



## Portion:

### SCRIPTURES

- Deuteronomy 32:1-52
- I Kings 18:25-27
- Isaiah 43:11-12; 45:5-7
- Isaiah 55:9-11; 28:16-17
- I Corinthians 10:1-4
- Matthew 16:17-18; 7:24-29
- Ephesians 2:19-22; 4:1-6
- I Peter 2:4-8
- Proverbs 16:13-18
- Colossians 2:1-23
- Revelation 3:14-22
- Galatians 2:20
- Philippians 2:5-11
- Romans 9:32-33; 13:14

## Title:

### NARCISSISTIC CHRISTIANITY

- The Song and the Scroll
- Review of the Song of Moses
- Rock vs. rock
- The Nine Rocks in the Song
- The Rock in Scripture
- Y'shua is the Rock
- The Chief Cornerstone
- The Stone of Stumbling
- The Rock of Offense
- Selfie Christianity
- Unmindful of Yahweh
- Following Idols
- Course Correction
- Whose Life Matters?

**Note:** As we enter into the Fall Biblical Feast Season, which include The Feast of Trumpets, Yom Kippur, and the Feast of Tabernacles, you can review the prophetic meaning of all the Feasts by studying [Messiah in the Feasts of the Lord](#).

*When you came into the faith as a Christian, something extraordinary happened. The veil that once separated you from God was torn and you gained access to the throne of grace. I'm not sure I've yet learned to appreciate the sheer magnitude of that privilege, but I press into it daily; how about you? Yet, this question remains...why? Why do we have open access to heaven? To quote a friend who recently relayed the vision of his local church: "We exist to take you from corporate encounters to daily personal encounters."*

*And that struck at the core of my being. I mused instantly, "Isn't that the exact opposite of the call of the church?" Aren't, rather, your deep personal encounters meant to uplift and unify the entire body of Christ? Isn't that the bigger reason we have open access to God's throne? This hyper-emphasis on our personal lives in the faith, rather than what Yahweh is doing in the Body of Christ, has bred a narcissistic brand of Christianity. We have moved our focus from 'Others' Lives Matter' to 'My Life Matters.' "For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus." (Phil. 2:21)*

*The course correction is this; "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others." (Phil. 2:3-4)*

## **THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE**

““But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked; You grew fat, you grew thick [bloated], You are obese! Then he forsook God who made him, **And scornfully esteemed the Rock of his salvation.** They provoked Him to jealousy with foreign gods; With abominations they provoked Him to anger. They sacrificed to demons, not to God, To gods they did not know, To new gods, new arrivals that your fathers did not fear. **Of the Rock who begot you, you are unmindful,** And have forgotten the God who fathered you.” Deuteronomy 32:15-18 NKJV

“For all **seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.**” (Philippians 2:21)

## **OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE**

“**Let us walk properly,** as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But **put on the Lord Jesus Christ,** and **make no provision** for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.” Romans 13:13-14 NKJV

“Let nothing be done through **selfish ambition** or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let **each esteem others better than himself.** Let each of you look out not only for his **own interests,** but also for **the interests of others.**” (Philippians 2:3-4)

# Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. This Torah portion is only a single chapter long, and the majority of it consists of the Song of Moses. The Song of Moses is a prophetic oracle warning Israel about the apostasy to come and the resulting wrath of God. The song looks far into the future, even envisioning the Messianic advent amid rich and frightening apocalyptic imagery. Seven times “the ROCK” is mentioned, imagery of the testimony of Y’shua. After the conclusion of the song, Moses is told to ascend Mount Nebo and overlook the Promised Land before dying.
2. **The Song of Moses:** it is introduced in the final verse of the previous Torah Portion; *“Then Moses spoke in the hearing of all the assembly of Israel the words of this song until they were ended:”* Deuteronomy 31:30 NKJV
  - (a) As we learned in the last portion, it is the song given to Moses as a testimony to the people, as one of the witnesses against them if and when they rebel. (See [The Spiritual Detective](#))
    - (1) *“Write down this song for yourselves, and teach it to the children of Israel; put it in their mouths, **that this song may be a witness for Me** against the children of Israel.”*  
*Deuteronomy 31:19 NKJV*

(2) *“Then it shall be, when many evils and troubles have come upon them, **that this song will testify against them as a witness**; for it will not be forgotten in the mouths of their descendants, for I know the inclination of their behavior today, even before I have brought them to the land of which I swore to give them.”* Deuteronomy 31:21 NKJV

### **3. Themes of The Song of Moses:**

4. Proclaim the name of the LORD and ascribe Him greatness.
5. He is the God of truth, justice and righteousness.
6. A people of rebellion is a perverse and crooked generation.
7. You were purchased by Yahweh, do not be foolish and unwise.
8. Ask your fathers and they will remind you:
  - (a) The Most High divided their inheritance to the nations.
  - (b) He set the boundaries of the peoples according to the number of the children of Israel.
  - (c) He led them in the wilderness, instructed them, and kept them as the apple of His eye.
  - (d) He covered them under His wings as an eagle and prospered them as long as there were no foreign gods with them.
9. Then they made some poor choices:
  - (a) They grew fat, grew bloated, and became obese!
  - (b) They forsook God and scorned the Rock of salvation.
  - (c) They provoked Him to jealousy with foreign gods.

