

THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

TEXTS:

Psalms 100:5 For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

➔ The faithfulness of God will not decrease or diminish EVER!

1 Corinthians 1:9 God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

Three shades of meaning to the word faithful:

A. Constant Unchanging
 Permanent
 Consistent

1. God is not moody. He is very predictable.

Malachi 3:6 I the Lord do not change.

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

2. How God is today is how He will be tomorrow, and how He will always be.

B. Reliable Dependable
 Steady
 Sure

Psalms 118:8 It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.

➔ Scripture is filled with examples of God demonstrating to His people that we can count on Him. He is reliable.

C. Trustworthy Complete moral fidelity
 Honest
 To have absolute integrity

Faithful is not simply WHAT God does, but WHO He is (His nature, His character).

A. It's one of His names.

Revelation 19:11 *I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True.*

B. Faithfulness is part of God's DNA:

1. Old Testament

Psalms 89:8 *O Lord God Almighty, who is like you? You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness surrounds you.*

Psalms 86:15 *But you, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.*

Psalms 108:4 *For great is your love, higher than the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.*

2. New Testament

1 Thessalonians 5:24 *The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.*

Hebrews 10:23 *Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.*

C. Because Faithful is who God is, faithful is what He will be to us:

Psalms 33:4 *For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.*

Deuteronomy 32:4 *He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.*

Three dimensions of God's faithfulness that we can always count on:

A. God will always be faithful to His Word.

Psalms 138:2 *I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.*

Psalms 145:13 *The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.*

Psalms 111:7 *The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.*

1. The above passages were written by men about God and His Word. What did God Himself say about His faithfulness to His Word?

Psalms 89:32-34 *I will punish their sin with the rod, their iniquity with flogging;*

but I will not take my love from him, nor will I ever betray my faithfulness.

I will not violate my covenant or alter what my lips have uttered.

Luke 21:33 *Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.*

2. The Bible tells us that in the last days things are going to be shaken.

Hebrews 12:26-28

- a. I believe we are seeing that shaking happening now.
- b. The Word of God cannot be shaken.

Matthew 5:18 *I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.*

Psalms 119:89 *Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.*

Isaiah 40:8 *The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever."*

1 Peter 1:25 *but the word of the Lord stands forever." And this is the word that was preached to you.*

B. God will always be faithful to His nature.

1. God will not (because He cannot) do anything that violates or contradicts His very being.

2 Timothy 2:13 *If we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.*

NLT *...for he cannot deny who he is.*

2. So what does this mean in our lives?

- a. It ought to give us great rest, peace, and assurance.
- b. We never have to wonder what God is going to be like.
- c. We do not need to fear Him (in the sense of being scared of Him).

***Psalms 102:27** But you remain the same, and your years will never end.*

***James 1:17** Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.*

C. God will always be faithful to what is best for us.

***Romans 8:31** What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?*

***Jeremiah 29:11** For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

***Philippians 2:13** for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.*

***Philippians 1:6** being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

1. God will never be "self-serving" in the way He deals with us.
2. He will never work in our lives in a manner that is merely for His benefit, but not for ours.

***Lamentations 3:22-23 NLT** The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.*