

# Psalm 31:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.

## Analysis

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The petition 'For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me' appeals to God's revealed character as basis for continued guidance. Because God is rock and fortress, He should act consistently—leading and guiding. 'For thy name's sake' means 'according to Your character.' Reformed theology emphasizes that God's glory motivates His actions toward His people. He guides us to honor His reputation as faithful covenant Lord.

## Historical Context

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Throughout Israel's history, God's name (reputation, character) motivated His faithfulness despite Israel's unfaithfulness (Ex. 32:11-14, Ezek. 36:22). God's commitment to His own glory ensures His people's preservation.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's commitment to His own glory provide security for you?

2. What does praying 'for Your name's sake' teach about proper motivation in prayer?

## Interlinear Text

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כִּי סָלָע וּמִצְדָּחַת אַתָּה וְלֹמַעַן אַתָּה  
 H3588 For thou art my rock and my fortress H859 H4616  
 H5553 H4686

שַׁמְךָ תִּנְפְּלִין תַּנְחַנֵּנִי  
 therefore for thy name's sake lead me and guide  
 H8034 H5148 H5095

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 79:9** (Parallel theme): Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name: and deliver us, and purge away our sins, for thy name's sake.

**Luke 1:79** (Parallel theme): To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Jeremiah 14:7** (Parallel theme): O LORD, though our iniquities testify against us, do thou it for thy name's sake: for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against thee.

**John 16:13** (Parallel theme): Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

**Isaiah 49:10** (Parallel theme): They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them.

**Psalms 139:24** (Parallel theme): And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

**Psalms 43:3** (Parallel theme): O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.

**Psalms 25:5** (Parallel theme): Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.

**Psalms 25:11** (Parallel theme): For thy name's sake, O LORD, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great.

**Nehemiah 9:12** (Parallel theme): Moreover thou leddest them in the day by a cloudy pillar; and in the night by a pillar of fire, to give them light in the way wherein they should go.

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