- (d) With abominations they provoked Him to anger.
- (e) They sacrificed to demons, to new gods. They became unmindful of the the Rock who begot them.
- (f) They forgot the God who fathered them.
- (g) They provoked Him to jealousy by their foolish idols.

**10. Then they had to be punished (as warned in Deut. 28):**

- (a) He will provoke them to jealousy by those who are not a nation.
- (b) His fire was kindled in anger, and shall burn to the lowest hell.
- (c) He will heap disasters on them.
- (d) They shall be wasted with hunger, devoured by pestilence and bitter destruction.
- (e) He will also send against them the teeth of beasts and the poison of serpents.
- (f) He will dash them in pieces.
- (g) The memory of them will cease from among men.

11. And in the midst of this punishment, Yahweh will be sure to never let Israel's enemies think they are responsible for their destruction.

12. It is their disregard of counsel that will cause all this and Yahweh wishes they were wise, that they understood this, and that they would consider the end result before they act!

13. The reason why one will chase a thousand is because their Rock has sold them out and surrendered them.
14. It will certainly happen that these calamities will come.
15. The bottom line is that Yahweh will judge His people and have compassion on His servants.
16. In the end, when all their power is gone, He will say: 'Where are your gods, the rock in which you sought refuge? Let them rise and help you, and be your refuge.'
17. They must recognize that He alone is God, that He alone kills and gives life, He alone wounds and heals.
18. And ultimately, Yahweh will bring down the hammer on those who hate Him.
19. **Moses Delivers the Song:** Set your hearts on all the words which I testify among you today, which you shall command your children to be careful to observe—all the words of this law. Do NOT minimize the magnitude of this testimony! For it is not a futile thing for you; it is a matter of life and death.
20. **It's Time for Moses to Die:** Moses is instructed to go die on the mountain as Aaron Did! And he is again reminded that because he did not hallow Yahweh in the midst of the children of Israel, he would not enter into the promised land. (See Numbers 20:1-13 or a complete teaching on the subject in [Juicy Rocks and Fiery Serpents](#)).

## THE WITNESS

**1. A quick reminder why Moses was instructed to write down this song and teach it to the people.** (For a complete teaching see sermon [The Spiritual Detective](#)).

**A. The Scroll and the Song—Two Witnesses are required to establish a matter... Deuteronomy 19:15**

**(1) The Scroll—the Commands of Yahweh (1<sup>st</sup> Witness)**

(a) Write down the law, read it to the people every seven years... Deuteronomy 31:9-11

(b) They have to hear it to know it and then fear Yahweh... Deuteronomy 31:12-13

(c) It is crucially important, as Yahweh knows the people will rebel and play harlot with foreign gods... Deuteronomy 31:16

(d) The scroll of the Law is to be placed next to the ark as a point of reference and to serve as a witness against the people when they rebel... Deuteronomy 31:26-27

**(2) The Song—The Testimony of the Rock (2<sup>nd</sup> Witness)**

(a) Write down the song so the people have no excuse for for their sins. Like the scroll of the the Law, the song will serve as a witness against the rebels... Deuteronomy 31:19



(b) The song will testify as a witness against the people, as Yahweh knows the inclination of their hearts, even before they cross into the promised land...

Deuteronomy 31:21

(c) Moses wrote this song the same day, and taught it to the children of Israel... Deuteronomy 31:22-23

**B. In the Song we are about to see...**

**(1) Nine times “The Rock” is mentioned in the Song (7 times referring to The Rock and 2 times the rock.)**

(a) Whereas the Scroll serves as the “Law Witness” because it is indeed the Book of the Law, the Song of Moses serves as the “Testimony Witness” because it points to the **Rock of Salvation**.

1. And they overcame him by the **blood of the Lamb** [*the Rock of our Salvation—see section 2*] and by the word of their **testimony**, and they did not love their lives to the death.” Revelation 12:11 NKJV

**(2) The Commands of Yahweh and the Testimony of Faith in Y’shua (Two Witnesses)**

(a) “And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, **who keep the commandments of God** [*The Law Witness—the book of the Law*] **and have the testimony of Jesus**

**Christ** [*The Testimony Witness—The Rock of Salvation*].”

Revelation 12:17 NKJV

- (b) “Here is the patience of the saints; here are those **who keep the commandments of God** [*The Law Witness—the book of the Law*] **and the faith of Jesus** [*The Testimony Witness—The Rock of Salvation*].” Revelation 14:12 NKJV

