

A faithful God to fearful children (Quality: Very good)

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Date: 20 October 1987

Preacher: Seymour, Gordon (1928-2017)

[0 : 00] I sing hymn number 143, the tune Norwood, 505.

Rock of ages, clenched for me, let me hide myself in thee. Let the water and the land from thy driven side be found.

We have seen the double killer, a clenched with his guilt and power in number 143. Rock of ages, clenched for me, let me hide myself in thee.

Let the water and the land from thy driven side be found.

Rock of ages, clenched for me, let me hide myself in thee. Rock of ages, clenched for me, let me hide myself in thee.

[1 : 51] Rock of ages, clenched for me, let me hide myself in thee. Rock of ages, clenched for me, let me hide myself in thee.

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Rock of ages, clenched for me, let me hide myself in thee. Rock of ages, clenched for me, let me hide myself in thee.

The most sacred art of God. Love me is my heart, my dream.

[3 : 26] MAN L bows true.

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CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS CHOIR SINGS As the Lord shall help me, I would direct your attention to the prophecy of Isaiah chapter 41 and verse 10.

Isaiah chapter 41 verse 10 Fear thou not, for I am with thee.

Be not dismayed, for I am thy God. I will strengthen thee, yea, I will help thee, yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

[6 : 28] What a precious word. And to the child of God, what a longing there will be to have such a promise sealed upon their soul.

You and I will know what it is to have many fears. We shall have many things to perplex, torment and triumph.

Things that are too great for you and me to bear. Things that seem to bow you down and burden you. Things that enforce you to the throne of grace.

Things that cause you to cry unto God for his mercy. And for his favour to be revealed to you.

Oh, what a trial it is for the Lord's people who have been favoured to have had Jesus to authorise that faith in them.

[7 : 42] Living faith is that that cometh from God. There is much presumptuous faith. And we are tried ourselves as to the reality of our faith at times.

But if the Lord has granted you faith, it is that blessed favour that he bestows upon his people.

He is the author. We read Jesus is the author of our faith. And he, dear friends, is that one thing needful to the tried child of God.

As we journey on through the wilderness, there are these solemn signs and evidences of God's almighty power.

And out of Christ's almighty power can do nothing but devour. And as you and I are taught your sinnership, as you are shown that you have defiled your garments, from the very crown of your head to the soles of your feet, nothing but wounds and bruises and putrefying sores, well could you sing that, if you have been called by grace, nothing in my hand I bring.

[9 : 13] The Lord will empty you and me. He'll make us to feel our poverty. And he'll make us also to realise that the soul that sinneth shall surely die.

And he'll bring you into these trials and these perplexities and difficulties. And as they are sanctified to you and me, so they will lead you to this throne of divine grace and a desire that the Lord is your God.

And he says unto thee, Fear thou not. We are by nature creatures of fear. One may fear one thing and one another, but there are those things that I believe we shall realise that we are fearful of.

Naturally. A natural man is fearful of many things. But how we have to realise there is one who is able to deliver you and me from these fears.

And all how we would ever be found seeking his face. Seeking that he would be our guardian and our guide.

[10 : 29] That very rock. The very rock, dear friends of ages. That very shelter. That very hiding place for your poor distressed soul.

And your soul and mine will be distressed. There are distressing things in this life. And as you are quickened and called by grace, so there will have an effect upon your soul and mine.

And we shall be found, I believe, if we have been born again, regenerated by his grace. So there will be those many fears of the unknown way.

The fears lest you and I are cast away. Fears lest their religion is only in the letter and not in the spirit.

For the letter kill it. But the spirit alone can give life. But here is this precious promise through God's mercy to his church.

[11 : 34] That church, dear friends, both Jew and Gentile alike, Christ will be revealed to them as their all and in all.

There will be no help in self. No help in these idols of this present evil day. There were those here that we read of were makers of idols.

And they went even to worship their idols. But the child of God will be brought here to realize that living faith is the gift of God and he'll plead for that faith.

Which is, faith is that substance we are told of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. So portrayed child of God, he says, I am with thee.

What a favour this is. This is an unestimable favour of God. And I am with thee. This God will be your God.

[12 : 41] He will be your guide. Even unto death. O ye of little faith. Truly, we have these things that we pass through and we are sometimes lovingly rebuked with the word.

O ye of little faith, wherefore didst thou bear? Even the winds and the waves obey him. And although you and I are brought into these conditions and these situations, how we have to prove the faithfulness of God.

This God that has said, Lo, I will be with thee, Israel. Passing through the fire. And so that appointed pathway of the child of God through much tribulation.

