



40: Yahweh is Faithful! (2 Samuel 22)

*As David looks back over a lifetime of battles, failures, and victories, he discovers one unchanging truth: **Yahweh is faithful**. Join us as we journey through Samuel and discover why the same God who heard Hannah, answered David, and raised Jesus from the dead, is still faithful to hear His people today.*

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* All Scripture is from the Christian Standard Bible (CSB) and Legacy Standard Bible (LSB).

At the beginning of Samuel, Hannah sang because Yahweh had answered her prayer.

And NOW - At the end of Samuel - David sings because Yahweh has been faithful throughout his entire life.

These two songs aren't accidental. They're bookends placed around the entire story to remind us of one great truth that...

Yahweh is Faithful!

Hannah thanked Yahweh for answering prayer and reversing her fortunes, while looking forward to what He promised in the future. In particular, she foresaw that...

1 Samuel 2:10b CSB

He [Yahweh] will give power to **His king**; he will lift up the horn of **His anointed** [messiah].

This points to the ULTIMATE **Anointed King** - the Lord Jesus. But, it was to be Hannah's son, Samuel, who Yahweh would tell to **anoint** David as Israel's **king**. Now we come to David's prayer near the end of Samuel (2 Sam 22:1-51) that looks back at how faithful Yahweh has been throughout his life.

2 Samuel 22:1-4 LSB

And David spoke to Yahweh the words of this song in the day that **Yahweh delivered him** from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. He said,

"Yahweh is my Rock and my Fortress and my Deliverer; My God, my Rock, in whom I take refuge,

My Shield and the Horn of my salvation, My Stronghold and my Refuge;

My Savior, You save me from violence. I call upon Yahweh, Who is worthy to be praised, And I am saved from my enemies.

Check out the language about Yahweh's ability to deliver David from his enemies - **ROCK, FORTRESS, SHIELD, HORN** (power & authority), **STRONGHOLD, REFUGE, SAVIOR**. **This is our God—not merely David's God**. The same faithful God who protected David is the God who keeps every one of His children today.

2 Samuel 22:5-6 LSB

For the waves of death encompassed me; The torrents of vileness terrorized me; The cords of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me.

Waves, torrents, cords, and **snares** are images David uses to point to his life being endangered - like being carried away to drown or caught by a hunter to be killed.

- **Sheol** is the place of the dead.

2 Samuel 22:7 LSB

In my distress **I called upon Yahweh**, And I called to my God; And out of His temple **He heard my voice**, And my cry for help came into His ears.

In the middle of the struggle, David **called upon Yahweh** and He **heard** David's prayer. This is David's GOD. **This is OUR GOD! FAITHFUL to HEAR us.**

- **His temple** is not the temple in Jerusalem (it doesn't exist yet), but is God's heavenly home.

BIG TRUTH: Yahweh is FAITHFUL to answer His faithful servants.

1,000 years later Jesus made this clear.

Matthew 7:7-11 CSB

Ask, and it will be given to you. **Seek**, and you will find. **Knock**, and the door will be opened to you...Who among you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him**.

As in the case of David, God doesn't always answer HOW we want or WHEN we want - BUT - He will answer in His wisdom and timing.

2 Samuel 22:8-16 LSB

Then the earth shook and quaked; The foundations of heaven were trembling And were shaken, because He was angry. Smoke went up out of His nostrils, And fire from His mouth devoured; Coals were kindled by it. He bowed the heavens and came down with thick darkness under His feet. He rode on a cherub and flew; And He appeared upon the wings of the wind. And He made darkness canopies around Him, A mass of waters, thick clouds of the skies. From the brightness before Him Coals of fire were kindled. **Yahweh thundered from heaven**, And the Most High gave forth His voice. And He sent out arrows, and scattered them, Lightning, and threw them into confusion. Then the channels of the sea appeared, The foundations of the world were laid bare By the rebuke of Yahweh, At the blast of the breath of His nostrils.

Yahweh is ANGRY against those who stand against David. And Yahweh comes in response to his prayer, to protect him.

👁 If the Creator of heaven and earth stands against you, there is nowhere to hide. But...***if He's WITH YOU, then who can be against you?*** Paul reminds believers that NOTHING can separate us from the love of Jesus (Rm 8:31-39)! Paul wasn't inventing a new teaching - he was building on the promises of the same God David had learned to trust!