### C. The Song Begins

- (1) **Pay attention all of creation, I am about to proclaim the Name of Yahweh and ascribe greatness to Him and tell you He is the ROCK and the God of justice!**

- (a) “Then Moses spoke in the hearing of all the assembly of Israel the words of this song until they were ended:”

Deuteronomy 31:30 NKJV

- (b) “**Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak; And hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.** Let my teaching drop as the rain, My speech distill as the dew, As raindrops on the tender herb, And as showers on the grass. (3) **For I proclaim the name of the LORD: Ascribe greatness to our God. He is the Rock,** His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He. Deuteronomy 32:1-4 NKJV

### D. The Song in Review

**(1) A perverse and crooked generation!**

- (a) “They have corrupted themselves; They are not His children, Because of their blemish: **A perverse and crooked generation.** Deuteronomy 32:5 NKJV

**(2) A foolish and unwise people**

- (a) Do you thus deal with the LORD, O **foolish and unwise people?** Is He not your Father, who bought you? Has He not made you and established you? Deuteronomy 32:6 NKJV

**(3) Remember the days of old**

- (a) “**Remember the days of old,** Consider the years of many generations. Ask your father, and he will show you; Your elders, and they will tell you: When the Most High **divided their inheritance** to the nations, When He **separated the sons** of Adam, He **set the boundaries** of the peoples According to the number of the children of Israel. For the LORD’s portion is His people; Jacob is the place of His inheritance. Deuteronomy 32:7-9 NKJV
- (b) “He found him in a desert land and in the wasteland, a howling wilderness; He **encircled him,** He **instructed him,** He **kept him** as the apple of His eye. Deuteronomy 32:10 NKJV

**(4) Protection and Provision**

(a) **As an eagle stirs up its nest, Hovers over its young,**  
Spreading out its wings, taking them up, Carrying them  
on its wings, So the LORD alone led him, And there was  
**no foreign god with him.** “He made him ride in the  
heights of the earth, That he might **eat the produce of**  
**the fields;** He made him draw honey from the rock, And  
oil from the flinty rock; Curds from the cattle, and milk  
of the flock, With fat of lambs; And rams of the breed of  
Bashan, and goats, With the choicest wheat; And you  
drank wine, the blood of the grapes. Deuteronomy  
32:11-14 NKJV

(5) **And for all Yahweh did, they said, “Forget Yahweh—this is  
all about me!”**

(a) ““But Jeshurun [*upright one, a symbolic name for Israel  
describing her ideal character*] grew fat and kicked [*like  
a tantrum*]; You grew fat, you grew thick [*bloated*], You  
are obese [*gorged*]! Then he forsook God who made  
him, **And scornfully esteemed** [*lowered, dropped  
down, rejected, diminished, disregarded*] **the Rock of  
his salvation.** They provoked Him to jealousy with  
foreign gods; With abominations they provoked Him to  
anger. They sacrificed to demons, not to God, To gods  
they did not know, To new gods, new arrivals [*new*”

*things, something fresh, stimulating, exciting!]* that your fathers did not fear. **Of the Rock who begot you, you are unmindful**, And have forgotten the God who fathered you.” Deuteronomy 32:15-18 NKJV

(b) “And when the LORD saw it, **He spurned them**, Because of the provocation of His sons and His daughters. And He said: ‘**I will hide My face from them**, I will see what their end will be, For they are a perverse generation, Children in whom is no faith. Deuteronomy 32:19-20 NKJV

(c) They have provoked Me to jealousy by what is not God; They have moved Me to anger **by their foolish idols**. But I will provoke them to jealousy by those who are not a nation; I will move them to anger by a foolish nation. Deuteronomy 32:21 NKJV

#### **(6) The curses of Deuteronomy 28 in a song**

(a) **For a fire is kindled in My anger, And shall burn to the lowest hell**; It shall consume the earth with her increase, And set on fire the foundations of the mountains. ‘**I will heap disasters on them**; I will spend My arrows on them. They shall be wasted with hunger, Devoured by pestilence and bitter destruction; I will also send against them the teeth of beasts, With the

poison of serpents of the dust. The sword shall destroy  
outside; There shall be terror within For the young man  
and virgin, The nursing child with the man of gray hairs.

