

Psalm 31:1-5 (NIV84)

1 In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

2 Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me.

3 Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.

4 Free me from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge.

5 Into your hands I commit my spirit; redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth.

Timeless truth, that's what follows in today's devotion. The below devotion was first published in 1982 and, of course, the truths contained therein remain true and relevant even today. This shouldn't surprise anyone, because the author is drawing on the timeless truth of God's word as recorded in Psalm 31.

What a comfort for us to know the God of the Scriptures. He is unchanging and unchangeable. Therefore, the comfort and assurance He gives us in His word is truly a refuge for weary hearts and souls. In times of doubt, or sorrow, or regret, or fear, flee to that Rock that is infinity higher than you or I.

Standing with you in Christ our Rock,
Pastor Golm

May 5

Refuge in a World of Turmoil

Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. Psalm 61:2

Few know better what it means to stand within the shelter of a rock than those who defended the island of Malta in 1941. From the safe ledges of their rock-built caverns they watched day after day, unharmed, as chaos and confusion swirled round about them. Outside the rock sure death would have been theirs. Inside the rock no danger could come near them.

What a striking illustration of that rock to which the Christian flees when the world seems to be toppling in pieces around him! That rock is the shelter of God's love. Round about us all may seem to be ruin; the storms of life may seem to be too much for us, too overpowering, too overwhelming. Our little faith may seem to be no match for the winds which seek to sweep us into the floodstream of destruction.

But there is a Rock! A Rock that is stronger than we. A Rock that is higher than we—a Rock that is above and below the shifting sands of all things temporal. It is this Rock of which the psalmist spoke so constantly when the foundations of his world seemed to be crumbling. "The Lord is

my rock and my fortress." "The rock of my strength and my refuge is in God." "He only is my rock and my salvation."

Too often we think of our religion as something abstract. We think of it as a set of propositions to be memorized, or as a set of fascinating doctrines to be debated. Nothing could be farther from the truth. At the center of our faith is a glorious reality—a reality which has meaning here and now.

In the midst of a world in turmoil we have a rock! It is the rock of our Savior's love and mercy: His assurance of unfailing guidance and protection. He is that rock which, in David's words, is "higher than I". He is the rock to which we cling and of which we sing: "Rock of ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee."

In every circumstance of life may we find our deepest assurance, not in the shallow, shifting sands of earthly wisdom, but in the rock that is higher and stronger than we: our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.