2 Samuel 22:17-18 LSB

He sent from on high, **He** took me; **He drew me out** of many waters. **He delivered me** from my strong enemy, From those who hated me, for they were too mighty for me.

This language might remind you of something that Peter experienced in real life - when he called to Jesus to pull him from the Sea of Galilee before he drowned.

2 Samuel 22:19-25 LSB

They confronted me in the day of my disaster, But **Yahweh was my support**. He brought me forth also into a broad place; **He rescued me**, because He delighted in me. **Yahweh has rewarded me** according to my righteousness; According to the cleanness of my hands He has recompensed [repaid] me. For I have kept the ways of Yahweh, And have not wickedly departed from my God. For all His judgments were before me, And as for His statutes, I did not depart from them. I was also blameless toward Him, And I kept myself from my iniquity. Therefore Yahweh has recompensed [repaid] me according to my righteousness, According to my cleanness before His eyes.

It's hard to see David as righteous and keeping the commands of Yahweh when we recall his sin with Bathsheba and murder of Uriah. **BUT**...the author HAS intentionally placed David's song *long after* he tells us about David's wicked sin. We must remember that David has long been forgiven and restored by Yahweh. David isn't claiming to have lived a sinless life. Instead, he's describing a life that belongs to Yahweh, a life that is characterized by repentance, obedience, and faith.

✓ That's GOOD NEWS for those of us who have disobeyed God in the past, but are now fully forgiven and living for Yahweh!

"**I have kept the ways of Yahweh**" might sound like David is bragging or saying that he has somehow earned the EAR of God. But instead, David is highlighting the fact that *Yahweh has been watching his ways and responds to His servant's cries*. *David has been living like Yahweh SEES how he lives and how he obeys*. And David knows that...

BIG TRUTH: Yahweh is FAITHFUL to answer His faithful servants.

✗ If you live as if God doesn't reward or punish and only call on Him when you get in a tight spot, don't presume God will answer your every wish. He is the God of the Universe!

Yahweh responds faithfully to the faithful, while opposing and humbling the proud.

2 Samuel 22:26-28 CSB

With the faithful **You prove Yourself faithful**, with the blameless **You prove Yourself blameless**, with the pure **You prove Yourself pure**, but with the crooked **You prove Yourself shrewd**. **You rescue** an oppressed people, but Your eyes are set against the proud— You humble them.

❓ Does that help answer how God treats you?

2 Samuel 22:29–36 CSB

LORD [YahWeH], you are my lamp; the LORD [YahWeH] illuminates my darkness. With you I can attack a barricade, and with my God I can leap over a wall. God—His way is perfect; the word of the LORD [YahWeH] is pure. He is a shield to all who take refuge in Him. God—His way is perfect; the word of the Lord [YahWeH] is pure. **He is a shield to all who take refuge in Him.** For who is God besides the LORD [YahWeH]? And who is a rock? **Only our God. God is my strong refuge;** He makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like the feet of a deer and sets me securely on the heights. He trains my hands for war; my arms can bend a bow of bronze. **You have given me the shield of Your salvation; Your help exalts me.**

- David isn't bragging about his victories. ***He's testifying about Yahweh's faithfulness.***

BIG TRUTH: Yahweh is FAITHFUL to answer His faithful servants.

We must be reminded that David is singing this in light of God delivering him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul (2 Sam 22:1), so don't be surprised at the battle language that follows.

2 Samuel 22:37–46 CSB

You make a spacious place beneath me for my steps, and my ankles do not give way. I pursue my enemies and destroy them; I do not turn back until they are wiped out. I wipe them out and crush them, and they do not rise; they fall beneath my feet. **You have clothed me with strength** for battle; **you subdue my adversaries** beneath me. You have made my enemies retreat before me; I annihilate those who hate me. They look, but there is no one to save them— they look to the Lord, but He does not answer them. I pulverize them like dust of the earth; I crush them and trample them like mud in the streets. **You have freed me from the feuds among my people;** you **have preserved me as head of nations;** a people I had not known serve me. Foreigners submit to me cringing; as soon as they hear, they obey me. Foreigners lose heart and come trembling from their fortifications.