Deuteronomy 32:22-25 NKJV

**(7) Consider the outcome before you make a move**

- (a) I would have said, "I will dash them in pieces, I will  
make the memory of them to cease from among men,"  
Had I not feared the wrath of the enemy, Lest their  
adversaries should misunderstand, Lest they should say,  
"Our hand is high; And it is not the LORD who has  
done all this." ' "For they are a nation void of counsel,  
Nor is there any understanding in them. **Oh, that they  
were wise, that they understood this, That they would  
consider their latter end!** Deuteronomy 32:26-29 NKJV

**(8) For their rock is not like your Rock!**

- (a) How could one chase a thousand, And two put ten  
thousand to flight, Unless their Rock had sold them,  
**And the LORD had surrendered them? For their rock is  
not like our Rock,** Even our enemies themselves being  
judges. For their vine is of the vine of Sodom And of the  
fields of Gomorrah; Their grapes are grapes of gall, Their  
clusters are bitter. **Their wine is the poison of serpents,**

**And the cruel venom of cobras.** Deuteronomy 32:30-33  
NKJV

- (b) Is this not laid up in store with Me, Sealed up among My treasures? Vengeance is Mine, and recompense; Their foot shall slip in due time; For the day of their calamity is at hand, And the things to come hasten upon them.' "For the LORD will judge His people And have compassion on His servants, **When He sees that their power is gone, And there is no one remaining, bond or free. He will say: 'Where are their gods, The rock in which they sought refuge? Who ate the fat of their sacrifices, And drank the wine of their drink offering? Let them rise and help you, And be your refuge.**

Deuteronomy 32:34-38 NKJV

1. In the end, when all their power is gone, He will say: 'Where are your gods, the rock in which you sought refuge? Let them rise and help you, and be your refuge.
2. **Elijah mocked the prophets of Baal much like Yahweh mocked these false gods:** "Now Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one bull for yourselves and prepare it first, for you are many; and call on the name of your god, but put no fire under it. " So they

took the bull which was given them, and they prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even till noon, saying, "O Baal, hear us!" But there was no voice; no one answered. Then they leaped about the altar which they had made. And so it was, at noon, that **Elijah mocked them and said, "Cry aloud, for he is a god; either he is meditating, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened."**" I Kings 18:25-27 NKJV

#### **(9) There is no God like Yahweh**

- (a) Now see that I, even I, am He, **And there is no God besides Me**; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; Nor is there any who can deliver from My hand. For I raise My hand to heaven, And say, "As I live forever, If I whet My glittering sword, And My hand takes hold on judgment, I will render vengeance to My enemies, And repay those who hate Me. I will make My arrows drunk with blood, And My sword shall devour flesh, With the blood of the slain and the captives, From the heads of the leaders of the enemy." Deuteronomy 32:39-42 NKJV
1. "I, even I, am the LORD, **And besides Me there is no savior**. I have declared and saved, I have proclaimed,



And there was **no foreign god among you**; Therefore you are My witnesses," Says the LORD, "that I am God." Isaiah 43:11-12 NKJV

2. **To King Cyrus: "I am the LORD, and there is no other; There is no God besides Me.** I will gird you, though you have not known Me, That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting That **there is none besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other;** I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the LORD, do all these things. '" Isaiah 45:5-7 NKJV
3. **There is no other ROCK!** "No one is holy like the LORD, For **there is none besides You, Nor is there any rock like our God.**" 1 Samuel 2:2 NKJV
4. **There is no other ROCK!** "Do not fear, nor be afraid; Have I not told you from that time, and declared it? You are My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? **Indeed there is no other Rock;** I know not one. ' ""  
Isaiah 44:8 NKJV

**(10) In the end He will make it right!**

- (a) "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people; **For He will avenge the blood of His servants, And render vengeance to His adversaries;** He will provide

atonement for His land and His people.” Deuteronomy  
32:43 NKJV

**(11) Moses Delivers the Song—they are not futile words!**

(a) **“Set your hearts on all the words** which I testify among you today, which you shall command your children to be careful to observe—**all the words of this law**. For **it is not a futile thing for you, because it is your life**, and by this word you shall prolong your days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to possess.” Deuteronomy  
32:46-47 NKJV

1. **The words of this law are not a futile thing, they will not return void:** ““For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. “For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, **So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please**, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.” Isaiah  
55:9-11 NKJV

**(12) Moses is instructed to go die on the mountain just as Aaron did!** Deuteronomy 32:48-52

- (a) Moses is instructed to go die on the mountain Nebo just as Aaron did!
- (b) You can see the land from the mountain, but you cannot go in.
- (c) Remember, you, like Aaron will die outside the promised land because you dishonored Yahweh and made a poor witness at Meribah Kadesh when you struck the rock twice! (See Numbers 20:1-13 or a complete teaching on the subject in [Juicy Rocks and Fiery Serpents](#)).
- (d) And isn't that exactly what the Song of Moses testifies to...THE ROCK
  - 1. Overview of The Song of Moses
  - 2. The Song serves as a 2nd witness against the people as Yahweh knows they will rebel in the land and commit harlotry with other gods.
  - 3. **Two Witnesses: the commandments of God** [The Law Witness—the book of the Law] **and the Rock** [The Testimony Witness—The Rock of Salvation].

4. The Song encapsulates Yahweh's blessing and provision, the punishing curses for self-centered rebellion, and ultimate promise to restore His people
5. "But put on [*clothe yourselves—NIV*] the Lord Jesus Christ, and **make no provision for the flesh** [*do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh—NIV*], **to fulfill its lusts** [*to gratify its desires—ESV*]."
 

