount. Several different times during the day, he hired more workers. When it was time to pay them, they all received the same amount. When the ones who had been hired first thing in the morning began complaining, the boss said, "Should you be angry because I am kind?" (Matthew 20:15).

The teacher said he had never done this kind of final before and probably would never do it again, but because of the content of many of our class discussions, he felt like we needed to experience grace.

Have you thanked your Creator today because of the grace you have experienced?

QUESTION: What happened between John 19: 42 and 20:1? Therefore because of the Jewish day of preparation, since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there. 20:1 Now on the first *day* of the week Mary Magdalene came----SATURDAY

QUESTION: Where do we live our life? Is it In the horror of Friday? In the despair of Saturday or in the Resurrection Power of Sunday?

C. S. Lewis said, "When you place a dead seed in the ground, something in the dirt calls to something in the seed. "Hey seed! Wake up! Send me a little root." Then something above the earth says to the seed, "Send up a little shoot." And the seed does. The seed becomes a plant or a tree, and it produces fruit. It achieves its destiny. But it could never happen if the seed didn't die first.

There is a second revolution. This time we know the revolutionary's name. We know where he lived. We know how he lived. We know what he taught. We know how he died. This is, Jesus said, the way life works. You have to be willing to sacrifice something if anything is ever going to be the way it is supposed to be. No sacrifice, no harvest. Only it isn't seeds this time; *this time it's you*.

What got released on Sunday was hope. Not hope that life would turn out well. Hope that called people to die: die to selfishness and sin and fear and greed, die to the lesser life of a lesser self so that a greater self might be born. And many people did. This hope changed things. Because of their belief in the resurrection of the body. Because of Sunday.

Jesus released a new kind of hope. Where are you most aware of a need for this kind of hope in your life right now? What lesser thing do you sense God may be asking you to die to?

QUESTION: What does "DOA" stand for or mean to you?

TODAY'S ENCOURAGING WORD: *"I have a question for you, if you were to FOCUS on Me completely today, what would your expectation be? Would you be looking for evil to defeat you spiritually or would you let fear invade your thinking? Would your circumstances and cares of life bring you down to despair? Or---Do you let the burden of your own failures and sin cloud out MY ever present presence?*

If that is you, then IT'S TIME to REFOCUS!

My next question to you is, can you TRUST Me? OR---Do you trust ME? How far---do you trust Me? Do you see Me in your mirror in the morning? Do you see Me as you drive? Do you see Me as you study My Word? Let Me put it this way---when don't you see Me? Let Me help you change your focus today. I want you to know that I Am visible---as visible as you come to expect to see Me---expect to see Me doing battle in you and through you today.

IT'S TIME for you to TRUST ME!!

My last question is, Where or in whom do you place your confidence? In yourself; In money; government system; religious relationships or in the Living God?

I know that your answer is 'the Living God' but you don't---live there---do you?

Here is My Call to you today: Look away from your problems, family problems, government problems, personal problems of failure or fears and look into My Eyes and see the Power that I have to break every chain, defeat every spirit that rises up against you---the Truth is---I Have Already done IT---just for you. Look into My Eye and get New Life From My View-Point--- Come with expectation, confidence and Trusting Faith that I Am very much involved in everything you do, everywhere you go; Receive and experience My LOVE, JOY, LIFE--- now give it all away." (Romans 8:1; Psalm 121:5; Matthew 13:44; Romans 10:17; Exodus 14:13)

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

Jeremiah 18:1-6 (NASB)

The Potter and the Clay: The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD saying, ²“Arise and go down to the potter’s house, and there I will announce My words to you.” ³Then I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was, making something on the wheel. ⁴*But the vessel that he was making of clay was spoiled* in the hand of the potter; so he remade it into another vessel, as it *pleased the potter to make*.

⁵Then the word of the LORD came to me saying, ⁶“Can I not, O house of Israel, deal with you as this potter *does?*” declares the LORD. **“Behold, like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in My hand,** O house of Israel.

QUESTION: Does the “clay” tell the Potter how to do his job?

Do we tell God how or when or what would be the best way to answer your request?

EMPTY CUP--- FULL CUP VBOJR (3/4/17)

My cup is so empty this morning
Despair, doubt, trouble all scorning
Even before my feet hit the floor
My defeat is standing at the Door.

Looked into my bathroom mirror to see
My hopeless fate of who really I’m to be.
Loser, sinner, guilty, becomes so clear
Broken and empty, fighting off the tear.

But what is it I see looking back at me
There in my eye; could it really be, Thee?
Even before the hot water and soap
In my own eye, a glimmer of Hope

Today is Your gift to me, just for me
What was I thinking? You set me free!
Your Love for me, in my own eye a twinkle
You give me healing, grace, just a sprinkle.

Forgiveness through Your Blood is mine
Your Love what a blessing for me--so divine.
The grip of hell is broken, my darkness is done
Looking right at me, telling, “you are my Son”

My empty cup, now full and over flowing
New vision, confidence, ready for the going
Your Joy fills my heart, Your presence here for me
Thank you Lord, only you could set me Free.