

## He is Faithful that Promised

One attribute that is reserved for God alone is that He is a faithful God. Faithful is not just what He does, but it is who He is. There is no definition of Faithful or faithfulness that is without God.

*Being "faithful" means being trustworthy. "True to His own nature and promises; keeping faith with Himself and with man. The word is applied to God as fulfilling His own promises (Heb 10:23; Heb 11:11); as fulfilling the purpose for which He has called men (1Th 5:24; 1Co 1:9); as responding with guardianship to the trust reposed in Him by men (1Co 10:13; 1Pe 4:19). "He abideth faithful. He cannot deny Himself" (2Ti 2:13). The same term is applied to Christ (2Th 3:3; Heb 3:2; Heb 2:17). God's faithfulness is here spoken of not only as essential to His own being, but as faithfulness toward us; "fidelity to that nature of truth and light, related to His own essence, which rules in us as far as we confess our sins" (Ebrard)."*

—Vincent's Word Studies.

- A. Hebrews 10:23 *Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)*
- a) God has given us multiple promises in His word that we can stand on to see Him come through for us. Whatever God promises, He will do. Rest assured. He is reliable and trustworthy to do what He has said He would do. He will not fail us or not do according to His will. This could be in the area of financial prosperity, provision, healing, salvation, etc.
  - b) This does not mean that problems will not come our way. What this means is God is faithful to deliver us and to do what He said He would do. That is His will. We do not have to wonder if it is His will or not. Whatever is God's will, He is faithful to do if we will be in faith and cooperate with Him.
  - c) This also must be said. The faithfulness of God does not remove our responsibility and freewill. We can still exercise our freewill and this can affect the results of what we are believing for from the faithful God.

B. Romans 4: 17-21; 17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, *even* God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. 18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. 19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

a) These passages outline how Abraham was able to achieve the results he did but among them was that he was fully persuaded that God was a faithful God to perform what He said He will do.

i) ① Calleth those things that be not as though they were.

ii) ② Abraham exercised faith and refused to give up or call his situation dead. It was hopeless but against hope, believed in hope to become or see.

iii) ③ Abraham could have become weak in faith but he did not because he considered not his situation dead or lifeless. If we consider our situation dead, we become weak in faith. We cannot believe.

o To "consider" means to = ponder, to calculate, to digest in the mind, think upon, meditate, deliberate etc.

o Do not consider yourself or the other person's situation dead or impossible.

iv) ④ How do we *not* stagger (waver) at the promise of God through unbelief? By giving glory to God. We stagger at God's promises through unbelief.

v) ⑤ How do we become strong in faith? By giving glory to God and being fully persuaded that what he had promised, he is also able to perform.

C. Isaiah 55:10-11 *For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: 11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.*

- a) These passages reveal the Lord's faithfulness to His Word. He speaks and intends to do as He has spoken. He will fulfil His spoken Word.
  - b) His Word does not return to Him void or empty. It accomplishes what He pleases, or His will and it prospers and never fails or lacks in whatever He has sent or directed it to.
  - c) This underscores our need to have a Word from the Lord for whatever we are believing for or standing upon. You need a word from the Lord.
- D. Psalm 27:13 *I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.*
- a) If we believe the Lord, we can and will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Although God is faithful, that does not free us of our responsibility to believe the Lord.
  - b) If we want to see, we must believe. If we want to become (Romans 4:18), we must believe as well. One of the reasons we are not becoming or seeing is because we are not believing. We do not see or become and then believe, but we believe first before we see or become.

**God is a faithful God.**

- E. Deuteronomy 7:9 *Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;*
- a) The faithful God
  - b) Psalm 89:34-35; 34 *My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. 35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.*
- F. Isaiah 49:7 *Thus saith the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the LORD that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee.*
- a) The LORD that is faithful
- G. 1 Corinthians 1:9 *God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.*

- a) We are called by a faithful God. We are not alone.
- H. 2 Timothy 2:12-13 *If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.*
- a) God is faithful He will not deny us if we do not deny (disavow, reject Him). If we deny Him, He will deny us, but if we do not, He is trustworthy that He will not deny us. He will not reject or deny us.
    - i) This “denying” is speaking about total rejection of our salvation and faith in Jesus. This is the same thing said in Hebrews 6:4-6. This is not accidental or a moment of weakness, but a deliberate choice made to disavow and reject relationship with the Lord.
  - b) God made His covenant with Jesus and it stands even if we do not believe or choose to deny Him. He is faithful to Jesus. For God to be unfaithful is like Him denying Himself.
  - c) God cannot lie or deny Himself. He is faithful to His nature and character even if we screw up, He will not change or alter His covenant and promise(s). He is the same yesterday, today, and forever more (Hebrews 13:8).
- I. 1 Corinthians 10:13 *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.*
- a) God is faithful. Take note!
  - b) God is faithful (reliable, dependable, and trustworthy) that He will not look the other way and let you suffer. If you are being overcome or overwhelmed, He will intervene in your situation and make a way for you to escape. If this is not a definition of faithfulness, I do not know what is.
- J. 1 Thessalonians 5:24 *Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.*
- a) God is faithful to do what He said He will do. We can rest assured in His faithfulness.
- K. 2 Thessalonians 3:3 *But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.*