Romans 13:14 NKJV

## THE ROCK

### 2. The Rock in the Song of Moses is the Rock of our Testimony

#### A. Rock vs. rock

##### (1) The Nine Rocks in the Song

- (a) "He is the **Rock**, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He." Deuteronomy 32:4 NKJV
- (b) "He made him ride in the heights of the earth, That he might eat the produce of the fields; He made him draw honey from the **rock**, And oil from the flinty **rock**;"
 

Deuteronomy 32:13 NKJV
- (c) "But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked; You grew fat, you grew thick, You are obese! Then he forsook God who

made him, And scornfully esteemed the **Rock** of his salvation." Deuteronomy 32:15 NKJV

(d) "Of the **Rock** who begot you, you are unmindful, And have forgotten the God who fathered you."

Deuteronomy 32:18 NKJV

(e) "How could one chase a thousand, And two put ten thousand to flight, Unless their **Rock** had sold them, And the LORD had surrendered them?" Deuteronomy 32:30 NKJV

(f) "For their **rock** is not like our **Rock**, Even our enemies themselves being judges." Deuteronomy 32:31 NKJV

(g) "He will say: 'Where are their gods, The **rock** in which they sought refuge?" Deuteronomy 32:37 NKJV

## (2) A small sample of The Rock in Scripture

(a) "Then they remembered that **God was their rock**, And the Most High God their Redeemer." Psalms 78:35 NKJV

(b) "The God of Israel said, **The Rock of Israel** spoke to me: 'He who rules over men must be just, Ruling in the fear of God.'" II Samuel 23:3 NKJV

(c) "And he said: "**The LORD is my rock** and my fortress and my deliverer;" II Samuel 22:2 NKJV

1. **"The LORD is my rock** and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the **horn of my salvation**, my stronghold." Psalms 18:2 NKJV
- (d) "Are You not from everlasting, O LORD my God, my Holy One? We shall not die. O LORD, You have appointed them for judgment; **O Rock**, You have marked them for correction." Habakkuk 1:12 NKJV
- (e) "For who is God, except the LORD? **And who is a rock, except our God?"** II Samuel 22:32 NKJV
  1. "For who is God, except the LORD? **And who is a rock, except our God?"** Psalms 18:31 NKJV
- (f) "The LORD lives! **Blessed be my Rock!** Let God be exalted, The Rock of my salvation!" II Samuel 22:47 NKJV
  1. "The LORD lives! **Blessed be my Rock!** Let the God of my salvation be exalted." Psalms 18:46 NKJV
- (g) "He only is my **rock and my salvation**; He is my defense; I shall not be greatly moved." Psalms 62:2 NKJV
- (h) "No one is holy like the LORD, For there is none besides You, **Nor is there any rock like our God.**" I Samuel 2:2 NKJV

- (i) “Do not fear, nor be afraid; Have I not told you from that time, and declared it? You are My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? **Indeed there is no other Rock**; I know not one. ’ ”” Isaiah 44:8 NKJV
- (j) “Be my strong refuge, To which I may resort continually; You have given the commandment to save me, **For You are my rock** and my fortress.” Psalms 71:3 NKJV
- (k) “But the LORD has been my defense, And **my God the rock of my refuge.**” Psalms 94:22 NKJV

## **B. Y’shua is the Rock—Indeed there is no other Rock!**

### **(1) And that Rock was Christ**

- (a) “Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that **all our fathers** were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, **all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink.** For they drank of that **spiritual Rock** [*feminine petra*] that followed them, **and that Rock** [*feminine petra*] **was Christ.**” I Corinthians 10:1-4 NKJV
- (b) “Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are **Peter** [*masculine Petros*], and on

**this rock** [*feminine petra*] I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:17-18 NKJV

(c) **Yahweh is the Rock—Y'shua is the Rock? Yes!** "I, even I, am the LORD, **And besides Me there is no savior.**"

Isaiah 43:11 NKJV

(d) "Do not fear, nor be afraid; Have I not told you from that time, and declared it? You are My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? **Indeed there is no other Rock;** I know not one. ' ""' Isaiah 44:8 NKJV

## (2) **The Chief Cornerstone**

(a) At least 7 times Y'shua is referred to as the **chief cornerstone** in the New Testament...Maybe none greater or of more importance than this:

(b) "Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone**, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit."

