

Our God is Faithful

Our God is Faithful and True.

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.

What does the word “faithful” bring to your mind?

Faithful: Steadfast, reliable, dependable, loyal, true, exact, constancy in affection; a strict adherence to duty and fulfillment of promises.

We are confident what God says is true because we believe the testimony of His character and rest on His promises, not because we understand or have evidence otherwise.

From Tyndale Bible Dictionary:

FAITHFULNESS Maintaining faith or allegiance; showing a strong sense of duty or conscientiousness. In biblical Hebrew, “faith” and “faithfulness” are grammatically related. Although both concepts are important in the OT, there is no English word exactly equivalent to the Hebrew terms. The most relevant Hebrew verbal root (related to our word “amen”) carries such meanings as “strengthen,” “support,” or “hold up.” In a physical sense it is used of pillars that provide support for doors (2 Kgs 18:16). Moses used the word when he disclaimed any role as supporter of the Israelites (Nm 11:12). God, however, is an eternally firm support for his people (Dt 7:9; Is 49:7).

With that notion of firm support as the bedrock for faith, words such as “firmness,” “constancy,” or “trustworthiness” best convey the related concept of faithfulness.

Trustworthiness, or steadfastness of character, is ascribed to the object of one’s trust. To be unfaithful is to be unworthy of confidence or belief. In the OT a synonym for “faithfulness” is “truth.” Since God is consistently true, he is the logical object of human trust (Ps 71:22; Is 61:8). When used of God in the OT, the word “faithfulness” frequently refers to his unwavering commitment to his promises.

God’s Faithfulness In spite of Israel’s faithlessness (Dt 32:20; cf. Rom 3:3), God showed himself to be absolutely reliable. His faithfulness is great (Lam 3:23). He is loyal to his covenant and will always manifest his steadfast love to his people (Ps 136).

The pinnacle of faithfulness in the Bible is seen in the work of Jesus Christ, who showed himself faithful to his Father (Heb 3:2) and in his witness (Rv 1:5). God calls men and women to be faithful by following Christ, relying on him for all things (Hb 2:4; cf. Rom 1:17).

Human Faithfulness Faith and faithfulness are logically and linguistically united in the OT and NT. That is, the major words for faith in both Testaments also connote the concept of faithfulness. This indicates that faith is more than momentary assent to the truth of God. It is commitment to that truth, and it manifests itself in continued obedience. Abraham’s life in this regard is instructive. He assented to, relied upon, and acted in conformity to the revealed word of God. He received God’s revelation as true (i.e., demonstrating faith), and his subsequent actions proved his faithfulness. He left home and country, settled in a strange land, and offered up his son Isaac as God commanded. His willingness to sacrifice his only son is an unparalleled expression of faithfulness in the OT. It is no surprise, therefore, that Abraham is commended for his steadfastness and is set forth in the NT as one whose behavior should be imitated by Christians (Gal 3:6–9; Heb 11:8–10). Faithfulness, then, must not be viewed as an isolated act. Rather, it is an attitude that should characterize the entire life of those who say they have faith in God.

God keeps His promises to His Children in every generation.

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;

Confidence in God's promises and character gives us strength and hope.

Lamentations 3:21-23 - This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

Confidence in God's promises and character enables us to enjoy fellowship with Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:8-9 - Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Confidence in God's promises and character in times of adversity gives comfort.

1 Corinthians 10:13 - There hath no temptation [trial] taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer [permit] you to be tempted [tried] above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Confidence in God's promises and character assures us of our future.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 - And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

Confidence in God's promises and character keeps us from despair

2 Thessalonians 3:3 - But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.

Confidence in God's promises and character assures us of our acceptance.

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.

Confidence in God's promises and character keeps us steadfast.

Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Confidence in God's promises and character builds our faith.

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.

Confidence in God's promises and character enables us to have peace in trials.

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.

Confidence in God's promises and character assures us we can be forgiven.

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.

From R.A. Torrey – Topical Textbook:

God's Faithfulness

1. Is part of his character. Isa 49:7; 1Co 1:9; 1Th 5:24.
2. Declared to be
 - a. Great. La 3:23.
 - b. Established. Ps 89:2.
 - c. Incomparable. Ps 89:8.
 - d. Unfailing. Ps 89:33; 2Ti 2:13.
 - e. Infinite. Ps 36:5.
 - f. Everlasting. Ps 119:90; 146:6.
3. Should be pleaded in prayer. Ps 143:1.
4. Should be proclaimed. Ps 40:10; 89:1.
5. Manifested
 - a. In his counsels. Isa 25:1.
 - b. In afflicting his saints. Ps 119:75.
 - c. In fulfilling his promises. 1Ki 8:20; Ps 132:11; Mic 7:20; Heb 10:23.
 - d. In keeping his covenant. De 7:9; Ps 111:5.
 - e. In executing his judgments. Jer 23:20; 51:29.
 - f. In forgiving sins. 1Jo 1:9.
 - g. To his saints. Ps 89:24; 2Th 3:3.
 - h. Saints encouraged to depend on. 1Pe 4:19.
 - i. Should be magnified. Ps 89:5; 92:2.