

More Thoughts

When David Hit Rock Bottom

1 Samuel 30

Another thing that encouraged David and led him to pray was the promise of God, made over and over to him that he would be king in Israel (20:14; 24:20; etc). Looking at the ashes beneath his feet it didn't look like he would. Listening to his bitter men it didn't sound like he would.. But David had a promise from God and he clung to it like a drowning man clinging to a board. What he saw was God and what he listened to was God, not circumstances.

Peter, learned the hard way not to look at the waves and not to listen to the wind, when you walk on water, but to look at the Lord (Mt. 14:28-31). And it was Peter who says God "has given us his great and precious promises" (2 Pet. 1:4). One of the most powerful things we can do on rock bottom is grab a verse, claim it as ours and hang on.

Pastor George Truett, in the first half of this century, endured a meningitis epidemic in Dallas, Texas with his people. Children began to die and the scourge was so bad that funerals were held in private. Truett said his phone would ring and he heard "another child is stricken" and his big heart began to break and he felt he could take no more.

He said "I felt myself looking to Jesus as never before." Then one day he came upon Ps. 112:7 "He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord" (KJV).

The phone kept ringing and children kept on dying but Truett knew God was in control, and he was God's man stationed at God's post to see his people through that dark and terrible hour. That verse was his! That promise was his! Have you

learned the glorious art of taking a Scripture as God's promise to you and holding it up and clinging to it? Do it! Do it! Do it! If you do, you will see God in your life. ["The Life of David" by Preacher Bob]

When life beats you to your knees, says Norman Vincent Peale, that is a good position from which to pray.

The man who wrote *Invictus*- "No matter how straight the gate / Or charged with punishments the scroll / I thank whatever gods there be / For my unconquerable soul."- Committed suicide.

MOVING A BIG ROCK

A dad asked his twelve-year-old son to roll a huge rock in their yard to the edge of the driveway by 3:00 when his mother would come home. The boy worked and worked but was not moving it fast enough. The dad said, "Son, use all your strength." The boy said he was, and the dad said he wasn't. The dad came out in an hour and said the same thing. The boy, with tears, said, "Daddy, I am." The dad said, "No you aren't son. You haven't asked me to help you. Now let's move this rock together before your Mama gets home."

Funny Side Up

A preacher went bear hunting on Sunday. When a huge bear stepped up, He stopped, dropped his gun, and ran. Knowing the bear would catch him, he stopped, knelt, and prayed, "Lord forgive me and make this bear a Christian." Opening his eyes he saw the bear kneeling in prayer. He was overjoyed until he heard the bear say, "Dear God, For the food I am about to receive I give you thanks. Amen!

Outside of God's will, prayer does little good.