

*Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. --Isaiah 51:1*

Remember where you have come from, O people of God. Remember who made you and gave you life. When times are tough in life especially, we are reminded where our strength and hope really come from. They come from the Lord.

Here Isaiah compares us to solid rock that comes from the quarry. The rock is an expression of where it came from. Rock is permanent and strong. Those of us who know we are made in the image and likeness of God can take heart. God did not “bring us out of the quarry” just to crush us to dust, but to build a house of God. In other words, your life is a witness to the creator and giver of life. Don’t be tempted to allow the circumstances of this life to make you forget who made you and from whom you have come.

Isaiah was speaking to people who had been forced into exile. They were ripped from their homeland and their talents were being exploited for the benefit of a foreign king. They were tempted to despair but Isaiah reminded them that God was there as well. Just as granite remains granite, no matter how far it has been taken from the quarry, God is still God, no matter what is happening in life, and the people of God (specifically YOU) are still under God's care. Unlike granite, however, that is removed from its quarry to be used, the people of God cannot be taken out of God's presence. There is nowhere that is not God. Nothing can separate you from your creator. Or as Paul wrote to the Romans: Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus... not death, nor danger, nor war or famine or anything else that might happen in life. “Listen to me” says the Lord. “I am with you.” Keep the faith.

Blessings to you,

Pastor Karla

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