Ephesians 2:19-22 NKJV



(c) The Chief Cornerstone from Isaiah and David:

1. “Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: “Behold, I lay in Zion a **stone for a foundation, A tried stone, a precious cornerstone**, a sure foundation; Whoever believes will not act hastily.” Isaiah 28:16 NKJV
2. “The stone which the builders rejected Has become **the chief cornerstone**. This was the LORD’s doing; It is marvelous in our eyes.” Psalms 118:22-23 NKJV

(d) Justice follows the Rock

1. **Continuing in Isaiah 28 (the next verse):** “Also I will **make justice the measuring line**, And righteousness the plummet; The hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, And the waters will overflow the hiding place.” Isaiah 28:17 NKJV
2. **Justice in The Song of Moses:** “Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak; And hear, O earth, the words of my **mouth**. Let my teaching drop as the rain, My speech distill as the dew, As raindrops on the tender herb, And as showers on the grass. (3) **For I proclaim the name of the LORD:** Ascribe greatness to our God. He is the Rock, His work is perfect; **For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice;**

Righteous and upright is He. Deuteronomy 32:1-4  
NKJV

### (3) Stone of Stumbling, Rock of Offense

(a) “He will be as a sanctuary, But a **stone of stumbling and a rock of offense** To both the houses of Israel, As a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.” Isaiah 8:14  
NKJV

1. “Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that **stumbling stone**. As it is written: “**Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense**, And whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.””  
Romans 9:32-33 NKJV

(b) Peter Brings it all together... The Chief Cornerstone, The Stone of Stumbling, and The Rock of Offense

1. “Coming to Him as to a **living stone**, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and **precious**, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, “**Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone**, elect, **precious**, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.”

Therefore, to you who believe, He is **precious** [*Isaiah 28:16 calls Him the precious cornerstone*]; but to those who are disobedient, **“The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone,”** and **“A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense.”** They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed.” I Peter 2:4-8 NKJV

(c) Now you can see the Song of Moses in the Sermon on the Mount

1. **Sermon on the Mount: Whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them...** “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a **wise man who built his house on the rock:** [*feminine petran*] and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, **for it was founded on the rock.**” [*feminine petran*] Matthew 7:24-25 NKJV
2. **Song of Moses:**
  - i. **“Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak; And hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.** Let my teaching drop as the rain, My speech distill as the dew, As raindrops on the tender herb, And as showers on

- the grass. (3) **For I proclaim the name of the LORD: Ascribe greatness to our God. He is the Rock, His work is perfect;** For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He. Deuteronomy 32:1-4 NKJV
- ii. “He found him in a desert land And in the wasteland, a howling wilderness; **He encircled him, He instructed him, He kept him as the apple of His eye.** Deuteronomy 32:10NKJV
- iii. “**As an eagle** stirs up its nest, **Hovers over its young, Spreading out its wings, taking them up, Carrying them** on its wings,” Deuteronomy 32:11 NKJV
- iv. “**He made him ride in the heights of the earth,** That he might eat the produce of the fields; He made him draw honey from the rock, And oil from the flinty rock; Deuteronomy 32:13 NKJV
3. **Sermon on the Mount: But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them...** “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, **and does not do them, will be like a foolish man** who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the

floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes."

Matthew 7:26-29 NKJV

4. **Song of Moses:**

i. "They have corrupted themselves; They are not His children, Because of their blemish: **A perverse and crooked generation.** Do you thus deal with the LORD, O **foolish and unwise people?** Is He not your Father, who bought you? Has He not made you and established you? Deuteronomy 32:5-6 NKJV

ii. "But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked; You grew fat, you grew thick, You are obese! **Then he forsook God who made him, And scornfully esteemed the Rock** of his salvation. Deuteronomy 32:15 NKJV

iii. **Of the Rock who begot you, you are unmindful,** And have forgotten the God who fathered you. Deuteronomy 32:18 NKJV

iv. And He said: 'I will hide My face from them, I will see what their end will be, **For they are a perverse**

**generation, Children in whom is no faith.**

Deuteronomy 32:20 NKJV

- v. **'I will heap disasters on them;** I will spend My arrows on them." Deuteronomy 32:23 NKJV

#### **(4) What happens when you abandon the Rock**

(a) You forget Yahweh and it becomes all ABOUT YOU!

1. Summary of The Rock
2. The Rock is referenced seven times in The Song of Moses (the rock, two times)
3. The Rock of Israel, the Rock of Salvation, the Rock of refuge is referenced throughout the entire Old Testament.
4. There is one God who is the only Rock and Y'shua is that Rock!
5. Paul and Peter teach us that it is Y'shua who is that ROCK. He is the Chief Cornerstone, The Stone of Stumbling, and the Rock of Offense.
6. Y'shua Himself teaches us to build our lives on Him as the Rock.
7. "But put on [*clothe yourselves—NIV*] the Lord Jesus Christ, and **make no provision for the flesh** [*do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh—*

*NIV*], **to fulfill its lusts** [*to gratify its desires—ESV*]."