And you fear as you enter the cloud. O truly, like the children of Israel, they feared as they entered the cloud. But ye fearful saints, fresh courage take.

The cloud ye so much dread. Are big with mercy and shall break in blessings on your head. What a good God then we have.

[13 : 57] He'll manage your affairs better than you and I can ever hope to. Both in providence and in grace. All for that grace then to commit your way unto him.

For he has said. And as he seals such a promise upon your soul, he will fulfill it. Though you and I often are brought into these conditions of dismay, the Lord says, Fear thou not, for I am with thee.

Be not dismayed. Why? For I am thy God. Not only I am with thee, but I am thy God.

Oh, what a God he is to go to, dear friends. All for more faith. To commit our way unto him. And in spite of all your fears to realize that he is able to allay those fears.

He is able to say unto you, Fear not. And what a calming influence will the Spirit's promise be upon your soul as the Spirit seals it.

[15 : 09] The comforter, as the Holy Ghost is described by the Lord Jesus. Says, I will not leave you comfortless. You see, you might find these times when you are fearful and full of dismay.

But Jesus Christ, your Father's Son, bids you undismayed go on. And so we would realize the Lord knoweth the end from the beginning of our lives and their short lives compared to eternity.

And though you may on the main of temptation be tossed, your sorrows may swell as the same. None of the ransom shall ever be lost. The righteous shall hold on his way.

But says the poor child of God, if only I knew. If only I knew where I might find him. If only I knew that I were one of his children.

If only I knew that he had bought me with a price, loved me with an everlasting love, then I would never fear. Wouldn't you? You know, we're creatures of fear.

[16 : 20] We're creatures of fear we drag along and fear where no fear is. What about the blessings? What about the deliverances that he have had?

What about those signs and wonders that he's done for you? Have you none to record and to redound to his honour and glory of his goodness?

Surely goodness and mercy have followed us. Surely it's with you hitherto hath the Lord helped you. you've looked back and sometimes you've blushed and been ashamed that your lack of faith in the Son of God when he has brought you through and you've looked back why those fears behold is Jesus holds the helm and guides the ship.

What a mercy to have a such a saviour. He is that real man shall be a hiding place a refuge from the storm a covet from the tempest this is your saviour dear friends this man of sorrows and acquainted with grief this man that knoweth the way that you take this man whose way was much rougher and darker than mine did Christ my Lord suffer and shall I reply and says unto you fear thou not for I am with thee how we blush then under a shame that there are murmurings and complainings amidst the trials of the way for he is faithful that promised and he that hath begun that good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ I am thy God oh says the child of God oh that I knew it oh that he would confirm it oh that he would speak to my heart oh that he would assure me and my conscience of its part in the Redeemer's blood you want to know it don't you and the seams in this air day are great withholding of these precious promises but remember this if he did shine upon you then dear friends he is forever thine though you might be in the darkness at present is it because of backsliding is it because of some besetting sin that seems to hang heavy upon you and take hold of you you know the Lord knows all about you and me and he sees your sins and he knows whether you have committed those burdens unto the Lord of your sins and sought that he would give you grace to forsake this and that sin how prone we are as creatures to look to creature things and be swallowed up with creature things but there is no salvation in these creature things and in these images and in these idols and an idol is that that we value most or that we might then be delivered from these idols we need the Lord to remove them we can do nothing without him but it is by reason of these idols and these things that allure us in the wilderness that this is that that brings us dear friends

I believe into bondage the Lord will bring you into bondage because of sin he'll bring you into many fearful experiences but they'll all work together for good and this is our mercy these are the things that the Lord causeth to come and the purpose of causing them to come is that you might repent that you might be made to be burdened by your sin and seek that the Lord that he would have mercy upon yourself as a fearing child and grant that he might reveal to you these fear hearts to deliver you from trusting in man to deliver you and me from trusting in your own righteousness and looking to the Lord that he would put that glorious robe of Christ righteousness upon you to cover even the blemish of the shadow of a spark fear thou not see these chosen ones are the ones that he's that he will be with and revealed to them that he is with them and he is their God it isn't those called ones dear friends what is there in a calling there's no prophet in the calling but have we been chosen many are called but few are chosen all that this is what we want to know isn't it there are those that are called naturally by the natural here

[21 : 46] God will raise them up as cattle poles in the building use them for the purpose of time for the benefit of his causes and then discard them when the building is complete oh how solemn and searching is this especially those of us that stand in his name we want to know that we're not only a call but chosen chosen vessels our chosen vessel will have oil in the lamps will be burning and not be like the foolish virgins the lamps went out they were sparks of their own kindling there'll be no room for complacency and this will cause a child of God to have many fears but in his fears he will I believe turn those fears to prayer at least there'll be the means of him resorting to the throne of grace and pleading that the

