

Study 5. The Faithfulness of God

Fill in the missing words to this classic hymn:

“**Great** is thy faithfulness, O God my father, there is no shadow of **turning** with thee; thou **changest** not, thy compassions they **fail** not; as thou has been thou **forever** will be.”

“**Great** is thy faithfulness, **Great** is thy faithfulness, morning by morning new **mercies** I see. **All** I have needed thy hand has provided. Great is thy faithfulness, **Lord** unto to me.”

What are some of the different attributes of God mentioned in this classic hymn?

Great Faithful Immutable (unchanging)

Compassionate Eternal Merciful Provider

Which word or phrase in the hymn encourages or comforts you the most? Why?

For me, it is that God’s faithfulness is great... His compassions neverfailing!

David remarks in Psalm 56:9, “This one thing I know that God is **for** me.” (not against me)

Do we have that same assurance and confidence? We should!

God’s Faithfulness - What it Means!

God’s Faithfulness Defined

Old Testament meaning and usage (Hebrew words):

“*Emunah*” – Literally means “firmness, stability, to be steady or true.” It is the idea of both security and fidelity.” (i.e. bridge home over L.A. river)

Psalm 89:8 – “O Lord God Almighty, who is like you? You are mighty, O Lord, & your faithfulness (*emunah*) surrounds you.”

“*Aman*” – means to confirm, support, uphold to be established with certainty.”

Duet. 7:9 – “The Lord...He is the faithful (*aman*) God.”

Psalm 146:6 – “The maker of heaven and earth...the Lord, who remains faithful (*aman*) forever.”

New Testament Meaning and Usage (Greek word)

“*Pistos*” – “means trustworthy, sure, reliable, true

1 Corinthians 1:9 - “God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, is faithful (*pistos*).”

God's Faithfulness Described

How is God's faithfulness described in these passages?

Lamentations 3:23 – "*Great* is your faithfulness. "

Psalm 86:15 – "You, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God...*abounding* in love and faithfulness."

Psalm 119:90 – "Your faithfulness *continues* through all generations."

Isaiah 25:1 – "In *perfect* faithfulness you have done marvelous things."

God's faithfulness has NO... *limits, NO end, and NO issues!*

God's Faithfulness = Our Total Assurance!

God's Faithfulness - What it Means to Us!

According to the verses below, why can we have complete confidence in God and His word?

Psalm 145:13 - "The Lord is faithful to **all** His **promises**."

Joshua 23:14 – "**Not** one of all the **good** promises the Lord your God gave you has failed. **Every** promise has been **fulfilled**, not one has failed."

2 Corinthians 1:18-20 – "But as **surely** as God is faithful...no matter how many promises God has made, they are '**Yes**' in Christ."

1 Thessalonians 5:24 – "The one who calls you is faithful. He **will** do **it**." (i.e. keep our "soul...blameless" – verse 23)

God's Faithfulness = Our Complete Confidence!

Quotable Quote: "God, being who He is, cannot cease to be what He is, and being what He is, He *cannot* act out of character with himself. He is at once faithful and immutable. So *all* His words and acts must be and must remain faithful." A. W. Tozer

God's Faithfulness Implied

His faithfulness has the following implications for us:

1. He always **keeps** His promises!

Psalm 33:4 – "For the word of the Lord is true; he is faithful in all he does."

God's Faithfulness Implied (cont.)

2. He never ***changes*** His character!

Hebrews 1:10-12 – “The heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain...you remain the same.”

3. He totally ***fulfills*** His plans & purposes!

Isaiah 46:10-12 – “My purposes will stand...what I have planned, that I will do.”

God's Faithfulness Applied

God's faithfulness has the following applications for us:

1. He always and completely ***forgives*** us!

1 John 1:9 – “If we confess our sins, he is *faithful* and just and will forgive us our sins.”

2. He always and unconditionally ***love*** us!

Isaiah 54:10 – “I will love you with an *unfailing* love.”

3. He always and fully ***protect*** us (from Satan)!

2 Thess. 3:3 – “The Lord is *faithful*, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.”

4. He always and eternally ***remains with*** us!

Hebrews 13:5 – “God has said, *Never* will I leave you; *never* will I forsake you.”

What should be our response to God's faithfulness?

Proclaim God's faithfulness to others!

Psalms 89:1 – “I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will *make known* your faithfulness through all generations.”

Claim God's faithfulness for ourselves!

Psalms 91:2-4 – “I will say of the Lord, ‘He is *my* refuge... *my* fortress, *my* God, in whom *I* trust.’”

Reclaim God's faithfulness on His behalf!

Proverbs 3:3 – “Let love and faithfulness never leave you; *bind* them around your neck, *write* them on the tablet of your heart.”

Finish the sentence: I plan to _____ (***proclaim, claim, reclaim***) God's faithfulness in my life by...