
Made in His Image: Faithfulness

“Great is your faithfulness”

Key Text:

Ex. 34: ⁶“The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation.”

Deut. 7: ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, ¹⁰and repays to their face those who hate him, by destroying them. He will not be slack with one who hates him. He will repay him to his face.

Lam. 3: ²²The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; ²³they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

Rom. 4: ¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness^[b] of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

- 1) Time and time again, mankind has shown to be inconsistently faithful. What do we know about the faithfulness of God (cf. Ps. 90:1, Isa. 64:4, Deut. 7:9-10)? Define the term faithfulness.
- 2) God knows our tendency toward forgetfulness and has commanded us to remember his faithfulness. In what ways can we tangibly be reminded of his faithfulness (cf. Lam. 3:22-24, Gen. 8:22)?
- 3) No one is free from life's difficulties and trials. What can we learn about the faithfulness of God when we are beset with trials (cf. Heb. 13:5, Gen. 50:20, James 1:2-4)? What did Abraham learn about the faithfulness of God (cf. Heb. 11:17-19, Rom. 4:18-20)?

- 4) What are some characteristics of temptation according to 1 Cor. 10:13? Even when we consider unfaithfulness to God, how does he show his faithfulness?

- 5) According to 1 Jn. 1:9, how does God show us his faithfulness? What must we be faithful to do regarding our sins?

- 6) “Because of God’s limitless power and unshakeable faithfulness, the hope we have in him is hope with certainty. We do not hope in his promises with our fingers crossed behind our backs. Rather, we hope as those who know he has certainly been faithful in the past and will certainly be faithful to the end. We can hope with certainty that *he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ* (Phil. 1:6) (Wilkin, “In His Image”). Why are we able to hold fast to our future hope (cf. Heb. 10:19-23)?

- 7) If God is faithful to do what he says in everything, then how should we be towards him if we are accurately reflecting him (cf. Ps. 119:30)?

- 8) How should the knowledge that God is faithful change the way we live?