

Our Faithful God



Roxborough Bible Chapel

March 25, 2018

Introduction

Why is this an important characteristic of God?

- God is perfectly faithful
- Examples of unfaithfulness (promises not kept)
 - In marriage
 - In business
 - In friendships
- Faithfulness is a huge topic
 - Of course God is infinite in all His characteristics and are inexhaustible
- Why are the characteristics of God so important?
 - Because knowing God = Salvation
 - John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.
 - Therefore, messages on God's characteristics are both:
 - Gospel oriented (people are searching for answers which can only be met through the Lord Jesus, the perfect One).
 - An exhortation to believers to be Christ-like as well as appreciating the Lord for who He is so that we can give Him more honor and glory.

Outline

- Introduction – Examples of Our Need for a Faithful God
- Why study the characteristics of God?
 - Faithfulness is just one of these characteristics
- Definition – Faithfulness (and UNfaithfulness)
- Scriptures Demonstrating that God is Faithful
- Human Biblical Examples of Faithful People
- Biblical Examples of Unfaithful Behavior
- Since God is Faithful, we can trust Him to...
- Conclusion – An encouragement for us all to be faithful (to be Christ-like)

Faithful - Definition

- Definition of Faithful

- Merriam-Webster

- **1** : steadfast in affection or allegiance : [loyal](#)
 - a *faithful* friend
 - **2** : firm in adherence to promises or in observance of duty : [conscientious](#)
 - a *faithful* employee
 - **3** : given with strong assurance : [binding](#)
 - a *faithful* promise
 - **4** : true to the facts, to a standard, or to an original
 - a *faithful* copy

- Synonyms

- [faithful](#), [loyal](#), [constant](#), [staunch](#), [steadfast](#)

- Strong's Concordance definition

- to *build up* or *support*,
 - to *foster* as a parent or nurse;
 - figuratively to *render* (or *be*) *firm* or faithful
 - to *trust* or believe,
 - morally to *be true* or certain

- “Stick-to-itiveness” (to the bitter end)

- Definition of Unfaithfulness (opposite)

- The free online dictionary defines unfaithful in a broader sense as “Not adhering to promises, obligations, or allegiances; disloyal.”

God is Faithful – Scriptures

- God is faithful. Whenever He makes a promise He keeps it.
 - We see this theme over and over again throughout the Bible and each new story is just as amazing as the last.
 - Remember the story of Daniel in the Lions Den? God was faithful to Daniel when He closed the lion's mouths.
 - What about the time when God kept Moses safe as he floated down the Nile River in a basket?
- God was faithful then and He is faithful now.
 - How many times have we prayed and God has given us what we needed? Not always what we wanted...but He has always given us what we needed.
 - What promise has God kept to you? Whenever you are feeling forgotten, use the verses that follow to remind you of the promise of God's faithfulness.
- May we be reminded of just how wonderful our Heavenly Father is.
 - God will never leave us and nothing can separate us from His love!
 - He is our hope and our promised victory!
 - We can never sing His praises enough, no matter how long we sing.

God is Faithful – Scripture Verses

- Numbers 23:19 "God *is* not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?"
- Deuteronomy 7:9 "Therefore know that the LORD your God, He *is* God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;
- Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He *is* the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."
- Psalm 119:90 Your faithfulness *endures* to all generations; You established the earth, and it abides.
- Lamentations 3:22-23 *Through* the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. 23 *They are* new every morning; Great *is* Your faithfulness.
- Isaiah 49:7 Thus says the LORD, The Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, To Him whom man despises, To Him whom the nation abhors, To the Servant of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise, Princes also shall worship, Because of the LORD who is faithful, The Holy One of Israel; And He has chosen You."
- John 13:1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.
- Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- I Corinthians 1:9 God *is* faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

God is Faithful – Scripture Verses (continued)

- I Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*.
- I Thessalonians 5:24 He who calls you *is* faithful, who also will do *it*.
- II Thessalonians 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard *you* from the evil one.
- II Timothy 2:13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.
- Hebrews 2:17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.
- Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of *our* hope without wavering, for He who promised *is* faithful.
- Hebrews 11:11 By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised.
- I Peter 4:19 Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls *to Him* in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.
- I 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.
- Revelation 3:14 "And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God:
- Revelation 19:11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

Faithful – Human Examples from the Bible

- Abraham
 - Romans 4:20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. 22 And therefore "IT WAS ACCOUNTED TO HIM FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS."
 - Nehemiah 9:8 You found his heart faithful before You, And made a covenant with him To give the land of the Canaanites, The Hittites, the Amorites, The Perizzites, the Jebusites, And the Girgashites— To give *it* to his descendants. You have performed Your words, For You *are* righteous.
- Moses
 - Numbers 12:7 Not so with My servant Moses; He *is* faithful in all My house.
- Ruth
 - Ruth 1:16 But Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave you, *Or* to turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people *shall be* my people, And your God, my God.
- David
 - I Samuel 22:14 So Ahimelech answered the king and said, "And who among all your servants *is* as faithful as David, who is the king's son-in-law, who goes at your bidding, and is honorable in your house?"
 - I Samuel 26 – David was faithful in protecting God's anointed one (King Saul) even though Saul was seeking to kill him.
- Elisha
 - II Kings 2:2 Then Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they went down to Bethel.
- Jonathan
 - I Samuel 20:17 Now Jonathan again caused David to vow, because he loved him; for he loved him as he loved his own soul.

