



“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM WITH UNDERSTANDING”

Of Issachar, those who had understanding of the times, to
know what Israel ought to do... 1 Chronicles 12:32

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TEXT: PSALM 34:1-10

TITLE: LEADING BETWEEN THE ROCK AND THE HARD PLACE

1. INTRODUCTION

“Caught between a rock and a hard place,” the saying goes. The rock and the hard place are of the same substance. They are both seemingly impenetrable.

DAVID’S HARD PLACE

- A. Being threatened is a hard place _____
- B. Being afraid is a hard place _____
- C. Needing to pretend is a hard place _____
- D. Having to run and hide out is a hard place _____
- E. Being in a place where you don’t belong is a hard place _____

2. THE PLACE YOU’RE IN DOESN’T HAVE TO BE IN YOU

- A. David takes cover in a cave, once again (Psalm 23 from a cave) _____
- B. David looks over his experiences in hard places once again _____
- C. David once again understands that the God he serves is a good God _____
- D. David leads by writing this song while in his rock and hard place _____

Point: Our good work can be done when we are between a rock and a hard place _____

3. WHAT DID HIS EXPERIENCE CAUSE HIM TO DO?

- A. What David writes is a summary of all that can be said about God’s help in the face of oppression and hurt
 - 1. *“I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.” vs 1*
 - 2. *“My soul makes boast in the Lord” vs 2a*
 - 3. *Why? “The humble shall hear of it and be glad.” Vs 2b*

4. WHAT DID HIS EXPERIENCE CAUSE GOD TO DO?

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| 1. <i>The Lord answered me.</i> | 10. <i>Those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.</i> |
| 2. <i>He delivered me from all my fears.</i> | 11. <i>The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous...</i> |
| 3. <i>Those who look to him are radiant.</i> | 12. <i>His ears are attentive to their cry.</i> |
| 4. <i>Their faces are never covered with shame.</i> | 13. <i>The righteous cry out and the Lord hears them.</i> |
| 5. <i>The Lord heard me.</i> | 14. <i>He delivers them from all their troubles.</i> |
| 6. <i>The Lord saves me from all my troubles.</i> | 15. <i>The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.</i> |
| 7. <i>The angel of the Lord encamps around us.</i> | 16. <i>Saves those who are crushed in spirit.</i> |
| 8. <i>The angel of the Lord delivers us</i> | 17. <i>From many troubles, He delivers them from them</i> |
| 9. <i>Those who fear the Lord lack nothing</i> | <i>all.</i> |

OUR HISTORICAL CONNECTION: DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

“We’ve got some difficult days ahead,” Martin Luther King, Jr., told an overflowing crowd in Memphis, Tennessee, on 3 April 1968, where the city’s sanitation workers were striking. “But it really doesn’t matter with me now, because I’ve been to the mountaintop ... I’ve seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land”

5. WHAT IS GOD INVITING US TO DO?

- A. Invitation to Experience _____
1. "Come unto me all who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28
 2. "Suffer the little children to come unto me." Matthew 19:14
 3. "The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" Revelation 22:17
- B. Taste _____
- C. See _____
- D. Lean and Lead _____
- E. How? _____

"Oh magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together." Vs. 3

1. To magnify; to bring the perception of being bigger.
2. Make God's presence and power BIGGER in our lives, in our communities, in our world.
3. What is your hard place that is inviting you to bring in the bigness of God?