

Psalms Chapter 40 Verses 1-4; The Solid Rock, Our New Song

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David

Ps 40:1 "I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. 2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings."

If ever a man waited patiently on the Lord, David was one of them. Think about how long it was from the time when he was anointed to be king over all Israel until it happened. Then, how much longer it was until Israel, with David as king, had peace with all nations? In, and through, all that went on in those long years; David had only the promise of God to hold onto.

Ps 40:2 "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay," What does David mean the horrible pit and miry clay? Horrible means *destruction*. Pit means *a hole, which is a reference to hell*. Miry means *dregs or intoxication*. Clay means *sticky or demon, with the idea of being swept away*. From these definitions we get the picture that David, in struggling with his sins, saw himself losing his communion with God. Why? David understood that the intoxications, of the sins of the flesh, were so strong that in yielding to them, he was being sunk deeper and deeper into the miry clay, and without God's deliverance, he would eventually be drowned in those sins, and swept away by demons into that horrible pit. God did indeed set his feet upon a rock and establish his goings, by the return of the joy of God's salvation to him. The reason, David could wait patiently for the Lord, was because God had continually delivered him from his sins in times past, and he had the promise that he would live with God in the resurrection from the dead.

This same principle is often true for God's people today. Many are brought to the New Testament Church at an early age. They have a long and hard struggle with the sins of this world, with temptations on every side, just like king David. This world, filled with sins, is a horrible pit of miry clay, which miry clay signifies; the longer we indulge in its sins, the deeper into the horrible pit of miry clay we get. But we, like David, can hold onto the promise of God through the struggles of life, because God has set our feet upon the rock, Jesus Christ, and established our goings by the Word of God. Understand, we must be lifted above the sins of this world to have our feet set upon the solid rock. What do you mean by lifted above? We must be elevated to the higher plane of the New Testament Church, which is above the lower plane of this sin sick world. Jesus demonstrates this when He told the Pharisees, and us, that even the thought of sin, without the act of sin, was sin in our hearts, and the offense of a broken commandment to God. We see this picture in **Mt 5:28 "But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."** Hereby, we see that imagery plainly.

Ps 40:2 "and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings." What is it to have our feet set on the rock? It is the picture of going from the state of being corrupted with sin before God the Father, to the state of being born again, of the incorruptible seed, Jesus Christ, and found sinless in the eyes of God the Father. With our feet planted solidly upon the rock, Christ Jesus, we can wait patiently for the fulfillment of God's promise to us; because, we are given the promise of eternal life in a sinless, incorruptible, and immortal body, with Jesus in eternity.

There is also the prophetic picture of the first coming of Jesus Christ. If ever a man waited patiently for the LORD, it was Jesus. If ever the LORD heard the prayer of a man, it was Jesus's prayers, which were heard, and were answered, and are still being answered. God lifted Jesus out of the horrible pit of the misery that he endured for God's people to have eternal remission of sins. God brought Jesus up out of the miry clay, his body of flesh, in resurrection from the dead, out of the grave, and his ascension back to heaven in his glorified body. Jesus's feet were always firmly established upon the rock, because Jesus was the rock, and the power of God through the God headship in his prepared body. We can count on Word of God, the King James Bible, because Jesus was the Word. Jesus demonstrated that He was the Rock, by never committing a single sin or breaking a single commandment. God established the goings of Jesus with the establishment of the New Testament Church. This is why we are to purge ourselves of our inherited sin nature, take up our cross, and follow Jesus every day. Oh! what a Saviour! Let us praise and adore him forever!

3 "And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD. 4 Blessed is that man that maketh the LORD his trust, and respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies."

As we think upon the eternal promise of God to his children, it certainly puts a new song in our hearts. What do you mean? What did the children of Israel do when God delivered them out of Egypt and carried them through the sea on dry ground? They came forth and sang a new song. A song of praise and glory to God for the great deliverance that He had wrought for them.

As Israel traveled through the sea on dry ground, surrounded by water on either side and the Egyptians behind them, surely their hearts trembled with fear. This is a picture of our travel as a child of God in this life. However, when they came out on the other side they had complete trust in God. They held no person in respect, for their God has just shown them how great and powerful He was, and that man could do nothing against him and win. Remember, they saw the Egyptian army drowned in the same sea they went through on dry ground. There is no doubt at that moment, they could not have been deceived by lies, for they were overwhelmed by the power and greatness of God. This is a picture of the life of a child of God in the knowledge of their new birth.

Secondly, the world also saw this great deliverance of Israel from the Egyptians, and it struck great fear in the hearts of all the nations of the earth, for they understood, their idol gods could not stand before the true and living God. It also struck such fear in the hearts of some, so that they were converted and saved, from eternal damnation, by the grace of God, such as Rahab the harlot, who, through the fear of the Lord, hid the spies in Jericho, and saved both herself and her whole household.

4 "Blessed is that man that maketh the LORD his trust," Everyone who believes in the finished work of Jesus Christ, and the eternal salvation of God, will come to God for the eternal salvation of their lives. We see this picture in **Joh 6:37 "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."** Wherefore, we see the surety of our eternal salvation in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

The same principles were true in king David's life, and the same principles are true in the life of a newly born child of God. I remember when God brought me to the church after several years of struggling against Him. After church at High Bluff on May 11, 1974, Elder Tollie Lee came and spoke to me, as I was propped up against a car still struggling with the emotions in my heart. As he took my hand, God bent me double with great pains and in a vision I could see that I was being carried to the church building by a great eagle, whose talons were gripping me by my loins, and I never felt my feet on the ground until I got to the first step going into the church. God led me to the front bench, where they always set new members when they came forward, and the brethren came and asked what I wanted. I told them I loved them and wanted a home. They opened conference and received me. I can say to you, for about three days I was so light that it felt like my feet were not even touching the ground. It was like I was just floating along as I went about my daily affairs. Then the old inherited sin nature rose up and I came crashing down to earth again. However, I can say with surety that God put a new song in my heart with praise to God. God gave me faith to trust fully in Him. God taught me to have no respect for mankind one above another. Oh, what great and powerful mercies of God I have seen in my life, and I can well witness with king David in this.

I am sure that each child of God, can in their own ways, relate to king David's Psalm in these verses. We each face our own individual sins, yet we all face the same sins, for every sin is sin in the sight of God our Father. If we commit one sin, we are guilty of all sins, as we are told in **Jas 2:10 "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all."**

However, we would not leave you in the horrible pit of the thought of being guilty of all sins. WE have a better truth to leave you with, which is the eternal forgiveness of sins, wrought for us by Jesus Christ on the cross. Because Jesus overcame the penalty of death for sin, and gave us eternal life in the new birth, we can know that when He was lifted from the horrible pit of death, and delivered from the miry clay of our sins, we can believe the promise of Jesus, and know that we have had our feet planted on the solid rock. We can believe that Jesus has gone to prepare a place for us, and He is coming back to receive us unto Himself, and all of God's people can say, Hallelujah! Praise, ye the Lord! Amen!