




WHO IS THE ROCK?



You've heard the phrase "Rock of Ages", right? Or perhaps not. Keep reading...

This post combines the answers to the questions:

"Who is the Rock", and

"What is the purpose of Prophecy".

Quick Recap...



In Daniel Chapter 2 of the Bible, Daniel had explained to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, the meaning of the magnificent statue, with each part representing the successive kingdoms of Babylon, the Medes, the Persians, and those that were to follow.

The prophecy covered an amazing period of far more than 1000 years.

(In these modern times with all the science, equipment, and brilliant algorithms, the weather stations can't even get next week's weather forecast exactly accurate!)



Daniel 2:34-35:

“... a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them.

Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were all broken to pieces and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace.

But the rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth.”

Do you believe this?

You can safely believe it; it is the Truth.

...just as you can believe the prophecies in the Book of Daniel, which, over hundreds, and now a couple thousand years, have come true... (and some things still to come)



“The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and the interpretation is trustworthy.”

Daniel 2:45

“...the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed”

Daniel 2:44



“This is the meaning of the
rock cut out of a mountain,
but not by human hands...”

Daniel 2:45

Notice how the Bible gives the interpretation itself. Anyone can read and understand the great truths of the Bible for themselves; you don't need another person to interpret the Bible for you.



So, to get back to this Rock...

Do you know the words of the song written by the Reverend Augustus Toplady in 1763?

“Rock of Ages, cleft for me
Let me hide myself in thee.

Let the water and the blood
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to Thy cross I cling.



“...the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed”

Daniel 2:44

Difficult concept to get your mind around?

Well, you're in good company!
Not even the disciples – who lived daily with Jesus – understood...
so Jesus had to explain to them.

“And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets,
he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures
concerning himself.”

Luke 24:27



The Bible is God's Love Letter to Man



All Scripture is God-breathed,
and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness

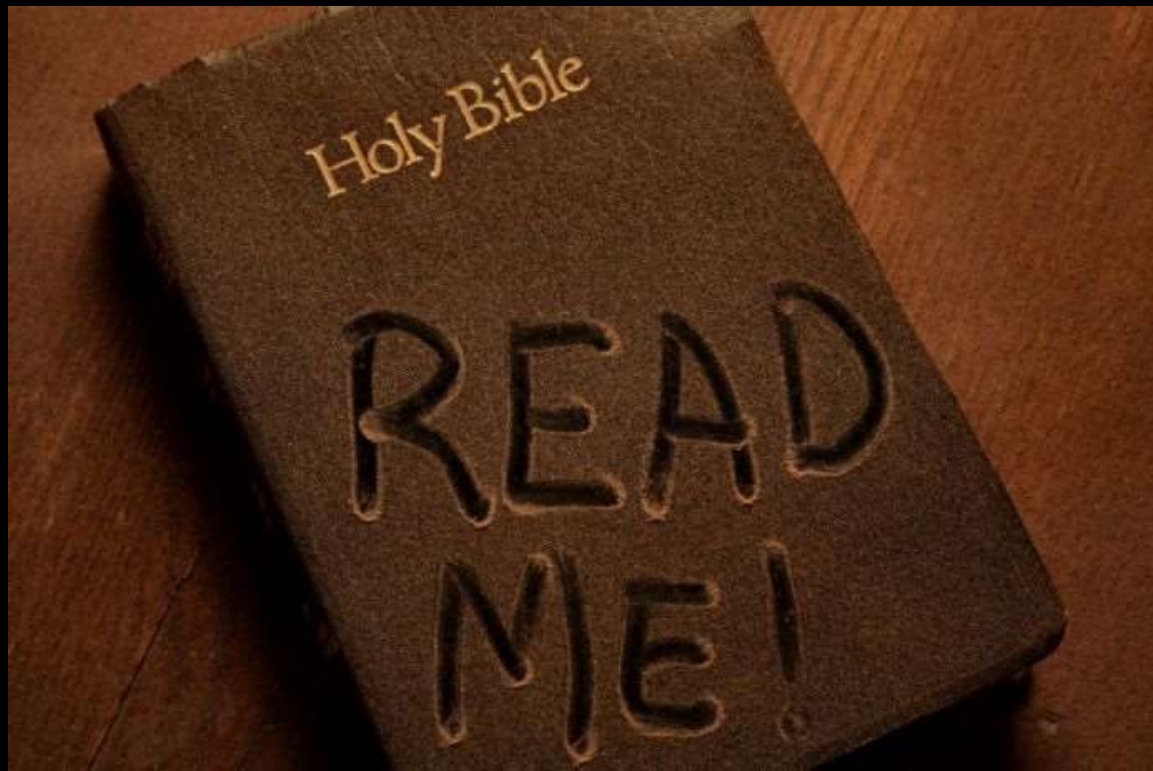
2 Timothy 3:16



The prophecies about Jesus' started at the beginning of Genesis; the prophecies concerning Jesus' second coming/His triumphal return extend from Genesis right through the Bible and culminate in the Book of Revelation, last book of the New Testament.