Romans 13:14 NKJV

## SELFIE CHRISTIANITY

### 3. Not YOUR Will but MY Will be Done!

#### A. It's all about me!

##### (1) If it's no longer about Him it must be about me!

- (a) ""But Jeshurun [*upright one, a symbolic name for Israel describing her ideal character*] **grew fat and kicked** [*like a tantrum*]; You grew fat, you grew **thick** [*bloated*], You are **obese** [*gorged*]! Then he forsook God who made him, **And scornfully esteemed** [*rejected, diminished, disregarded, lowered, dropped down*] **the Rock of his salvation** [*\*the Rock of salvation became and Rock of offense—ultimately Y'shua*]. They provoked Him to jealousy with foreign gods; With abominations they provoked Him to anger. They sacrificed to demons, not to God, To gods they did not know, To new gods, new arrivals [*going after new things, something fresh, stimulating, exciting!*] that your fathers did not fear. **Of the Rock who begot you, you are unmindful**, And have forgotten the God who fathered you." Deuteronomy 32:15-18 NKJV

1. \*"Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that **stumbling stone**. As it is written: "**Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense**, And whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."

Romans 9:32-33 NKJV

**(2) When you become "unmindful of Yahweh" it becomes all about you! Do this and He will Hide His face from you!**

- (a) "And when the LORD saw it, He spurned them, Because of the provocation of His sons and His daughters. And He said: '**I will hide My face from them**, I will see what their end will be, For they are a perverse generation, Children in whom is no faith. Deuteronomy 32:19-20 NKJV

- (a) "**Righteous lips are the delight of kings**, And they love him who speaks what is right. As messengers of death is the king's wrath, But a wise man will appease it. **In the light of the king's face is life**, And his favor is like a cloud of the latter rain. How much better to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver. The highway of the upright is to depart from evil; He who keeps his way preserves his soul. **Pride goes before**



**destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall."**

Proverbs 16:13-18 NKJV

### **(3) Your Foolish Idols**

- (a) They have provoked Me to jealousy by what is not God; They have moved Me to anger **by their foolish idols**. But I will provoke them to jealousy by those who are not a nation; I will move them to anger by a foolish nation.

Deuteronomy 32:21 NKJV

1. Summary: It's all about me!
  2. You grow spiritually fat, bloated, and obese and ultimately throw tantrums like a child.
  3. You scornfully reject the Rock of Salvation.
  4. You provoke Yahweh to jealousy and anger with foreign gods and abominations.
  5. You sacrifice to demons and go after anything that is new and exciting.
  6. You become unmindful of the Rock who begot you.
  7. Then He hides His face from you as you enjoy your foolish idols.
- (h) **Righteous lips are the delight of kings...In the light of the king's face is life...Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall!**

**B. When you become your own god, you are open to every type of deception.**

**(1) Manmade philosophy and empty deceit or all His hidden treasures?**

- (a) “For I want you to know what a great conflict I have for **you and those in Laodicea**, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh, that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. **Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words. For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.** As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. **Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to \*the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. For in Him dwells all the fullness of the**

**Godhead bodily**; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.” Colossians 2:1-10 NKJV

(b) **What red flag did Paul see in the church? He saw what John ultimately saw in Revelation!**

1. “And to the angel of the church of the **Laodiceans** write, ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: **“I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’** *\*[the basic principles of the world]***—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—** I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and **white garments, that you may be clothed** *[Clothe yourself in Christ, like Romans 13:14]*, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If

anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. **“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”**

Revelation 3:14-22 NKJV

**(2) The Course Correction Came in Christ as the Passover**

**Lamb** (death, burial and resurrection—also see Romans 6).

- (a) “Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. **For indeed Christ, our Passover,** was sacrificed for us.” I

Corinthians 5:7 NKJV

- (b) “In Him you were also **\*circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, buried with Him** in baptism, in which you also were **raised with Him** through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the **handwriting of requirements that was against us,** which

was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it." Colossians 2:11-15 NKJV

- (c) \*Of special interest is the law requiring all men (both Jew and Gentile as there is ONE LAW for both) who wish to participate in the Passover to be circumcised (Exodus 12:48-49)! And isn't that exactly what Colossians 2:11 says happened?

*\*"And when a stranger dwells with you and wants to **keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised**, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as a native of the land. **For no uncircumcised person shall eat it. One law shall be for the native-born and for the stranger** who dwells among you."\** Exodus 12:48-49 NKJV

### **(3) We are to Judge the Church if we go off course!**

- (a) "So let **no one judge you** in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, which are a shadow of things to come, **but the substance [body] \*is of Christ [but the Body of Christ].\***" Colossians 2:16-17 NKJV

\*[**Special Note:** you can remove the word 'is' in verse 17 as it was added for clarity and is not needed when this verse is interpreted correctly; and replace 'substance' with 'body' as it is literary what the Greek word (sōma) means here (Body; the body of the Church), *"Let no one judge you...but the body of Christ."* In other words, the verse does not say no one should judge you, but rather, as a Christian, **ONLY** the body of Christ should judge you. This is consistent with what scriptures teach about who we should be judging and who shall judge us. *"For what have I to do with **judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside?** But those who are outside God judges. Therefore *"put away from yourselves the evil person."*" (I Corinthians 5:12-13) We are further warned to not be hypocrites while we judge (See Matthew 7:1-5 and Romans 2:1-3). However, in the end, we will participate in judging the world, so we ought to be able to rightly judge one another now (the Church judging the Church). *"Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? **Do you not****

