

God is Our Rock

- Faithful, reliable, constant, trustworthy
- Dt 32.4 He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He.

 Ps 92.15 - The Lord is upright; He is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in Him.

• Isa 26.4 - Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.



God is Our Rock

 A refuge in which people take shelter from difficulty; speaks to strength and protection

• **Ps 62.1-2:** Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from Him. Truly He is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will never be shaken.

• **Ps 18.2** - The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.



God is Our Shepherd

Speaks to love, care, provision, protection

Ps 23.1-4: The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.



The Lost

 Their trouble – wandering in the wilderness (dangerous place); hungry and thirsty

Their redemption – being settled in a city (safety) and having their thirst/hunger satisfied with good things

 For us – before Jesus many of us would describe ourselves as wandering; looking for something to satisfy deep hunger/thirst in our hearts



The Enslaved

Their trouble – chained in dark prisons due to their rebellion against God

 Their redemption – being brought out of darkness and having their chains broken

 For us – before Jesus many of us would describe ourselves as enslaved – to sinful thoughts/behaviors, to fear/anxiety, to addiction



The Afflicted

 Their trouble – affliction (state of anxiety/distress) rooted in foolishness (disregarding the Truth)

 Their redemption – healing of afflictions and rescue from the grave

 For us – before submitting to Jesus our unwillingness to follow Him led many of us into all kinds of struggles



The Helpless/Overwhelmed

 Their trouble – a storm that is too big to handle

 Their redemption – calming the storm and guiding them to their desired port (save haven)

 For us – before Jesus many of us were overwhelmed by the circumstances of our lives



The Wandering/Lost

Father, I thank You because You are good and Your Love towards me endures forever.

Thank You Jesus for delivering me from my trouble and distress.

Thank You for settling me in Your family, for satisfying my thirst and hunger with good things, for being my Good Shepherd.



Those in Dark Prisons

Father, I thank You because You are good and Your love towards me endures forever.

Thank You Jesus for delivering me from my trouble and distress.

Thank You for

- bringing me out of the darkness
- for breaking the chains that bound me
- for being my Light.



The Afflicted

Father, I thank You because You are good and Your love towards me endures forever.

Thank You Jesus for delivering me from my trouble and distress.

Thank You -

- for healing my afflictions,
- for rescuing me from the grave,
- for being my Way, Truth, and Life.



The Helpless

Father, I thank You because You are good and Your love towards me endures forever.

Thank You Jesus for delivering me from my trouble and distress.

Thank You-

- for calming the storms of my life,
- for guiding me to safe havens,
- for being my Prince of Peace.



Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, You made us in Your image, to love and to be loved.

When we turned away, and our love failed, Your love remained steadfast.

By the suffering, death, and resurrection of Your only Son Jesus Christ You delivered us from slavery to sin and death and made us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.



On the night in which Jesus gave Himself up for us He took bread, gave thanks to You, broke the bread, gave it to His disciples, and said: Take, eat; this is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.

Eat the bread

When the supper was over, He took the cup, gave thanks to You, gave it to His disciples, and said: Drink from this, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of Me.

Drink the juice



And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Jesus' offering for us. Amen.



Thanking God in our circumstances

• 1 Thes 5.18 – give thanks *in* all circumstances for this is God's will for us

• **Ps 40.1-3:** I waited patiently for the Lord; He turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in Him.