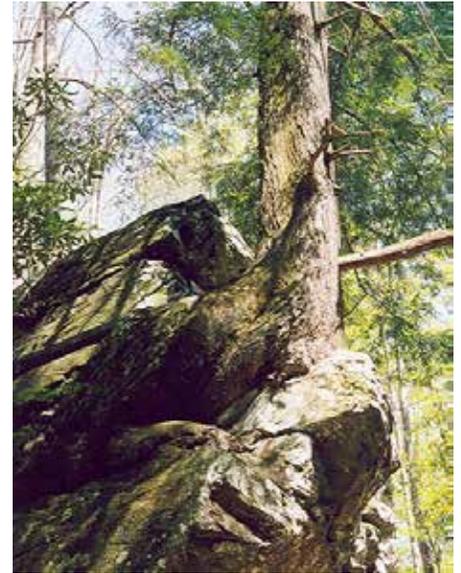


"Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." Colossians 2:7 KJV

Roots anchor and supply the leaves and branches with nourishment. Without roots, there could be no fruit. The life of the tree is determined by the root. Leaves wither, fruit falls, and branches can be broken, but if the root is good, the tree will be restored. If roots are in soft miry clay, the tree has no strength. I grew up in the Amazon Rain Forest. It was not uncommon for trees of great height and girth to come crashing down in a rain storm, because they had no tap roots or firm ground for anchor. Houses were built well away from the jungle perimeter because of the specific danger posed by falling trees. If roots are embedded in rock, it may bend, but the tree will not be moved in any storm! Roots are not the visible part of the tree. Hidden underground, they work secretly and tirelessly seeking water and nutrients, but their work is evident to all: The shade of the branches, the sweetness of the fruit, the strength of the trunk, and the beauty of the flower are only possible with a good root. If roots find no water, the tree dies. Water is key to survival. If our lives are not rooted in the water of God's Word, we will fail and fall at the first onslaught of contrary wind. Jesus is God's Word incarnate. *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of Grace and Truth."* Jesus told us, *"Without me, ye can do nothing."* If you neglect, ignore, or disobey God's Word, you will not please God! *"Faith cometh by...the Word of God. Without faith it is IMPOSSIBLE to please [God]!"* IF we are *"rooted and built up in [Christ], God's Word"* nothing will move us from the Rock of our salvation! An empty mind is easily filled with whatever passes. To empty your mind of evil you must FILL IT with Truth! With faith we will smile calmly at fierce clouds that block the light, knowing the same gale that brought them will surely drive them away. Once again we will bathe in the glorious Son Light and be refreshed by the *"water from the rock."* The tree only has to stand. It cannot move, else, it will wither and die. A tree cannot run from the storm. It must remain where there is a solid footing if it is to weather storms, but remember, the storms bring water to the rooted tree. Tender plants must be protected until they have a "good root." Once the root is established, it can survive the strongest winds. If the root is stable, the tree is stable. *"A doubleminded man is unstable in ALL his ways."* History only remembers those with a single passion and purpose! Make Christ your singular passion and purpose and you will make history!



Drinking the water from the Rock;
With roots embedded in its length,
The tree will stand through ev'ry shock,
And conquer all with mighty strength. ~CGP

Jesus is *"the Word, the Way, the Truth, the Life, the Door, the Bread of life, the Good Shepherd,"* and He is Almighty God. If Christ is my stability, *"I shall not be moved!"*

"That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God." Ephesians 3:17-19 KJV