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GOD – OUR ROCK

Genesis chapter 32 gives us the Song of Moses, a song of praise, instruction, and inspiration. It came just before Moses' departure from this earth. The song speaks of God as a Rock. It also refers to the pagan gods as rocks. In this sense, the Hebrew word for rock (tsûwr, Strong's 6697) means a divine supreme being. The rock imagery is that of a large boulder, or a sharp cliff in a general sense. Figuratively, it means a refuge and implies strength.

In Genesis 32:18 it speaks about the God of Israel as ***"the Rock that begat thee."*** It is He who created us in the womb. As for the strength of this Rock, He gives us power to put a thousand enemies (vs. 30) to flight, or two of us to chase down ten thousand.

Verse 31 says that the rock [gods] of the pagans cannot compare to our Rock. [Also verse 37.]

The New Testament then affirms that Jesus is that Rock (Petra, Petros) upon which the church is built. Jesus speaks of this in a conversation with Peter in Matthew 16:18. Some have thought that Jesus was calling Peter that rock, but that is not the case. Peter was just a "stone" and not the "rock." Peter, himself, attests to that in his epistle, 1 Peter 2:4-9. He makes it clear that Jesus is the stone, or rock upon whom we build the church upon.

Jesus spoke the parable of two men who built a house. One built on sand and the other upon a rock. When the storms came, the one built on the sand washed away and collapsed the house. The house built upon the rock stood strong during the storm and the foundation did not give way. It held up.

The point of Jesus' parable was that when we build our house, [the house of the Holy Spirit in Christ the solid rock] and face the storms of life, we remain standing in Christ. Those who build their houses on the shifting sands of humanity will not stand in eternity.

Whoever builds their life upon Christ Jesus [our God] will stand even into eternity. Praise God Almighty for our Solid Rock!