Lord would deliver him from his fears you're fearful aren't you to presume but you're fearful of holding back you see he says whosoever confesseth my name before men his name will I confess before the Father in heaven whosoever denieth my name his name will I deny before the Father oh it's very close how it comes and yet the mercy is the Lord you fear man cease from man his breath is in his nostrils fear thou not for I am with thee and if God before you friends and if he is thy God who can be against you you might have messengers from Satan and there are plenty of messengers from Satan to buffet us aren't they and why is that because if the Lord has given you such a promise as this you not leave you and me as natural man is prone to to get exalted grace humbles but does that within a natural man can get exalted even with a promise even with following in the footsteps of the flock of God but you see the mercy is that the Lord knows all about you and me and so as we look to him he says

I am thy God oh how humbling it is to think that the creator of the heavens and the earth your maker becomes your friend or the condescending love of God in it that he should come and reveal himself to you this friend that sticketh closer than a brother this friend that reveals himself to you amidst the sorrows of the way he is your hiding place he is your refuge he is your strength he is your very present how you know this is our mercy you know a friend cannot help you 50 miles away can he but a friend comes and can comfort you console you well what a difference sometimes that can be but here's a friend dear friends that is omnipresent he is one that knows all about your affairs and mine wherever we might be situated and in what situations we're in this almighty

God your maker your creator and yet your friend revealed to you as God manifested in the flesh the word was made flesh and dwelt amongst us and we beheld his glory as the only begotten of the father full of grace and full of truth law came by Moses but grace and truth by Jesus Christ and he says I am thy God the God man or is the room in your heart and mind to receive him there will be if he prepares your heart won't he there will be room in your heart to receive these precious truths and you long to receive a crumb of mercy you crave for it you want to be fed with living bread and living waters you are unworthy to receive it but you desire it that the

Lord would speak to you such a promise I am with thee and I am thy God you see this is the God that we want the God that rules on high the God whose eye runneth to and fro through the whole of the omnipotent God who has all our times in his hands and all events at his command do we believe it you see without faith it is impossible to please God though so then he that cometh to God must believe that he is and is a rewarder of those that shall diligently seek him I know personally I feel I want more grace more diligence to seek him and that closer walk and nearness to him a felt sense of the power of Christ resting upon me for

[27 : 39] I need the help of this God now he says I will strengthen thee child of God with all your fears be not dismayed he says you want to be calm don't you and when he calms your troubled breast and then and if he speaketh peace who can make trouble if he giveth peace now he makes your troubled breast to calm and he says I will strengthen thee he strengthens your weak hands of faith confirms your feeble needs he strengthens you to run with patience the race that is set before you looking to Jesus and he strengthens you and he helps you oh what a privilege this is this is that favour that he bestows upon his dear children

I will strengthen thee yea I will help thee yea well I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness it's Jesus only the friend of sinners all for more faith to believe in him to put our trust in him you see although he can't although I can't his footsteps trace he is though I am blind too wise to be mistaken he too good to be unkind we cannot understand the way can we why he should lead us into this way and that way but you see he hides his face and you are troubled and he will not retain his anger forever if needs be a punish for sin but it is a loving rebuke for sin he hates your sins let us make no mistake he hates sin and he hates to see us living in any sin and he will bring our hearts down with labor because of some sin besetting sin and he will not have you and me to license sin and we shall flee from sin as a serpent if we have this grace in our heart and we shall tremble as we walk in the fear of

God you want to honor him you want to do those things that you feel persuaded are pleasing in his sight and where do we seek instruction in his word by his words will be found as you seek for them and they will be unto you the joy and the rejoicing of your heart and mine as the Lord speaks I will strengthen strengthen you in running with patience then that race that is set before you strengthen you when you feel bound down with so many burdens strengthen you dear friends when all these things seem to be against you strengthen you when you've come to the end so called of your tether can't take another step and when you even tempted by the burdens of the insinuations of the devil or if this is religion you're tempted to give up and call no more upon his name but

I will strengthen them what a mercy that he gives power you see it's when you're faint when there's no strength when there's nothing in your hand when you're empty and poverty stricken when the poor and needy seek water and there is none and their tongue faileth for thirst I the Lord will hear them you see there's a groan the spirit maketh intercession for you with groanings that cannot be uttered or you know your feelings within sometimes you can't even open your mouth you're done with silence the stroke is too great for you to bear and you melt down with tears before God only he witnesses them you see your poor and needy you seek water and you find none your tongue faileth for thirst but