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THE ONLY PLACE YOU'LL FIND THE
TRUTH...

ALWAYS

GENESIS

“So the LORD God said to the serpent, ‘Because you have done this...
I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.’ ”

*Genesis 3:14,15 (shortened here...
read the entire verses for yourself – cross check everything to the Bible itself!)*

you will strike his heel...



he will crush your head



JUDE

Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied...: “See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones...”

(Although the Book of Jude is in the New Testament, it refers to Enoch, in the Book of Genesis, while Adam was still alive.) Jude, verse 14



GENESIS

“The scepter will not depart from Judah,
nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet,
until He to whom it belongs shall come
and the obedience of the nations shall be his.”

Genesis 49:10



JOB

Job's prophecy came from at least 500 years before Jesus' birth!

"I know that my redeemer lives,
and that in the end he will stand on the earth.

And after my skin has been destroyed,
yet in my flesh I will see God;
I myself will see him
with my own eyes—I, and not another.
How my heart yearns within me!"

Job 19:25-27



PSALMS in the Old Testament, and the prophecy about Jesus fulfilled, as described in HEBREWS, in the New Testament...

“The LORD has sworn
and will not change his mind:
‘You are a priest forever,
in the order of Melchizedek.’ ”

Psalms 110:4



“In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, ‘You are my Son; today I have become your Father.’ And he says in another place, ‘You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.’ ”

Hebrews 5:5,6

Read more about Jesus as High Priest in “A High Priest?”

ISAIAH

“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD has anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound” *Isaiah 61:1,2*

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” *Isaiah 9:6*

“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that brings good tidings, that publishes peace; that brings good tidings of good, that publishes salvation; that says unto Zion, Thy God reigns!” *Isaiah 52:7*



ZECHARIAH

(Zechariah wrote this 500 years before Jesus was born...)

“Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!
Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you,
righteous and victorious,
lowly and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

Zechariah 9:9



ISAIAH

(written 700 years before Christ's birth...)

“But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed.” *Isaiah 53:5*

“He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.” *Isaiah 53:7*

“...he poured out his life unto death,
and was numbered with the transgressors.
For he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.”
Isaiah 53:12



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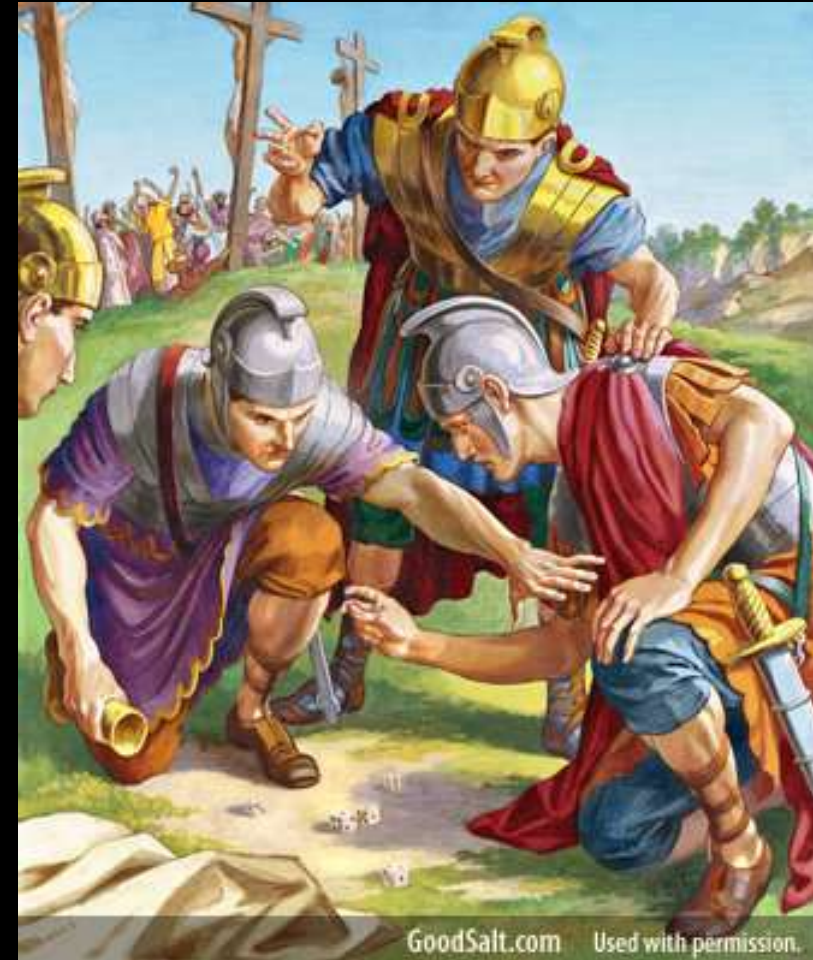
PSALMS

“All who see me mock me;
they hurl insults, shaking their heads.
‘He trusts in the LORD,’ they say,
‘Let the LORD rescue him.
Let him deliver him,
since he delights in him.’ ”

Psalm 22: 7,8

“All my bones are on display;
people stare and gloat over me.
They divide my clothes among them
and cast lots for my garment.”