These foreigners have fought against David and were brought under his lordship, because **YOU** - Yahweh - **have preserved me as head of nations.**

2 Samuel 22:47–51 LSB

Yahweh lives, and blessed be my rock;
And **let God, the Rock of my salvation, be lifted high,**
The God who executes vengeance for me,
And brings down peoples under me,
Who also brings me out from my enemies;
You even lift me above those who rise up against me;
You rescue me from the violent man.
Therefore **I will give thanks to You, O Yahweh,** among the nations,
And **I will sing praises to Your Name. He gives great salvation** to His king,
And **shows lovingkindness** to His anointed,
To David and his seed forever.”

His seed is referring to David's descendants, but also points us to...His anointed - Yahweh's Messiah.

Yahweh had been FAITHFUL to do what Hannah had prayed about at the beginning of this writing we call Samuel. Yahweh had done what He said he would do. ***Yahweh had raised up a KING, his anointed one, an imperfect messiah who pointed to the ULTIMATE PERFECT MESSIAH,*** the ONE who was coming to save souls from every tribe, tongue, & time!

- Yahweh heard and answered **Hannah**.
- Yahweh heard and answered **David**.
- Yahweh heard the cries of His people and **sent the Promised Messiah!** Yahweh heard the cries of **Jesus in Gethsemane & on the cross**. Ultimately, **the Father vindicated His faithful Son**—not by sparing Him from death, but **by raising Him from the dead**. The resurrection is the Father's triumphant answer to the suffering, obedience, and prayers of His Son.
- Because we belong to Jesus, Yahweh still hears us today. **Yahweh is FAITHFUL to answer His faithful servants.**
- Because Yahweh is faithful: Keep seeking. Keep serving. Keep asking. Keep trusting. Keep waiting.

✓ **Our faithful King always keeps His promises.**



- **Keep seeking. Keep serving. Keep asking. Keep trusting. Keep waiting.**

1 John 2:28–29 CSB

...remain in Him so that **when He appears we may have confidence** and not be ashamed before Him **at His coming**. If you know that He is righteous, you know this as well: Everyone who does what is right has been born of Him.

One day, our Faithful King will answer the prayers of his faithful servants who have prayed, "Come Lord Jesus!" Until then, let's live for Him and share the hope in Jesus that we have with others!

Have questions and need some help? ...real soon...how about now? Please **call** or **text** us soon!

- * Contact **Jackie** (850-673-1582), **Christy** (850-673-9764), **Caleb** (864-315-8015), **Gary** (850-673-2507), **Betty** (850-973-3266), or another follower of Jesus soon!
- * Or call our **deacons & wives: Alan & Christy Androski** (850-464-1428), **Noel & Patricia Barnes** (813-767-2881), **Derek & Emily Beaty** (813-763-4421), or **Chris & Caitlin Day** (850-673-7920), **Glen & Margie Peacock** (850-464-1484).

Discussion questions

These questions are designed to help you LIVE what you LEARN with your family, friends, or small group.

1. David looks back over his entire life and repeatedly celebrates God's faithfulness. Looking back over your own life, where have you seen Yahweh's faithfulness—even during difficult seasons?
2. In 2 Samuel 22:2-4, David calls Yahweh his Rock, Fortress, Deliverer, Shield, Refuge, and Savior. Which description of God speaks most to your current season of life? Why?
3. David says, "In my distress I called upon Yahweh...and He heard my voice" (v. 7). What tends to keep people from bringing their struggles to God first instead of turning elsewhere?
4. Verses 21-25 can be difficult to understand. How does remembering David's repentance after his sin with Bathsheba help explain these verses? What does this teach us about God's forgiveness and restoration?
5. Read 2 Samuel 22:26-28. What do these verses teach about God's character? How should they shape the way we live each day?
6. The sermon emphasized that God answers prayer according to His wisdom and timing—not always according to our preferences. Can you share a time when you later realized God's answer was better than the one you originally wanted?
7. David's song points beyond himself to Jesus, the greater Anointed King. How does Jesus' death and resurrection demonstrate God's faithfulness in an even greater way than David experienced?
8. The sermon ended with these challenges: * Keep seeking. * Keep serving. * Keep asking. * Keep trusting.* Keep waiting. Which one do you most need to practice this week? What is one practical step you can take?
9. The entire book of Samuel is framed by two songs—Hannah's at the beginning and David's at the end. What have you learned about Yahweh's faithfulness through this study of Samuel that you don't want to forget?
10. What is one specific prayer request you are trusting Yahweh to answer? Spend time praying for one another, asking God to help your group continue seeking, serving, trusting, and waiting faithfully.