***know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?" (1 Corinthians 6:1-2)***

Stepping into this role, and don't be mistaken, it is our role, takes spiritual maturity. *"But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one."* (1 Corinthians 2:15)

**(4) Don't do what they did in the wilderness!**

(a) **"Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen,** vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God." Colossians 2:18-19 NKJV

1. **The Song of Moses:** They provoked Him to jealousy with **foreign gods**; With **abominations** they provoked Him to anger. They **sacrificed to demons**, not to God, To gods they did not know, **To new gods, new arrivals** *[going after the new, exciting and fresh things]* that your fathers did not fear. Deuteronomy 32:16-17

**(5) Do not subject yourself to the commandments and doctrines of men!**

(a) “Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, **do you subject yourselves to regulations**— “Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,” which all concern things which perish with the using— **according to the commandments and doctrines of men?** These things indeed have an **appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion**, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.” Colossians 2:20-23 NKJV

1. **The Song of Moses:** “They have provoked Me to jealousy by what is not God; **They have moved Me to anger by their foolish idols.** But I will provoke them to jealousy by those who are not a nation; I will move them to anger by a foolish nation.”  
Deuteronomy 32:21 NKJV

### C. **“My Life Matters”**

(1) **Narcissistic Christianity “It’s all about me!” A divided powerless church that bows to lies, confusion and evil of self-worship.**

- (a) For all **seek their own**, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:21

(2) **Except for this one little problem....**



(a) “I have been crucified with Christ; **it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me;** and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” Galatians 2:20 NKJV

1. I’ve been crucified with Christ! Darn crucified thing. It gets in the way of my freedom to have my own version of Christianity. It’s easier to do my own thing. If I can start a new religion, one that makes...**sacrifices to demons and allows other, new gods, new arrivals, new and exciting things!**

Deuteronomy 32:16-17

(b) Seeking your own destroys Unity!

1. “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, **endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.** There is **one body** and **one Spirit**, just as you were called in **one hope** of your calling; **one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God** and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

Ephesians 4:1-6 NKJV

#### D. “Others’ Lives Matter” (the remedy for narcissism)

## (1) Esteem others better

- (a) “Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. **Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.**” Philippians 2:1-4 NKJV

## (2) The treatment for Narcissism

- (a) “**Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,** who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but **made Himself of no reputation**, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, **He humbled Himself** and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus **every knee should bow**, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, **and that every tongue should confess**

that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Philippians 2:5-11 NKJV

1. Summary: Selfie Christianity
2. Quote from a friend relaying the vision of his local church: “We take you from corporate encounters to daily personal encounters.”
3. When it is no longer about Him (when you are unmindful of Him) it will become about you!
4. You will chase foolish idols and be open to every type of deception.
5. As the Church we are to judge the Church!
6. My Life Matters vs. Others’ Lives Matter
7. The course correction for *“For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.”* (Philippians 2:21) is *“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”* (Philippians 2:3-4)
8. One Body—One Faith!
9. Treatment for Narcissism—let this mind be in you which was also in Christ...

10. "But put on [*clothe yourselves—NIV*] the Lord Jesus Christ, and **make no provision for the flesh** [*do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh—NIV*], **to fulfill its lusts** [*to gratify its desires—ESV*]." Romans 13:14 NKJV

## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

### 1. Why does the Song of Moses serve as the second witness?

- A. What are the promises and warnings in the song?
- B. Why is the Rock mentioned seven times in the song?
- C. Contrast "the Rock" with "the rock".

### 2. Discuss Y'shua as the Rock:

- A. How is He the Rock of Israel, of Salvation, and of Refuge?
- B. How is He the Chief Cornerstone, Stone of Stumbling, and Rock of Offense?
- C. What does it mean to build your house on the Rock?
- D. Compare and contrast Peter as the rock and Y'shua as the Rock.

### 3. What happens when you become "unmindful of Yahweh?"

- A. Who or what becomes your main focus?
- B. How does it make you vulnerable to manmade philosophies and empty deceit?

- C. Compare the warning to the church in Laodicea in the letter to the Colossians to John's revelation about the lukewarm Laodicean church in Revelation 3:14-22.

**4. What is the course correction for selfie Christianity?**

- A. Contrast a "My Life Matters" church to an "Others' Lives Matter" church.
- B. How does the hyper-focus on "personal encounters" with God lead to narcissistic Christianity?

**5. Map out a personal plan to institute Paul's words in Romans 13:14.**

- A. "But put on *[clothe yourselves]* the Lord Jesus Christ, and **make no provision for the flesh** *[do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh]*, **to fulfill its lusts** *[to gratify its desires]."*