Psalm 22:17,18



PSALMS

Bear in mind: all these prophecies about Jesus in the Psalms, were written by David approximately 1,000 years before Jesus lived!

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Psalm 22:1



ISAIAH, and PSALMS

“He was assigned a grave with the wicked,
and with the rich in his death” *Isaiah 53:9*

“...you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.”
Psalms 16:10

“But God will redeem me from the realm of the dead;
he will surely take me to himself.” *Psalms 49:15*



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PSALMS

“Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive”

Psalm 68:18



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At the beginning of this post, I said it would combine the answers to the questions:
“Who is the Rock”, and
“What is the purpose of Prophecy”.

The prophecies in the Bible point to **Jesus**. From the beginning, we were pointed to Jesus and to the great plan of Salvation.

There is a great controversy that started in Heaven and is still ongoing – and God provided a plan of redemption, a way out and a way forward. You can read more about it in the post “*Global Conflict*”.

Jesus says: “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.”

John 15:12-15

...and from the great chapter where Jesus tells of “the sign of [His] coming and of the end of the age”: Matthew 24,

“See, I have told you ahead of time.” *Matthew 24:25*

The everlasting Kingdom of God

This is Jesus' Kingdom, and it is *ours* – finally restored to us, after we were cheated out of it through deception and lies in the Garden of Eden.

The Kingdom is built around/founded on the Rock, Jesus. He and our Heavenly Father share this wonderful Kingdom with us.



Daniel 7:22

“Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.”

Daniel 7:27

“And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him [the most High].”

Psalms 47:2

“For the LORD Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth.”

Hebrews 12:2

“...Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Now, why would the Infinite, the Most Holy, the Almighty, the Only Living God, awesome as He is - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – want to share with us, his people, his awesome Kingdom?



“Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children.”

Revelation 21:7

For the same reason this Loving God – who does not change – wanted to share it with us in the first place...





He *loves* us, and wants a *Relationship* with mankind...
with *you*, with *me*!

Even in this current world filled with unbearably bad things, where even the gentlest of us is capable of horrific things...anger, jealousy, violence
even in *this* world, we know what Love is... the sweet and perfect love between parent and child, between life partners, between close friends.

Some have been fortunate to experience it in their own direct relationships; but even those who have not had that great good fortune, have observed it in people and couples and families where there *is* love... We recognize Love when we see it, experience it.

“If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good things to your children,
how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!”

Matthew 7:11



“...even the very hairs of your head are all numbered” *Matthew 10:30*


This is the Loving God who knows your hairbrush is full of hair because you're stressed out!



This is the Loving God who – in the beginning – put mankind in charge of all Creation...

“God blessed them and said to them, ‘Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.’ Then God said, ‘I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.’ ”

Genesis 1:28,29



From Genesis through the entire Bible, all the way to the end of the Book of Revelation, prophecy pointed to restoration...

to our Loving God's plan to restore the good relationship that we had with Him before sin entered Creation, to restore to us the Kingdom lost, to restore to us our original Freedom and Peace, to redeem us through Jesus, the Christ; to restore the Lost and make everything New.

“And he that sat upon the throne said, ‘See, I make all things new.’
And he said to me, ‘Write: for these words are true and faithful.’ ”

Revelation 21:5



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And it is so *good*, so *beautiful*, that we cannot even *imagine* it!

Revelation chapters 21 and 22 describe some of the features, and we get a sense of the magnificence...

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”

1 Corinthians 2:9



Can this be true?

As with all the prophecies in the Bible...

as with all the promises in the Bible...

Jesus says: "...these words are trustworthy and true."

Revelation 21:5

The lovely words to a wonderful song say:




“There is a gate that stands ajar,
And through its portals gleaming,
A radiance from the cross afar,
The Saviour’s love revealing.

O depth of mercy! Can it be,
That gate was left ajar for me?
For me, for *me*?
Was left ajar for me!”



“Come!” says Jesus.

Don't waste a moment! Accept the invitation of the One who loves you far, *far* more than you can imagine.



Suggested Reading... which you can even do online. BibleGateway.com and Biblia.com are excellent sources for the Bible online:


Revelation 21 and 22

Matthew 24

Genesis 1, 2 and 3

Read the whole chapter of the verses mentioned in this post. It's important to get the whole picture. If you don't understand, keep reading! The Bible interprets itself. You don't need anyone to interpret it for you; read the Truth yourself.

If you're new to the Bible, the post "*Which Bible?*" will give you some pointers...



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The origin of the picture of the gate ajar is unknown. It was in a presentation along with the words to the song, on the internet. If anyone knows the source, please contact me so that I can place the appropriate acknowledgement and recognition.

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