I the Lord will hear them I the God of Israel not forsake them he won't forsake you and me friends as we might forsake others through perhaps reasons beyond their control you not leave you what a mercy to have faith to trust in this God here never fail you friends I can say it now whether I should say in half an hour times another matter out of the pulpit I get home and maybe a telephone call a letter we had one recently you begin to think well what's the point of praying where is this God that has promised you that I am with thee I am thy God that's the devil and you know what it is to have the effects of the devil upon your soul ever driving in this wedge of unbelief when he catches you unawares but remember this though he seemed to catch you unawares

[33 : 36] God sees God knows and he is still thy God you see this is our mercy he is the same the same yesterday today forever be of good courage and he will strengthen your heart this is the God dear friends to be on our side if it had not been the Lord that had been on our side says Israel why where should we have been if this God is not our God but you humbly hope that he is you have come tonight you humbly hope to receive a crumb I hope you have I hope you will but don't praise and glory a sinner like me glorify God who deserves all the praise that poor sinners can give him for his mercies which are new every morning great is his faithfulness it's a good thing we don't depend on man isn't it for mercy but there's one that giveth mercy one that giveth power to the faint and to them that have no might he increases strength

I am thy God I will strengthen thee yea I will help thee you see all the promises are yea not yea and nay but yea and amen so be it in Christ I will help thee for this is that privilege then of his dear people that he will help thee yea I will uphold thee you see the eternal God is your refuge you see his mercy is from everlasting to everlasting unto them that fear him and unto you that fear my name that is revere and honor his name and worship his name unto you that fear my name shall the son of righteousness arise an appointed time when this son of righteousness will arise with healing in his wings to heal you and me of the malady of sin to restore unto you and me the joy of his salvation what a glorious prospect this is sinner this is a glorious prospect to think that he's going to restore unto you the joy of salvation he's going to restore unto you that perfection that

Adam was born in created in this is our mercy this is going to impute unto you his robe of righteousness is he that is stood in between from the wrath of God to defend you oh what a mercy to have this God as your defense to be as a wall of fire round about you and he the God the glory in the midst or who is a God like this God do you not have a little room in your heart to have affection to this God as revealed in Jesus Christ oh what love we ponder this love oh to feel more of the effects of it it'll humble you and me from our proud ways to realize we are possessors of a little of this everlasting love a token here and there that shall confirm your soul and mine that we are born of

God yea I will help thee the shells and the wills of Jehovah dear friends will never never fail never fail what a mercy to be a possessor of a shell or a will of Jehovah a promise sealed upon your soul and it's all because dear friends he loved you not because he sees anything in you and me that merits esteem or can give him the creator delight but he loved you because he were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world and shall live to show forth his praise here beloved love or how sweet then to wait upon the Lord how sweet to look to him and to consider him there's nothing so sweet is there to your soul and mine as to feel the presence of

Christ to feel a little of the sweetness of this name how sweet the name says one how sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer as he assures his sorrows heals his wounds drives away each fear and he says fear thou not for I am with thee all the presence and of Christ all your journey through friends my presence shall go with thee or he's bought you with a price you are a valuable you are a valuable soul in the sight of Christ he's paid dearly for you bought you with a price or that you might then be given that grace to walk in his ways to walk worthy of him to keep his commandments and manifest that real love to

[39 : 50] Christ oh and as we feel that love shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost to think his condescending love and mercy and pity upon such wretches as you and I will be made to feel we do feel it oh wretched man that I am the Lord shows you your sinnership and some of us perhaps have been in the way a little longer than others some of you longer than this poor sinner but oh how we see the condescending love of God in it thus far God has led us on we can look back all over life's history and see his mercy see see see see how he saw us ruined in the fall yet loved us not with standing all if we're not mistaken if we're not mistaken when he began and caused us to begin to be in want for something solid something real something everlasting something that would pay the price of our sins and redeem us from the curse of the law it's

Christ and that shed blood oh my friends that we could value more this precious news of salvation how shall we escape if we neglect it when we have these solemn signs of the times of the past week the wrath of God dear friends upon our nation and yet how many repent and confess their sins how many acknowledge it as the judgment of God upon our land but I believe the godly will repent the godly will see this almighty power of God and it will cause you and me at times I believe to consider what would the end of these things be what will the end of these things be as we are ripening fast for further judgments in the hour will we learn obedience will we learn righteousness by these things