- a) Another aspect of the faithfulness of God is seen in His dependability to establish us and keep us from evil. This also shows that He has no part in the evil that happens in our lives. He is faithful to keep us from evil.
  - b) Matthew 6:13 *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*
    - i) This passage is not saying it is God that leads us into temptation. If He did, why then would we pray to Him to deliver us from evil.
    - ii) This is simply a prayer for guidance and deliverance from evil. God is not the source of temptation—Satan is (James 1:13; Matthew 4:3; and 1 Thessalonians 3:5).
- L. Hebrews 2:17 *Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.*
- a) Faithful high Priest
  - b) Behove means suitable, befitting, required, appropriate
- M. Hebrews 11:11 *Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.*
- a) We have seen so far that God is faithful. This passage goes further and says we need to judge Him faithful. In Genesis 18, Sara and her husband had a visitation from the Lord in which God promised them a child.
    - i) **Gen 18:9-15** *And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent. 10 And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. 12 Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also? 13 And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old? 14 Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son. 15 Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.*
  - b) Faith releases strength, not only to conceive seed but more than that. The key to Sara conceiving and delivering child when she was past age was because she believed God and hence **judged Him faithful who had promised.**

- i) Abraham was 75 years (Genesis 12:4) when he started walking with the Lord. Part of the initial communication from God to him hinted that God would give him a son. It was not direct, though.
- ii) Abraham was 99 years (Genesis 17:1) when the promise came and a year later, Isaac was born. Abraham was 100 years when Isaac was born (Genesis 21:5). Sara was 90 years.
- iii) Abraham and Sara were 10 years apart (Genesis 17:17).
- iv) It took 25 years for Abraham to have this promise fully manifest and because of the delay, they were tempted to come up with some plan to provide a solution to the long-awaited question.
  - o Abraham suggested Eliezer (Genesis 15:2-3). God rejected the idea and potential solution.
  - o He then worked on something with Sara and came up with the Hagar solution who was Ishmael (Genesis 16:1-2). God rejected this solution as well. Abraham was 14 years early when he had Ishmael at age 86. This was not the will of God.
  - o Sara had had enough. *"Where is the promise? Don't you see that I'm old?"* In the 24<sup>th</sup> year, the three men appeared and gave a clear timeline on when this was going to happen. Genesis 18:10 *And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.*
- c) As years before leading to the event in Genesis 18, Sara was not in faith. She had not judged God faithful who had promised. Sara laughed at the promise of her having a child in less than a year. Sara's laugh was in unbelief, and she was rebuked for it. She had not judged Him faithful that promised.
  - i) So, when did Sara judge God faithful who had promised? At some point after she laughed which was the 24<sup>th</sup> year of their waiting, she started to believe God. She came to a place of faith, and she judged Him faithful. She trusted and leaned into His faithfulness—His very nature and she received. Sara could not have received

strength, conceived, and delivered a child had she not come to a place of judging God faithful.

- o If we do not judge God faithful, we will not and cannot receive from Him.
- ii) Abraham's faith—or judging Him faithful who had promised. Abraham considered not his body now dead (Romans 4:19) while Sara judged Him faithful (Hebrews 11:11). They both played a part in the manifestation of this promise from God.
  - i) God waited for Sara for about 25 years to believe and receive. He did not withdraw the offer. It was hers anytime as long as she believed. What a faithful God!
- d) Every time you hear a promise from the Lord and His Word, you need to judge Him faithful, and it will come to pass. Is God faithful to do what He has promised on not? Judge Him, but judge Him faithful.
  - i) Judge = Consider, deem, count.

**Faith is simply judging God faithful and once you do, you will receive strength to conceive, and you will deliver.**

N. 1 Peter 4:19 *Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.*

- a) God is faithful in creating ways where there is no way. If there is no way to achieve a Godly result, God will create one. He is too faithful to fail Himself.

Illustration 1:

One time I needed to do an audit but the firm we had been using in the past was not godly or trustworthy. When I came in, I refused to work with them. There seemed to be no way, but God who is a faithful creator created a way for me and I found an auditor of great integrity who did an audit. I do not care what your situation is, if you trust the faithful creator, He will create a way for you.

Illustration 2:

I have a very close friend that had been married for about 15 years with no child. It looked hopeless on the outside, but this guy was simply resting and trusting the Lord. The Faithful God showed up and did what He alone can do. He gave him and the wife triplets (two boys and a girl) and the wife gave birth to healthy babies. Do not tell me God is not faithful. I have seen His faithfulness in my personal life, and it is beyond what I can say. He has been faithful day in and day out and everyone alive has some sort of testimony like this of the faithfulness and the goodness of God. God is a faithful God. There is hope for you. Hope in the Lord.

O. 1 John 1:9 *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

- a) God's faithfulness extends in the area of forgiveness. God is faithful to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. No matter how you have screwed up, you can count on the forgiveness of God. He is faithful to forgive and cleanse us. Thank You, Lord.
- b) When we sin, we can run to the Lord and receive forgiveness and cleansing. We can rest assured He will forgive and cleanse us. He is faithful to that as well.

P. Rev 1:5 *And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,*

- a) Faithful witness and the first begotten from the dead.

Q. Revelation 19:11 *And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.*

- a) Faithful and True

In conclusion:

Lamentations 3:22-23 *It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.*

- o God's faithfulness is not small, but great. At this side of the Cross, His compassions do not just appear in the morning, but they are always available (24/7). Thank You, Lord.

God is so faithful that He made provision for all we need before we had a need.

He will never leave you stranded. You can count on Him. He is for you more than you are for Him. Are you saying there is a moment in your life where you have not seen the faithfulness of God?