Faithful – Human Examples

- Daniel
 - Daniel 6:4 So the governors and satraps sought to find *some* charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he *was* faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him.
- Thomas (speaking of Lazarus)
 - John 11:16 Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."
- Priscilla and Aquilla
 - Romans 16:3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, 4 who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.
- Onesiphorus
 - II Timothy 1:16 The Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain;
- Apostle Paul
 - 1Timothy 1:12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting *me* into the ministry

God is Faithful – Biblical Examples of Unfaithful Behavior

- King Saul (1 Samuel 15)
 - God was sent by God to attack the Amalekites and totally destroy everything that belonged to them destroy
 - We know that King Saul failed to fully execute God's command because he was afraid of man more than God
 - He said: **"I was afraid of the people and so I gave in to them"** (*1 Samuel 15:24b NIV*).
 - He rejected the command and the word of the Lord and he was found to be unfaithful and unfit to stand in God's service (*1 Chronicles 10:13*).
 - The Lord rejected Saul and the Holy Spirit left him and King Saul was given to an evil spirit that troubled him (*1 Samuel 15:26; 1 Samuel 19:9*). This was the price Saul paid for disobedience!
- Peter
 - The apostle Peter acted unfaithfully when he betrayed the Lord (*Matthew 26: 69-74*).
- People of Judah and Israel
 - They were unfaithful to God so He sent them into exile (*1 Chronicles 9:1*).

God is Faithful

- Since God is faithful, we can trust Him **to always keep His promises.**
 - "O Lord God Almighty! Where is there anyone as mighty as You, Lord? Faithfulness is Your very character" (Psalm 89:8).
 - Faithfulness is at the heart of all that God is and does.
 - His truthfulness, holiness, love, righteousness, and other attributes ensure His faithfulness.
 - He is incapable of being otherwise.
- God is faithful **to protect us from temptation and the evil one.**
 - I Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.
 - Paraphrased Paul wrote, "God is faithful. He will keep the temptation from becoming so strong that you can't stand up against it. When you are tempted, He will show you a way out so that you will not give in to it"
 - When we are tempted to sin, do not focus on the attractiveness of the temptation, but on God's faithfulness to deliver us from that situation.

God is Faithful

- God is faithful **to forgive us even when we are unfaithful.** Because we are still in a body of flesh, we have a tendency to sin and, ultimately, to be unfaithful.
 - How encouraging it is to remember God's promise in II Timothy 2:13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.
 - But, we must be sincere in our repentance and not abuse God's grace. The Bible states, "If we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong" (1 John 1:9).
- God is faithful **to purify us from unrighteousness.**
 - It is God's plan for us to become holy and advance His kingdom. And, He is faithful to bring this to pass.
 - Paul declared, "I am sure that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again" (Philippians 1:6).
 - God is faithful to fulfill His promises.
 - Hebrews 10:23 states, "Without wavering, let us hold tightly to the hope we say we have, for God can be trusted to keep His promise."
 - God is ready and able to deliver all He has promised.
- God is faithful **to help you in your need.**
 - He will never fail you! He is reliable. He is trustworthy. He cannot be otherwise. Your holy and loving God is faithful!
 - "If you are suffering according to God's will, keep on doing what is right, and trust yourself to the God who made you, for He will never fail you" (1 Peter 4:19).

God is Faithful

Encouragement to be faithful to Him!

- Put your faith (your whole heart) in the Lord Jesus Christ!
 - You can trust Him to be faithful!! You be faithful to Him!
 - He will meet your every need (most importantly your eternal life)
- Be faithful to God (Be Christ-like)
 - I Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.
 - I Peter 5:9 Resist him (*the devil*), steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

God is Faithful – Story (if time permits)

- It was our last holiday together as a family before our eldest son went off to college. As we filled the back pew in the little seaside church, my heart filled with love as I glanced along the row of my five reasonably tidy children. “Please protect them spiritually and keep them close to You, Lord.” I prayed silently, thinking of the pressures and challenges each of them faced.
- The final hymn had a rousing chorus based on the words of 2 Timothy 1:12. “I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him.” It brought a sense of peace as I was assured that God would keep their souls.
- Years have passed since then. There have been times of wandering for some of my children, and outright rebellion for others. Sometimes I’ve wondered about God’s faithfulness. Then I remember Abraham. He stumbled but never failed in his trust in the promise he’d received (Gen. 15:5-6; Rom. 4:20-21). Through years of waiting and mistaken attempts to help things along, Abraham hung on to God’s promise until Isaac was born.
- I find this reminder to trust encouraging. We tell God our request. We remember that He cares. We know He is powerful. We thank Him for His faithfulness.
- *Lord, my patience is often lacking and my timetable often does not match Yours. Forgive me for my times of doubt, and help me to trust You more. Thank You for Your faithfulness.*
- Some lessons of patience take a long time to learn.
- By [Marion Stroud](#), November 25, 2014