

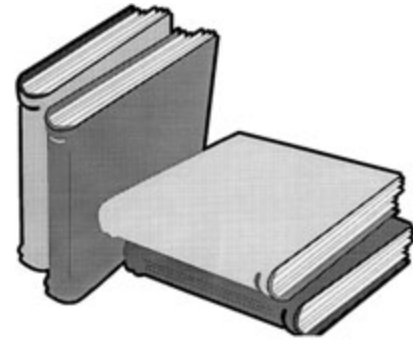
# The Rock and Pit

*Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn,  
and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.*

Isa 51:1

Selections from the Christian's heritage in print,

collected by Dean Brown



Issue 996

## **What is Real Religion? IV God Dwelling in their Souls.**

Earlier: I do not know how the nature of religion can be more fully expressed than calling it a divine life. ... I shall discuss it, showing first how it is called a life [last week].

I will next give an account why I defined [religion] by the name of "*divine life*".

And so it may be called,

not only in regard to its fountain and origin,  
having God for its author,  
and being wrought in the souls of men by the  
power of His Holy Spirit,  
but also **in regard to its nature**,  
religion being a resemblance of the divine  
perfections,  
the image of the Almighty  
shining in the soul of man.

**Nay, it is a real participation in His nature:**

**it is a beam of the external light,  
a drop of that infinite ocean of goodness.**

And they who are endued with it may be said to have

**God dwelling in their souls,  
and Christ formed within them.**

Henry Scougal, 1650-1678, a Scottish Episcopalian,  
*The Life of God in the Soul of Man*, 1667,  
as reprinted by Soli Deo Gloria 2002, p. 7.