

WHEN YOU ARE SURROUNDED AND OVERWHELMED.

There is an old saying "Caught between a ROCK and a HARDPLACE"

- This is a place where no matter which way you look it does not look good.
- This is a place where you fell all alone.
- This is a place that the only way to look is up.
- This is the place where worry, fear and despair fight with you constantly.

"Caught between a ROCK and a HARDPLACE"

Am I talking to someone who know what I as saying?

You may be hearing my voice, holding your bible in you hand and today know that you are that person who is "Caught between a ROCK and a HARDPLACE"

This is where we find the people of God here in Exodus 14

Exodus 14:10-14 (ESV) When Pharaoh drew near, the **people of Israel lifted up their eyes**, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and **they feared greatly**. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. ¹¹ They said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to **die in the wilderness**? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? ¹² Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: '**Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians**'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to **die in the wilderness**." ¹³ And Moses said to the people, "**Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again.** ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

There are times we all may feel like this or have felt like this or will feel like this.

Times when we feel that God is nowhere around.

Times when you feel as if you have no one to speak too about it.

Times things are coming from every direction.

There are times you may feel yourself between a Rock and a Hardplace.

Health conditions
Broken relationships
Money Issues
Addictions

Divorce
Family Problems
Job Lost

Lost of a Love One
Depression
Mistakes

- **Fear comes over people when their past attacks them and their Future seems uncertain. And the Present doesn't look too good**

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that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? ¹² Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." ¹³ **And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."**

- These people saw their past coming to attack Present situation terrible and their future was not looking too promising.
- They were stuck between their past and their future seemed blocked.

"CAUGHT BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARDPLACE"

Being in a place like that is hell on earth

Waking up to it. Going to bed with it carrying it with you day in and day out.

Unable to locate a place of peace

- The past hounding you!!
- The present got you stuck!!
- The future seemed Blocked!!

"CAUGHT BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARDPLACE"

We can learn a lot from what happened with these people

Exodus 14:10-13 (ESV) When Pharaoh drew near, the

- (1) **people of Israel lifted up their eyes**, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and
- (2) **they feared greatly.**
- (3) you have taken us away to **die in the wilderness?**
- (4) Is not this **what we said** to you in Egypt: **Leave us alone** that we may serve the Egyptians'?
- (5) For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."

Closer Look

1. They were looking at the situation. No matter how bad things get never take your eyes off God when you do you will
 - a. Lose your peace
 - b. Lose your focus
 - c. Lose your way

Matthew 14:26-31 (NKJV) And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." ²⁸ And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." ²⁹ So He said, "**Come.**" And when

Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus.³⁰ But when he saw that the wind *was* boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"³¹ And immediately Jesus stretched out *His* hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

Isaiah 26:3-4 (NKJV) You will keep *him* in perfect peace, *Whose* mind *is* stayed *on* You, Because he trusts in You.⁴ Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, *is* everlasting strength.

2. **They feared greatly.** Fear opens the door to the enemy; fear paralyzes you to the point of
 - a. Doing nothing
 - b. Doing the wrong thing
 - c. Losing Sleep
 - d. Allowing the devil to mess with your head.
3. **They had the wrong confession They lost sight of God**
 - a) you have taken us away to **die in the wilderness?**
 - b) Is not this **what we said** to you in Egypt: **Leave us alone** that we may serve the Egyptians'?
 - c) For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS ABOUT WHAT YOU BELIEVE IS ABOUT YOUR FUTURE!!!!

- These people could not see a future
- They were in fear
- They were confused

Here is the solution and my conclusion on the matter

¹³ And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again.

¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

- The Key to VICTORY was what God Said to them through the man of God!!

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- Fear not
- Stand firm
- See the salvation of the LORD
- Keep Your Mouth Shut have only to be silent
- Let the Lord Fight for you.

The MOST IMPORTANT thing is about what you believe is about your future!!!!

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“CAUGHT BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARDPLACE”

JESUS IS OUR ROCK AND FAITH WILL DESTROY THE HARDPLACE

- ❖ **KEEP MOVING**
 - ❖ **HOLD ON TO YOUR PEACE NO MATTER WHAT**
 - ❖ **MAKE THE RIGHT CONFESSION ABOUT YOUR SITUATION AND YOURSELF**
- **Psalm 18:2** ²The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my **rock**, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
 - **2 Samuel 22:32** ³²For who is God besides the LORD? And who is the Rock except **our** God?
 - **Psalm 18:31** ³¹For who is God besides the LORD? And who is the Rock except **our** God?
 - **Psalm 62:7** ⁷My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty **rock**, my refuge.
 - **1 Samuel 2:2** ²"There is no one holy like the LORD; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like **our** God.
 - **1 Corinthians 10:4** ⁴and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that **rock** was Christ.
 - **Psalm 28:1** ¹To you, LORD, I call; you are my **Rock**, do not turn a deaf ear to me. For if you remain silent, I will be like those who go down to the pit.