

GOD IS FAITHFUL

Remember when “his word is his bond” was said of most people in the community, and the law-breaker was behind bars? Now we live in a society of locked and barred windows and doors on the homes of honest people, and very few are willing to trust others. In an unstable world where wavering loyalty and broken pledges characterize an immoral society that “looks out for #1,” people search for simple honesty and integrity in others. And often the search is in vain. In every direction, in our present society, we see unfaithfulness. (1) Between mates; (2) In business dealings; (3) In social issues; (4) In government officials; (5) In the Lord’s service, etc. . . . It is encouraging to know that in the midst of an unfaithful generation we can lift our eyes to the faithful God of heaven who never changes. Deut. 7:9; I Cor. 1:9; 10:13; II Tim. 2:13; Heb. 10:23. . . .

Men can be fickle. They can lie; they can forget what they have promised to do. But the Lord God of heaven never forgets; he cannot lie. In an ever changing and insecure world, there is security and steadfastness in our Creator. Heb. 6:17-19. . . . God is a rock of certainty.

It should be of great comfort to Christians to know that God keeps His word! Friends may prove false, neighbors may betray us and even family may not be loyal, but God will do what He says. When God makes a promise, He keeps it (Joshua 21:45).

I. God is Faithful.

A. Many scriptures refer to the faithfulness of God.

1. I Cor. 1:9
2. I Cor. 10:13
3. II Thess. 3:3
4. I John 1:9

B. Some examples of God’s faithfulness we may expect.

1. He is faithful to speak truth.
 - a. Deut. 7:9-10 (cf. 32:4)
 - b. II Kings 7:1,2, 16-20
2. He is faithful to keep his promises.
 - a. Heb. 10:23, 36-37
 - b. Heb. 11:11
 - c. I Kings 8:23-24, 56
 - d. Joshua 21:45
 - e. Joshua 23:14-15
3. He is faithful to protect His people.
 - a. I Cor. 10:13
 - (1) The sense is, not that God would keep them w/o any effort of their own.
 - (2) Not that He would secure them if they plunged into temptation; but that if they used the proper means, if they resisted temptation, and sought his aid, and depended on his promises, then he would be faithful.
 - b. II Thess. 3:3
 - c. Acts 18:9-10
 - d. Heb. 13:5-6
4. He is faithful to answer prayers.
 - a. Psa. 143:1-2
 - b. Prayers of Hannah. I Sam. 1
 - c. Prayer of Daniel.
 - d. The church in Acts 12
5. He is faithful to provide our needs.
 - a. Deut. 8:18

- b. Matt. 6:33
 - c. Jam. 1:17
 - d. III John 2
6. He is faithful to forgive.
 - a. I Tim. 1:12-17
 - b. I John 1:7-9
 7. A faithful God seeks faithful people What about you?
 8. God, who had promised eternal life to them, was faithful to all that He had said.
 - a. Since God is so faithful to us, we ought to be faithful to him.
 - b. The fact that He is faithful is an encouragement to us.
 - c. We are dependent on him for grace to hold fast our profession.
 - d. If he were to prove unfaithful, we should have no strength to do it. But this he never does.
 - e. And we may be assured that all that He has promised he will perform
 - f. To the service of such a God, therefore, we should adhere w/o wavering.
- II. As the text states, “God is faithful that promised.” (Heb.10:23). What about the promises of God?
- A. God made promises that are of two kinds: conditional and unconditional.
 1. Those promises of God that are unconditional do not have conditions for man to meet for the promise to be kept.
 - a. The dual promise of death and the judgment is unconditional (Heb.9:27).
 - b. We will die and be judged—we do not have to do anything, meet any conditions, for that promise of God to be kept.
 - c. God’s promise that He would send a Savior for sinful man was unconditional (Gen. 3:15).
 2. But most of the promises God makes are conditional, that is, there are things we must do, conditions we must meet, in order to receive the blessing.
 3. A good example of a conditional promise is the one made to Israel concerning the land of Canaan (Heb. 3:18-4:1).
 - a. Remember, Joshua said that God kept every promise to Israel.
 - b. But, when Israel failed to keep the conditions God gave with the promise, they forfeited their rights to the land.
 - c. It is only through our trust in God that we can stand the tests of this life.
 - d. And, if we stand, it must be because we are “standing on the promises of God.”
 - e. Most of the promises God makes for us today are conditional.
 - f. When we fail to meet the conditions, we forfeit our right to the blessings that are promised
 - B. Some of the conditional promises.
 1. Ask, Believing. . .Ye Shall Receive.
 - a. It is a great privilege to be able to pray to God with the assurance that He will hear and answer our prayers.
 - (1) Matt. 7:7
 - (2) I Pet. 3:12
 - b. God has promised that He will hear us when we pray.
 - c. That promise is not unconditional.
 - d. For our prayers to be effectual, we must meet the conditions of prayer.
 - e. Matt. 21:22
 - f. Prayer of faith—James 1:6-8
 - g. I John 3:22
 2. In Christ—All Spiritual Blessings.
 - a. The only means of access to the Father is the Son, Jesus Christ.
 - (1) John 14:6
 - (2) Acts 4:12
 - b. Eph. 1:3

- c. II Tim. 2:10
 - d. II Cor. 5:17
 - e. God has promised us “all spiritual blessings,” but that is a conditional promise.
 - f. We must be “in Christ” to receive those blessings.
3. Believe and Be Baptized.– Be Saved.
- a. Luke 19:10–Jesus came to save, yet not all will be saved.
 - b. His promise of salvation is conditional
 - c. Mark 16:15-16
 - d. Acts 2:38
 - e. Acts 8:36-38
 - f. Acts 22:16
 - g. Just with all His promises, we cannot receive the blessing until we meet the conditions which He gives.
 - h. We noticed that “all spiritual blessings” are “in Christ.” . . . But notice how we come into Christ (Gal. 3:26,27).
 - (1) Romans 6;3
 - (2) II Tim. 2:10
 - i. Jesus has promised to us salvation, but He has also given conditions to be met.
4. Obey God–Eternal Salvation.
- a. Heb. 5:8-9
 - b. God’s promise of eternal salvation is a conditional promise.
 - c. We must obey, we must submit to His will.
 - d. We can’t claim the promise while refusing to do what He says.
 - e. I Peter 1:22
 - f. Romans 6:17
 - g. Luke 6:46
 - h. It is only by our obedience that salvation is promised (Heb. 5:9).
 - i. Only when we obey do we have the promise that He hears our prayers (I Jo.3:22), that His spiritual blessings are ours (Eph. 1:3), that we are in Christ.” (Gal. 3:26f).
 - j. Rev. 22:14
5. Obey Not–Eternal Punishment.
- a. Many like to contemplate heaven, but no one likes to think about hell.
 - b. The same God who speaks of heaven, tells us about hell.
 - c. Matthew 25:46
 - d. Matthew 7:21
 - e. II Thess. 1:8
 - f. The Lord doesn’t want anyone to be lost (II Peter 3:9).
 - g. But He promises that if we choose to disobey, eternal punishment in hell will be ours.

Con: Let us determine that we will “Hold fast the profession of our faith, that it waver not, for he is faithful that promised” (Heb. 10:23). Let us, by faith, walk in obedience to Him. When we meet His conditions, salvation will be ours (Heb. 11:6). No matter what God says, he will accomplish it. God keeps His Word!