Hezekiah when facing death turned his face to the wall he prayed and he wept he had that true repentance it was manifest outwardly as well as in the heart and he sought the Lord such as he never I believe sought him before and when you and I dear friends are brought there when most we need his helping hand it's in trouble it's in tribulation it's in some deep affliction in some dark paths that is peculiar to you and you see some men's trials are heavier to one than what might be a similar trial to another the Lord knows how to find out your weak spots and mine he knows how to use various means to humble you and me in the dust to prostrate as a guilty weak and helpless worm on thy kind are my fall be thou my strength my righteousness my

Jesus and my all and he comes with a promise like this I will strengthen thee yea I will help thee yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness is Jesus mighty to save even to the uttermost all those that come unto God by him or how we would value this precious Jesus as the friend of sinners or that we might know more about it effectually in our own hearts that we might seek him and be favoured to find him and find rest for ourselves it is that rest for ourselves eternity and it all dear friends is hastening on to a stage a dread moment for you and me but all to be found hiding beneath that shelter of his blood where should should then we suddenly be confronted with death all the mercy is dear friends to feel the presence of

Christ to rest in these precious promises as the spirit brings to your remembrance the things that he has spoken unto you for has he not said I will never leave thee nor forsake thee so that we can boldly say in the liberty of the spirit the Lord is my helper are not fear what man should do unto man or then to feel this sweet favor upon your spirit and mine the precious promise of Jesus that sweet hope that maketh you not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in your heart by the Holy Ghost I the Lord will hear then you see when you seek water and there is none and your tongue faileth for thirst I the Lord will hear them I the God of Israel and not forsake them I will open rivers you see it all redounds to the honor and the glory of

[45 : 58] God and it's also according to his mercy and according to his favor toward you a poor unworthy sinner or that we might then be favored to be blessed with his help you see it is he's able to help helper of the helpless he's able then to give you that power that strength that grace that is sufficient for you that strength made perfect in your weakness though these messengers from Satan are sent to buffet you that's less you get exalted above measure we need delivering from that pharisaical self righteousness and pride to lift you and me up but as you are buffeted so there's a balancing of the cloud and the

Lord will see to it a balancing of the cloud there's a day of adversity and a day of prosperity one is set over against the other a balancing and there'll be some ballast there'll be something dear friends to keep you steady and keep you waiting upon him to renew your strength that you might mount up with wings as eagles that you might run and not be weary walk and not faint for it is then going in the strength of the Lord I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness and although that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded they shall be as nothing the Lord is able to remove the crooked things and make the crooked things straight and the rough places plain and the darkness light before you and offer more faith to put our trust in him for he will cause his goodness to pass before you in the way and he will make you and me to realize

I believe a little by what David tells us surely goodness and mercy have followed me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever and they shall still be praising and blessing God or then that we might be favored more to be brought there amidst the sorrows of the way amidst the difficulties amidst the trials may those trials be sanctified that trials might make the promise sweet you see if you had no trials we should fear lest we should be cast away lest you are only one dear friends that has stolen the promise thieves and robbers came up the other way they got into that fold some other way but my sheep hear my voice and

I know them and they follow me and I give unto them eternal life and that's the secret isn't it that the poor sinner wants to have revealed to him the gift of eternal life a knowledge that he is his soul is amongst those whom Christ has redeemed redeemed from the curse of the law and will make wise unto salvation through faith in Christ I will strengthen thee yea I will help thee yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness that is for poor pilgrims feet of walking

I am the way the truth and the life no man cometh unto the father but by me but all that the father giveth me shall come to me and him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out so you come to him with many fears but he in his love and in his pity and in his mercy says fear thou not for I am with thee be not dismayed for I am thy God I will strengthen thee yea I will help thee yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness well is this God your God friends oh I do humbly hope that we might know this God that we might count all things but dung and dross here below that all things might be secondary and there might be that primary to concern with your soul that you might win

[51 : 49] Christ and be found in him once in him in him forever thus the eternal covenant stands to be found in him not having your own righteousness which is of the law but that righteousness which is by faith in the son of God who gave himself as a ransom to pay the price for your sins and my sins and to deliver your soul from the pit and to gather you at last into heaven with the saints to be forever with the Lord and realize a little of that everlasting love that has watched over you and protected you and preserved you even unto that heavenly kingdom fear thou not for I am with thee Amen Amen

Amen by seeing hymn number 135 Vic de Jews de Peter 227 How sweet the name of Jesus said in a believer's ear, who serves his sorrow, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear, makes the worldly spirit whole, and calms the troubled ways. It is manner to the hungry soul, and to the weary of grace.

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Thank you.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, rest and abide with us each. Amen.

[56 : 55] Amen. Amen. Thank you.