



THE CHURCH AT ELLERSLIE
SUNDAY SERMON NOTES

ERIC LUDY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

THE NOBLE BROW

the formation of a forehead firmer than flint



The Brow

a.k.a. - the forehead

Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads. As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.

Ezekiel 3:8-9

Understanding the Spiritual Forehead

it's the Place of Declared Defiance, Determined Position

Here I stand!

Against God . . .

Because I knew that thou art obstinate, and thy neck is an iron sinew, and thy brow brass .

..

Isaiah 48:4

And he (the second beast) causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Revelation 13:16-17

Against Darkness . . .

And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.

Ezekiel 9:4

Behold, I have made thy face strong against their faces, and thy forehead strong against their foreheads. As an adamant harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.

Ezekiel 3:8-9

Introducing a Key Word - *Adamant*

Adamant |'adəmənt|

1. refusing to be persuaded or to change one's mind
2. a legendary rock of marvelous quality and strength, often thought to be either diamond or lodestone

As an **adamant** harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.

Ezekiel 3:9

Flint, the hardest stone in Palestine, was used by Israel for knives (Josh. 5:2–3) and other implements.

C. H. Dyer

The Bible Knowledge Commentary

What's Harder than Flint?

Introducing a rock known as *Adámas*

αδάμας – Adámas

Meaning "unbreakable" - we know it as *Diamond*. *Diamond* is renowned as a material with superlative physical qualities - the highest hardness and thermal conductivity of any bulk material, and thus the perfect element with which to cut and polish tools.

The Mark of the Beast

the counterfeit mark

Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number *is* 666.

Revelation 13:18

This evil trinity 666 apes the Holy Trinity 777, but always falls short and fails

Thomas F. Torrance

The Mark of God

the insignia of the redeemed

And I put a jewel on thy forehead . . .

Ezekiel 16:12a

For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak.

Isaiah 59:17

God's Mark is Greater

His Number trumps the Devils', His Material is stronger, His Strength greater

We read of a stag that roamed about in the greatest security, by reason of its having a label on its neck, "*Touch me not, I belong to Caesar*": thus the true servants of God are always safe, even among lions, bears, serpents, fire, water, thunder, and tempests; for all creatures know and reverence the shadow of God.

Bellarmino

The Secret of the Noble Brow

I belong to God!

I trust God!

I am with Him!

Here I stand - In Him!

Wearing the Mark upon your Forehead

The LORD is my light and my salvation; so whom shall I fear?

the LORD is the strength of my life; so, of whom shall I be afraid? (Psalm 27:1)

Though a host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear:

though war should rise against me, I remain confident in my God. (Psalm 27:3)

Because God will never leave me or forsake me (Hebrews 13:5)

He is able also to save me to the uttermost because I come unto God by Him (Hebrews 7:25)

and He ever lives to make intercession for me (Hebrews 7:25)

God is my refuge and strength, a very present help in my trouble.

Therefore, I will not fear, though the earth be removed,

and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea (Psalm 46:1-2)

And no weapon that is formed against me shall prosper; and every tongue

that shall rise against me in judgment God shall condemn. (Isaiah 54:17)

The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? (Psalm 118:6)

The Furrowed Brow vs. The Noble Brow

. . . with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

James 1:17b

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever.

Hebrews 13:8

Ametathetos - [ä-me-tä'-the-tos]

Immutable, fixed, unchanging, unalterable, without variance

Wherein God, willing more abundantly to show unto the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us . . .

Hebrews 6:17-18

1. *He Promised*
2. *He Cannot Lie*

The Triumphant Jesus is . . .

The Rock (Matthew 16:18), My Strong Rock (Psalm 31:2), The Rock of Ages (Isaiah 26:4), The Rock that is higher than I (Psalm 61:2), My Rock and my Fortress (Psalm 31:3), The Rock of my Strength (Psalm 62:7), The Rock of my Refuge (Psalm 94:22), A Rock of Habitation (Psalm 71:3), The Rock of my Heart (Psalm 73:26), The Rock of my Salvation (2 Samuel 22:47), My Rock and my Redeemer (Psalm 19:14), That Spiritual Rock (1 Corinthians 10:4), A Shadow from the Heat (Isaiah 25:4), A Stone (Isaiah 28:16), A Living Stone (1 Peter 2:4), A Tried Stone (Isaiah 28:16), A Chief Corner-stone (1 Peter 2:6), A Precious Stone (1 Peter 2:6)

The Noble Brow of All Noble Brows

And when they wove a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a staff in His right hand: and they bowed the knee before Him, and mocked Him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! (Matthew 27:29) . . . and they put on Him a purple robe (John 19:2) . . . Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the man! (John 19:5)

What is a Crown?

Strangely, it's a *mark*

[The Greek word *stephanos* means, a crown - a *mark* of royal or exalted rank]

The People of Freed Foreheads

That's us. We are now free to receive the mark of Royalty upon our spiritual brows.

As an **adamant** harder than flint have I made thy forehead: fear them not, neither be dismayed at their looks, though they be a rebellious house.

Ezekiel 3:9

I went to America some years ago with the captain of a steamer, who was a very devoted Christian. When off the coast of Newfoundland he said to me, "The last time I crossed here, five weeks ago, something happened which revolutionized the whole of my Christian life. We had George Mueller of Bristol on board. I had been on the bridge twenty-four hours and never left it. George Mueller came to me, and said, "*Captain, I*

have come to tell you that I must be in Quebec Saturday afternoon.” “It is impossible,” I said. “Very well, if your ship cannot take me, God will find some other way. I have never broken an engagement for fifty-seven years. Let us go down into the chart-room and pray.”

I looked at that man of God, and thought to myself, what lunatic asylum can that man have come from? I never heard of such a thing as this. “*Mr. Mueller,*” I said, “*do you know how dense this fog is?*” “*No,*” he replied, “*my eye is not on the density of the fog, but on the living God, who controls every circumstance of my life.*”

He knelt down and prayed one of the most simple prayers, and when he had finished I was going to pray; but he put his hand on my shoulder, and told me not to pray. “*First, you do not believe He will answer; and second I BELIEVE HE HAS, and there is no need whatever for you to pray about it.*”

I looked at him, and he said, “*Captain, I have known my Lord for fifty-seven years, and there has never been a single day that I have failed to get audience with the King. Get up, Captain and open the door, and you will find the fog gone.*” I got up, and the fog was indeed gone. On Saturday afternoon, George Mueller was in Quebec for his engagement.

Streams in the Desert

A Crown of Thorns for Christ, Crowns of *Adámas* for the Saints

a.k.a. - the crown of righteousness (2 Tim 4:8), the crown of life (James 1:12; Rev 2:10), the crown of glory (1 Peter 5:4)

Slinging the Rock of Ages

David put his hand in his bag and took from there a stone. And he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead. Therefore the stone sunk into his forehead and he fell upon his face to the ground.

1 Samuel 17:49

Behold the Most Noble Brow?

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him

the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:5-11

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

written by Isaac Watts

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

“Mr. Ludy,” the Devil said, “do you know how dense this fog is?” “No,” I replied, “my eye is not on the density of the fog, but on the living God, who controls every circumstance of my life.”