Rock of Refuge

Greg Kline · Psalm 18:1–6

INTRODUCTION

- It's easy to say, don't worry. It's difficult to say, all right, what do I do about it? And we know the answer is turn to God.
- This morning I'd like to talk about our God, the rock of refuge.
- And so, how do I access these wonderful blessings that my God clearly wants me to enjoy?

1 God Is Our Fortress: He Will Defend and Protect Me

Philippians 4:8–13; Romans 8:31–39; Philippians 1:21

- What it means for God to be a fortress is that there is something protecting me from the outside. That does not mean that I won't suffer.
- And what is inside the walls of God's kingdom is peace. It's security. It's an understanding that I am safe here.
- As long as we stick with God behind those walls, nothing can touch your soul. Unless we let it.
- The only way I will be vulnerable is if I walk out the doors of that fortress.

2 God Is Our Shield: He Can Shield Me From Worry

Philippians 4:4–7; Matthew 6:25–33

- Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God.
- Part of what takes us from behind the shield is a lack of faith.
- Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
- He shields us because there's nothing to worry about on the outside, and he's our fortress because everything we need is already provided on the inside.

3 God Is Our Refuge: Our Place of Safety

Philippians 4:7

- The idea of being a refuge to God is perhaps the most abstract. The idea that He is our place of safety and security.
- Life is imperfect here. Life is imperfect now. But God gives us peace that doesn't just exist in a happy fairy land or in the courtyards of a pristine castle.
- We are safe because something God gave us protects us.
- Even those things in life that are so hard and difficult aren't worth it because what is worth it is being with God.

4 Only God Can Give Us These Deliverances

Psalm 91:1–10; Romans 8:39; Galatians 2:20

- We realize that God is the only one who can give us these deliverances.
- He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
- Only knowing that God alone provides these deliverances can we access them.
- Don't trust yourself. Don't trust others. Don't trust your family. Trust what God has said. Trust what God has promised.

5 I Have to Be Willing to Talk to God

Psalm 18:6; Psalm 91:2

- Second thing is I have to be willing to talk to God.
- I need to not only talk to God myself, I need to be willing to talk to God with others.
- And part of God's plan for protecting his people is that we stand together and we don't stand alone.

6 Willing to Subvert My Will to His

Psalm 91:14–16; Psalm 18:1

- And finally, I have to be willing to subvert my will to his.
- Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him. I will protect him because he knows my name.
- Subverting my will to God's, humbling myself before him, and calling out to the God who has said he will be our fortress, our shield, and our refuge.

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **Are you willing to subvert your will to God's?**

MY NOTES