



## water from rock

### **Selah: Stop, Look, Listen – May 20, 2021**

The Lord be with you.

I visited a friend in the hospital yesterday, and I asked him on a scale of one to ten, how are you? Today, I'm wondering about you who are listening by podcast, on a scale of one to 10, how are you? Whether you're feeling a one or a ten, I have a good word for you from scripture for the life of David, from a time when David is between a rock and a hard place, a time when David is in trouble again, and David has something good to teach us about difficult times.

I'm looking at the Book of 1 Samuel Chapter 22. The first few verses where, well, we might say that David has jumped from the frying pan into the fire as David has gone from being chased by the Philistines who are trying to kill him, to being chased by King Saul was trying to finish him off. And David is running for his life from one wilderness hiding place to another. So that here in 1 Samuel Chapter 22, David is hiding from King Saul in the cave of Adulam, but David is concerned for his parents, he's concerned that Saul will try to kill them. And so David sneaks out from the cave of Adulum, he goes to Bethlehem where he gets his elderly parents. Takes them across the Jordan river into the country of Moab looking for asylum for them there. David is thinking that because his father, Jesse is the grandson of Ruth, Ruth, the Moabitess, David is thinking, hoping that his parents will be safe there with those people. Okay, with that as background, I pick up in 1 Samuel chapter 22 verse 3, David said to the king of Moab, please let my father and mother come to you until I know what God will do for me.

I think David's word until I know what God will do for me. Helps explain why Scripture says that David is a man after God's own heart. Until I know what God will do for me. This is David's characteristic attitude of expectancy. Whether David is facing the giant Goliath, battling the Philistines, coming up against King Saul, David has this attitude of expectancy until I know what God will do for me. As David believes he knows that God loves him and that God is intimately involved in every detail of our lives. Until I know what God will do for me. David knows that God is for us, so that David is ready to trust everything to God. Now, David does not know the what God will do for him. David does not know the time, God will do for him, he does not know the manner that God will do for him, but David is sure that God will do for him. And that's what makes David such a wonderful example of this attitude of expectancy. Until I know what God will do for me.

You often hear me on these podcasts talking about David, because David expectant attitude inspires me... Another person who had this expected attitude and inspires me is Watchman Nee. He was one of the great Christian leaders in China in the last century. Watchman Nee started much of the Christian work going on in China today. In communist China, he was the founder of many of the underground churches, wrote several books, he faced great trial and persecution, but Watchman Nee



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lived an attitude of expectancy. In his a book Expecting God's blessing. Watchman Nee writes, We must always look for God to do things beyond our expectation. We must set the things of the past aside and difficult situations, God will do more if our hopes, expectations and hearts are large. We must never measure God by our capacity. A few loaves of bread can feed four or 5000 people. When the Lord wants to work a small miracle, he puts me in a difficult situation, when God wants to work a great miracle, he puts me in in an impossible situation.

Maybe today. You're in an impossible situation. But God will do for you. God will do for you when... We don't know how, we don't know. But God will do for you. I love the attitude of expectancy in the little boy who opens the door to a room that is piled high with horse maneure. And the little guy says... Excitedly, there's gotta be a pony in here somewhere.

They are saying that there is opportunity in what you're facing today, so that you can say with David, until I know what God will do for me. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord, lift up the light of His countenance upon you and give you peace.

I am Tim Smith, a fellow traveler. Thanks for listening, until next time.



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