

0190 054 God is working: The doctrine of the faithfulness of God.

08/10/97 Lam 3:21-25; Psa 32:5; 38:18; 100:3,5; Luk 12:27-32; Heb 10:23-25

Summary

The discussion centers on the doctrine of God's faithfulness, emphasizing its consistency and stability. Key points include the perfection of God's essence, which precludes inconsistency, and the divine promise to complete the good work begun in believers (Philippians 1:6). McLaughlin highlights that God's faithfulness is inherent in His nature and is demonstrated through His actions, such as forgiveness upon confession of sins (1 John 1:9) and His provision for believers' needs (Luke 12:27). The conversation also touches on God's faithfulness in testing believers, His plan for their lives, and His role in spiritual growth and maturity.

- **Faithfulness of God: Introduction and Silent Prayer [0:10](#)**
 - McLaughlin begins by emphasizing the importance of silent prayer and fellowship with God through the study of His Word.
 - A moment of silent prayer is observed, with McLaughlin leading the group in a prayer to respect and learn more about God's Word.
 - McLaughlin prays for the Holy Spirit to enlighten the group with the information they are about to study, ensuring personal application.
 - The focus is on Philippians 1:6, highlighting the doctrine of the faithfulness of God and its significance.
- **Defining Faithfulness: Consistency and Stability [2:14](#)**
 - McLaughlin explains that faithfulness is the consistency and stability of God, emphasizing that God is consistent and stable.
 - The second definition of faithfulness is the perfection of God's essence, meaning God cannot be inconsistent or compromise His essence.
 - McLaughlin contrasts God's faithfulness with human inconsistency and compromise, stressing that God is always consistent and faithful.
 - The essence of God's faithfulness is rooted in His perfect character, which ensures He will always be faithful to believers.
- **God's Faithfulness in Action: Biblical Examples [5:42](#)**
 - McLaughlin references Lamentations 3:20-22, where Jeremiah recalls God's faithfulness despite witnessing terrible events.
 - The discussion includes the doctrine of propitiation, explaining that God's faithfulness is based on the sacrificial ministry of Jesus Christ.
 - McLaughlin emphasizes that God's faithfulness is not dependent on human spiritual status but on His perfect character.
 - The concept of divine discipline is introduced, explaining that God disciplines the carnal believer and blesses the mature believer.
- **Rebuke and Forgiveness: The Role of Repentance [10:51](#)**

- McLaughlin discusses the importance of rebuke and forgiveness, stating that God forgives believers when they name and cite their sins.
- The principle of forgiveness is supported by references from the Old and New Testaments, including Psalm 32:5 and Jeremiah 31:3.
- McLaughlin explains that forgiveness is non-meritorious, meaning it is based on God's faithfulness, not human feelings or actions.
- The mechanics of repentance are outlined: naming, isolating, forgetting, and moving on from sins.
- **God's Plan for Our Lives: Election and Selection [19:27](#)**
 - McLaughlin explains that God has a plan for believers' lives, emphasizing that God does not leave believers alone in the devil's world.
 - The concept of selection and election is discussed, highlighting that God selected believers for human birth and elected them for spiritual birth.
 - McLaughlin references Psalm 100:3, emphasizing that God is the one who made believers and that He has provided for them from the day of their selection to the day of their election.
 - The importance of understanding God's plan for believers' lives is stressed, including the need for insulation rather than isolation from the world.
- **Logistical Grace and Super Grace: Provision and Blessing [25:08](#)**
 - McLaughlin discusses the concept of logistical grace, explaining that God provides everything believers need to become winners.
 - The principle of super grace blessing is introduced, emphasizing that believers should not worry about basic necessities as God will provide.
 - McLaughlin references Psalm 100:5, stating that God's grace is everlasting and His faithfulness is to all generations.
 - The discussion includes the idea that God's faithfulness in providing for believers is based on His character and promises.
- **Testing and Trials: God's Faithfulness in Adversity [28:24](#)**
 - McLaughlin explains that testing and trials are for believers' benefit, emphasizing that God will not allow believers to be tested beyond their capacity.
 - The concept of divine discipline is introduced, explaining that God disciplines believers to bring them to repentance.
 - McLaughlin references 1 Corinthians 10:13, 2 Corinthians 4:17, and Romans 8:18 to support the idea that trials produce eternal weight of glory.
 - The discussion includes the idea that believers should trust in God's faithfulness to provide a way of escape from trials.
- **Faithfulness to the Royal Family of God [37:11](#)**
 - McLaughlin emphasizes that the faithfulness of God should be believers' motivation, encouraging them to hold fast to their hope without wavering.
 - The importance of gathering together for encouragement and doctrine is highlighted, with references to Hebrews 10:23-25.
 - McLaughlin explains that the more doctrine believers have in their souls, the faster they will advance to spiritual maturity.
 - The discussion includes the idea that believers should trust in God's faithfulness to provide for their needs and protect them from harm.
- **Faithfulness to the Apostate Believer [42:22](#)**

- McLaughlin explains that God is faithful to the apostate believer, even if they are faithless, because God cannot deny Himself.
- The concept of God's faithfulness in the realm of the angelic conflict is introduced, emphasizing that God protects believers from the evil one.
- McLaughlin references 2 Timothy 2:13 to support the idea that God remains faithful even when believers are faithless.
- The discussion includes the idea that God's faithfulness is essential to His being and that He cannot be anything less than faithful.
- **Advancing to Spiritual Maturity [52:52](#)**
 - McLaughlin explains that as believers advance to spiritual maturity, they will experience God's faithfulness more clearly.
 - The importance of acknowledging and acting upon God's faithfulness is emphasized, with references to Deuteronomy 7:9 and Galatians 4:16.
 - McLaughlin discusses the idea that God is faithful to tell believers both the best and the worst, ensuring they are not deceived.
 - The discussion includes the idea that believers should trust in God's faithfulness to provide for their needs and protect them from harm.