

“Groundwork – Part 2”

Pastor Al Brice | Sunday, September 15, 2019

We have a saying in America: “That man or woman is rock-solid!” In sports, we say that a football team has a rock-solid defense; in business, that company is rock-solid; in a marriage, that couple’s marriage is rock-solid; in church, that pastor and church are rock-solid!!

Rock-solid means: ‘not likely to change, fail, or collapse.’

You and I as Christians should have a rock-solid life, which means that we stand out in this life because of our faith and confidence in God and His Word, which project a certain behavior that differs from people who do not have a rock-solid foundation. When adversity, trials, circumstances, difficulties, hard times, and stressful situations arise, we act and behave differently because our lives are rock-solid.

* How do we get and have a rock-solid life?

Matthew 7:24-27 NKJV: ²⁴ “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶ “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

1. You must first build your life on the one and only spiritual Rock. Who is this Rock?

Psalm 18:2-3 NKJV (Declaration of my faith: **Job 22:28 NKJV**):

² The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer;

My God, my strength, in whom I will trust;

My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

³ I will call upon the LORD, *who is worthy* to be praised;

So shall I be saved from my enemies.

a. “And my **Deliverer**” (my safety; way of escape):

1 Corinthians 10:13 (Amplified Bible):

¹³ No temptation [regardless of its source] has overtaken or enticed you that is not common to human experience [nor is any temptation unusual or beyond human resistance]; but God is faithful [to His word—He is compassionate and trustworthy], and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability [to resist], but along with the temptation He [has in the past and is now and] will [always] provide the way out as well, so that you will be able to endure it [without yielding, and will overcome temptation with joy].

b. “My God” (**EI Shaddai** - All Powerful, All Sufficient, He is More than Enough; Jehovah Jireh-The Lord sees, I'll see to that, Who Provides; Jehovah Rapha-The Lord Who heals you; Jehovah Nissi-The Lord our banner; Jehovah Shammah-The Lord is there; Jehovah Shalom-The Lord our Peace: **Psalms 20:6-7; 91:14-15 NKJV**)

c. “My **strength**” (to attack and harass an adversary) in whom I will trust.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Amplified Bible:

⁵ Trust in *and* rely confidently on the LORD with all your heart
And do not rely on your own insight *or* understanding.

⁶ In all your ways know *and* acknowledge *and* recognize Him,
And He will make your paths straight *and* smooth [removing obstacles that block your way].

d. “My shield”

Psalms 91:4 NLT:

He will cover you with his feathers.

He will shelter you with his wings.

His faithful promises are your armor and protection.

(Ephesians 6:16-17 NKJV)

e. “And the **horn**” (fresh oil of anointing)

Psalms 92:10 Amplified Bible:

But my horn [my emblem of strength and power] You have exalted like that of a wild ox;
I am anointed with fresh oil [for Your service].

- f. "Of my salvation, my stronghold." (**Psalm 18:3**: I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised)

Habakkuk 3:17-19 Amplified Bible - AMP:

¹⁷ Though the fig tree does not blossom
And there is no fruit on the vines,
Though the yield of the olive fails
And the fields produce no food,
Though the flock is cut off from the fold
And there are no cattle in the stalls,

¹⁸ Yet I will [choose to] rejoice in the LORD;
I will [choose to] shout in exultation in the [victorious] God of my salvation!

¹⁹ The Lord GOD is my strength [my source of courage, my invincible army];
He has made my feet [steady and sure] like hinds' feet
And makes me walk [forward with spiritual confidence] on my high places [of challenge and responsibility].

For the choir director, on my stringed instruments.

- g. "So shall I be saved from my enemies."

Psalm 62:2 NKJV:

He only *is* my rock and my salvation;
He is my defense;
I shall not be greatly moved