

Names of God part 21

Name: Sur or Petra (Tsoor or Pet'-ra)

Passage: Psalm 61; 18:46

Has there ever been a time where you have been filled with fear and grief? This is exactly where David is when he cries out, "when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I." David knew that our God is a Rock of safety and refuge when the waves of life are crashing in around us. Here he introduces us to this very valuable fact in yet another name of God.

Sur is the rock or foundation of our salvation. It was Sur who delivered us up out of the "horrible pit" of sin (Psalm 40:1-4). This is something that we like David can praise our God for! (Psalm 62:1-2, vs. 6-8) Just like Sur did for David, He will also deliver us from our enemies. (II Samuel 22:1-4, vs. 30-32, vs. 47)

Also, Sur is our eternal source of strength to fight the battles of life. Sur is always available to provide strength in the midst of the storms of life. (Psalm 61:1-4) One of the many ways that Sur provides this strength is through answering our prayers. (Psalm 28:1-2) There is no better way to build up our strength than to let us know that He has heard and answered our prayers.

Lastly, Sur or Petra is the foundation on which the New Testament church was built. Jesus declared himself to be Petra and to be the enormous foundation Rock upon which the church is built. (Matthew 16:13-18) As we follow this Rock and obey Him in His command to go and teach all nations, we find that it is this same Rock that is the same "rock of offence" to world which we are trying to reach. (Romans 9:33; I Peter 2:8)

Sur, we thank you for being the One who has pulled us from such a horrible pit of sin, for than giving us the strength we need to live each day, and for being the very foundation for the church in which we worship You. You are a great and loving God. To think that you would give all this to us despite how unworthy we are of it! Cause to always flee to you for refuge in the storms of life and not run from You or blame You for the storms. Sur, you are truly and awesome God!