



MONTHLY PONDERINGS

From the Older Adult Ministry
Of the Kentucky Conference

Our Tower of Strength

*“Be my rock of safety where I can always hide.
Give the order to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.”*

Psalm 71:3

A few years ago my husband and I took a cross-country car trip to the west coast and on our way home stopped to see Devils Tower. Located near Hulett, Wyoming, Devil’s Tower is a solitary, stump-shaped granite formation that looms 1,267 feet above the tree-lined Belle Fourche River Valley. It’s smooth face makes it the premier rock climbing challenge in the Black Hills.

As a Christian, I cannot view Devils Tower without thinking of the many verses in the Psalms describing God as our rock and fortress. The sheer size and shape of this mammoth rock is a vivid picture of the strength of God. The near impossibility of climbing it makes Devils Tower a unique picture of God as our fortress. Those atop Devils Tower had little worry about being successfully attacked. Those enfolded in God’s arms have little worry about the same thing.

The author of this Psalm was a believer who had enemies and needed the Lord’s help and protection. He was probably past middle age and was greatly concerned about the burdens of growing older (v 9, 18). He wanted to end well. From birth he had been sustained by the Lord (v 6), and in his youth he had been taught by the Lord (v 17). The writer does not want to run away and hide from life but receive the strength needed to face life with its challenges. In verse 3 we are assured that we can always come to God. God is always faithful and will always be our rock and fortress. We can always count on Him no matter what is happening in our lives.

Look at a picture of Devils Tower or, better yet, visit it yourself. You’ll understand what the psalmist had in mind when he described God as his rock and fortress. Then, take the time right now to thank God for being your strong refuge.

“A mighty fortress is our God.....”

Rev. Sue Eaton

Prayer: You are my rock and my fortress, Lord. Never let me be put to shame by seeking shelter in anything or anyone but you. Thank you. In Jesus' name. Amen

To Ponder and Discuss:

1. When you think of God being your rock and fortress, what words, phrases, or images come to your mind?
2. Think about your faith walk with God. How has He been your rock and your fortress in the past?
3. How does recounting the Lord's faithfulness in the past help entrust your future to Him?