

# Session 5 – Water from the Rock: We Experience Assurance as we Pursue Practical Holiness

Written for our Instruction: OT Lessons on the Christian Life

NOTES:

## I. Theological Overview

### A. *Truths in Tension*

1. **Charles Spurgeon:** “The system of truth is not \_\_\_\_\_ straight line, but two. No man will ever get a right view of the gospel until he knows how to look at the two lines at once.”
2. Many doctrines of Scripture cannot be reduced to a single statement. The teaching of Scripture often leads us to hold two seemingly conflicting truths in \_\_\_\_\_.

### B. *Assurance of Salvation/ Eternal Security*

1. When we study what Scripture says about assurance of salvation or eternal security we also come, not to a single truth, but to two truths in tension.
2. **First Truth:** Only those who \_\_\_\_\_ in their faith unto death (or the second coming of Jesus) will be saved. (Matthew 10:22; John 8:31; Colossians 1:21-23; Hebrews 3:14)
3. **Second Truth:** All true believers will continue in their faith unto death (or the second coming of Jesus) by the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. (John 10:27; Romans 8:30; Philippians 1:6)
4. **Tension:** Do you feel the tension? Is my eternal security dependent on my \_\_\_\_\_ or on God’s \_\_\_\_\_? Is my assurance based on my subjective experience or on the objective truths of the gospel?

### C. *Purpose of the doctrine:*

1. **Negative application:** These truths should produce \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in those who are not walking with God.
2. **Positive application:** These truths should bring comfort and \_\_\_\_\_ to those who are truly walking with God.

## II. First Corinthians 9:24-10:22

### A. *Context*

1. The Corinthians think they are doing well spiritually and yet they are participating in idolatrous meals. They are committing these acts of idolatry without feeling any sense of guilt or fear.

2. Paul is \_\_\_\_\_ them. Be careful, it's not because you were baptized, and are a member of the church, that heaven is guaranteed. There is a holy and faithful life to be lived. In order to illustrate the danger, he reminds them of Israel in the wilderness!

### B. **A Typological Example (10:1-13)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **Enjoyed:** They benefited from certain tokens of God's grace:
2. **Failed** \_\_\_\_\_: They craved evil things. They took for granted God's blessings and provisions. They failed to endure to the end.
3. \_\_\_\_\_: They perished in the wilderness. They never made it into the Promised Land.
4. **Application:** The Corinthians also enjoyed certain privileges but were failing in their responsibilities. Paul is telling them to watch out.

### C. **Questions for Tonight:**

1. How does the rock in Exodus, from which water flowed, represent Christ?
2. How does that story, with its Christological implications, relate to what Paul is saying in Corinthians?

## III. **The Rock is Jesus Christ (Ex. 17:1-7)**

### A. **The People test God:**

1. The people quarrel with Moses and God. To "quarrel" is more serious and threatening than to murmur. **Quarreled= rîb:**
  - a) It can denote a \_\_\_\_\_ violent conflict.
  - b) It can also refer to \_\_\_\_\_ conflict, to dispute, argue.
  - c) The word also has \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ overtones. It can refer to the act of arguing a case against someone (Prov. 25:8-9).

### B. **God's Instructions**

1. **Pass on before the people and go:** Start hiking Moses. Make sure everybody sees you go. Go to \_\_\_\_\_. Moses knows where that is because he has been there before (Exodus 3:1-2).
  - a) Whatever is going to happen is going to happen some distance from the camp.

- b) When a judicial act was carried out, it often took place \_\_\_\_\_ the camp or city (Numb. 15; 1 Kings 21:13; Luke 4).
2. **Take some elders of Israel:** Make sure you have legal \_\_\_\_\_ to what happens.
3. **Take the rod with which you struck the Nile:** The rod here is explicitly connected with the first plague of judgment on Egypt. So Moses is to take, not a rod of salvation, but a rod of \_\_\_\_\_ with him.
- a) The word “struck” is “naka” and it is an interesting word because it can mean to \_\_\_\_\_ a person or object, or \_\_\_\_\_ a person or object, or commonly, to \_\_\_\_\_ or strike dead.
4. **I will stand before you on the rock:**
- a) The \_\_\_\_\_ does not stand before the \_\_\_\_\_. Yahweh is king! Yahweh does not stand before men. Men always stand before God (See Ex. 6:12, 30; 16:9, 33). God is standing before Moses as a criminal might stand before a judge.
- b) God stands \_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ the rock. God is identifying himself with the rock.
5. **Strike the rock:** Just as Moses “naka” the Nile in judgment, he is to “naka” the rock in \_\_\_\_\_.
- a) The scene described is of Moses the judge, the elders being legal witnesses, the children of Israel the accusing party, and God as the accused standing before everyone.
- b) Moses strikes God in judgment. But instead of bloody water like at the Nile, fresh, life-giving water pours out of the rock. Judgment brought \_\_\_\_\_.
6. **Conclusion:** I believe Moses must have understood what was going on because years later, towards the ends of his life, he taught a song to Israel in which he remembers this event:
- a) **Deuteronomy 32:3-4** "Ascribe greatness to our God! The Rock! His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He."

**C. The Rock corresponds to Christ. (1 Cor. 10:4)**

1. Once again God, Jesus, comes to \_\_\_\_\_ his people. But this time, not from a political bondage, but from a spiritual bondage.
2. Once again God, Jesus, \_\_\_\_\_ himself in miraculous ways providing bread and meat, healing the sick, etc...

3. Once again God, Jesus, is put to the \_\_\_\_\_. The people of Israel assume a posture of unbelief. The religious leaders cry, "Show us a sign that we might believe you." Prove yourself to us!
4. Once again God, Jesus, is placed on \_\_\_\_\_. He stands as the accused before the people of Israel. And even though the people passed sentence on Jesus, ultimately God was issuing the verdict of guilty on himself.
5. Once again God, Jesus, is \_\_\_\_\_ (naka) for the sins of the people. This type was fulfilled literally as a spear (a rod of sorts) is driven into his side.
6. Once again \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ water flows from the place judgment. John points to the fact that this literally took place, blood and water flowed from his side.
7. Once again God's people are taught to \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ our rock, who has revealed his justice and righteousness by taking the blow of judgment which we deserved.

#### IV. Significance and Application with Relationship to 1 Cor. 10

A. ***Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ with the rod of judgment so that we could \_\_\_\_\_ of the water of life.***

1. God in Christ responds to our sin and rebellion by taking our punishment upon himself so that we can experience his \_\_\_\_\_.

B. ***Partaking of the benefits which flow from the cross of Jesus does not automatically make us \_\_\_\_\_ from falling into \_\_\_\_\_.***

1. It is possible to taste of many good \_\_\_\_\_ that flow from the cross of Jesus Christ and yet not enter the Promised Land of heaven.
2. Partaking of God's \_\_\_\_\_ does not guarantee his \_\_\_\_\_.

C. ***Assurance of salvation must not be derived from the \_\_\_\_\_ of the life-giving benefits of the cross but rather from the life-transforming power of the cross to produce true \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.***

1. How do we know that we belong to God, that we are on our way to the celestial city? Not by the tokens of God's grace which we receive and experience but by the \_\_\_\_\_ that is produced which is evidence of a spiritual heart \_\_\_\_\_.