

Easter 2018

WORLD OUTREACH CHURCH  G. ALLEN JACKSON, Senior Pastor

100 Days of Faith Moving Rocks

I. Crushing Failure

Matthew 27:57-61 (NASB®)

⁵⁷ When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus.

⁵⁸ This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given *to him*.

⁵⁹ And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,

⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and **he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away.**

⁶¹ **And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the grave.**

Matthew 27:62-66 (NASB®)

⁶² Now on the next day, the day after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate, ⁶³ and said, "Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I *am to* rise again.'

⁶⁴ "Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, otherwise His disciples may come and steal Him away and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will be worse than the first."

⁶⁵ **Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go, make it *as* secure as you know how."**

⁶⁶ **And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone.**

Matthew 28:1-6 (NASB®)

¹ Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first *day* of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave.

² And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for **an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it.**

³ And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow.

⁴ The guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men.

⁵ The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified.

⁶ "He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying."

II. God Is Still Moving Rocks

A. Entrance Blocked ---

Romans 5:6, 8 (NIV®)

⁶ You see, at just the right time, when **we were still powerless**, Christ died for the ungodly.

⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 8:1-3 (NIV®)

¹ Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what **the law was powerless** to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering.

B. Obstacles Removed

1. Forgiven

Ephesians 1:7 (NIV®)

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

2. Reconciled

2 Corinthians 5:19 (NIV®)

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them.

3. Forgiving

Matthew 6:14-15 (NIV®)

¹⁴ For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

C. Strategic Placement ---Foundations

Isaiah 28:16 (NIV®)

¹⁶ So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "See, **I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone** for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed."

1. Storm Protection/Hurricane Proof

Matthew 7:24-25 (NIV®)

²⁴ "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who **built his house on the rock**. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

2. Membership Has Privileges ---Provision

Matthew 6:31-33 (NIV®)

³¹ So **do not worry**, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Hebrews 12:28-29 (NIV®)

²⁸ Therefore, since **we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken**, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our "God is a consuming fire."

3. Highway Construction

Isaiah 62:10 (NIV®)

¹⁰ Pass through, pass through the gates! Prepare the way for the people. Build up, build up the highway! Remove the stones. Raise a banner for the nations.

Isaiah 35:8 (NASB®)

⁸ A highway will be there, a roadway, And it will be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean will not travel on it, But it *will* be for him who walks *that way*, And fools will not wander *on it*.

Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name.

Your Kingdom come, Your will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses; As we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory for ever and ever, amen.