

I twas a howling wilderness of sin through which the children of Israel journeyed centuries ago. They were not a few in numbers but a countless multitude – more than twenty lakhs of people including women and children. Besides, they carried with them several lakhs of cattle. They were on their way to possess a land flowing with milk and honey. En route, they pitched their tents in Rephidim: and there was no water for the people to drink, for their little ones and for their cattle. They were all exhausted and thirsted for water. They saw nothing but barren desert and cried unto Moses, the man who led them under Jehovah.

Moses cried unto the LORD and the LORD said, "Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it that the people may drink". Moses smote the rock as commanded by the LORD and the fountains opened, water gushed out; they ran in the dry places like a river. The people drank and were satisfied. It was an amazing miracle of Grace and mercy that the LORD had shown to the people, despite their murmurings.

The apostle Paul says that the Rock was Christ and it was a type of Him, who came into this world to give living waters to the multitude, which are perishing in their sins. The Lord Jesus Christ "was smitten of God, "wounded for our transgressions," and "bruised for our iniquities" (Isaiah 53:4, 5) and by His death on the

cross, "a fountain opened . . . for sin and for uncleanness" (Zechariah 13:1).

Jesus is the radiance of God's glory and the express image of His being, and was sentenced to death because of our sins and was raised again for our justification. Because you and I are sinners, you and I are destined to go to hell, the place where all Christ rejecters are destined to go to their eternal doom. As the Psalmist said, "I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me". Therefore we have no hope of attaining 'Moksha' or 'eternal life' or 'salvation' except through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Come to the waters, you who are heavy laden with the cares of this world and are weary of your sins...... come. Oh! my dear readers, if you did not yet drink of the fountain of living waters yet, come now, come to Christ, confess your sins to Him, receive Him in your heart and drink of the fountain of living waters, right now here. If you declare with your mouth that "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Revelation 22:17) and flee from the everlasting torments of hell fire.

 Kumaru Nadasen, a legal consultant lives in Thane, Maharashtra.

