



GOOD NEWS

for the unsaved
WORLD!

(#100)
Faithfulness (#1).

1

BEING FAITHFUL, TRUSTWORTHY, TRUE

This refers to someone or something that can be trusted; something that is truthful.

When someone (or something) is characterized as being:

- Faithful
- Trustworthy
- Truthful

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He (or it) is something we can:

- Trust
- Believe
- Put our faith in
- Rely on

FACT-based **faith** ⇒ trusts ⇒ those things that are **trustworthy!**

2



GOD (OUR CREATOR) IS FAITHFUL AND TRUSTWORTHY.

★ **WE CAN TRUST HIM!** ★



TRUSTING HIM TO KEEP HIS PROMISES.
AS ABRAHAM AND SARAH DEMONSTRATED.

By faith Abraham, even though he was past age--and Sarah herself was barren--was enabled to become a father because he considered him **faithful** who had made the promise.

Hebrews 11:11 (NIV)

GOD'S PEOPLE CAN LOOK TO A GLORIOUS FUTURE, BECAUSE GOD PROMISED IT.

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is **faithful**.

Hebrews 10:23 (NIV)

3

TRUSTING HIM TO FORGIVE US.

If we confess our sins, he is **faithful** and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9 (NIV)

This "confessing" refers to specific sins (not an ambiguous "I have sinned"), and implies a willingness to forsake those sins.

TRUSTING HIM WITH OUR LIVES.
Even in times of persecution.

So then, let those who suffer according to God's will entrust themselves to a **faithful** Creator while doing what is good.

1 Peter 4:19 (CSB)

★ We can let HIM "worry" about our lives, while we focus OUR attention on doing what is good. ★

4

TRUSTING HIM TO KEEP US SPIRITUALLY STRONG.

TO PROTECT US FROM THE EVIL ONE.

But the Lord is **faithful**, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

2 Thes. 3:3 (NASB)

TO KEEP US FROM BEING OVERPOWERED BY TEMPTATION.
Temptation will come... but so will the path through it. (We must be willing to take that path.)

No trial has overtaken you that is not faced by others. And God is **faithful**: He will not let you be tried beyond what you are able to bear, but with the trial will also provide a way out so that you may be able to endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NET)

5

TRUSTING HIM TO PREPARE US FOR JESUS' RETURN.

He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is **faithful**.

1 Cor. 1:8-9 (NIV)

Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until that day when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. God, who calls you, is **faithful**; he will do this.

1 Thes. 5:23-24 (NLT)

What God does is connected to holiness. So this promise does not apply to those who love their sin.

6

JESUS (GOD IN HUMAN FORM) IS FAITHFUL AND TRUSTWORTHY.

★ WE CAN TRUST HIM! ★

TRUSTING HIM IN ALL THAT HE SAYS.

(His witness/testimony about himself, his mission, God, us, the future, etc.)

... Jesus Christ, the **faithful** witness, ...
... the **faithful** and true Witness ...

Rev. 1:5a, 3:14b (NASB)

TRUSTING HIM WHEN HE RETURNS TO JUDGE THE WORLD.

I saw heaven standing open. There was a white horse, and its rider is named **Faithful** and True. With integrity he judges and wages war.

Rev. 19:11 (GW)

7

TRUSTING HIM IN HIS ACCOMPLISHMENT OF OUR SALVATION.

FIRST, HE HAD TO BECOME LIKE US.

He did so in every way... **except** for sin (Hebrews 4:15).

Therefore, it was necessary for Jesus to be in every respect like us, ... so that he could be our merciful and **faithful** High Priest before God. He then could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people.

Hebrews 2:17 (NLT)

THEN, HE FAITHFULLY FULFILLED THE DUTIES OF A HIGH PRIEST IN OUR BEHALF.

He did it, not as a servant, but as the Son who was in charge of God's "house" (referring to us).

He was **faithful** to [God] who appointed him, ...

But Christ was **faithful** as a Son over his household. And we are that household if we hold on to our confidence and the hope in which we boast.

Hebrews 3:2a, 6 (CSB)

8

THE BIBLE (GOD'S WORD TO US) IS FAITHFUL AND TRUSTWORTHY.

★ WE CAN TRUST IT! ★

Some passages use the word **trustworthy**; but generally, Scripture is described as being **true** – flawless, reliable, etc. Regardless of what word is used, we can rely 100% on what it says.

Every word of God proves true.

Proverbs 30:5a (NLT)

The Scriptures cannot be discredited.

John 10:35a (GW)

ITS MESSAGE CAN BE TRUSTED.

(It must be learned and taught **carefully!**)

[An overseer] must hold firmly to the **faithful** message as it has been taught, so that he will be able to give exhortation in such healthy teaching and correct those who speak against it.

Titus 1:9 (NET)

9

ITS PROPHETIC STATEMENTS CAN BE TRUSTED.

RELATED TO JESUS' FIRST COMING (= PROMISES FULFILLED).

God has spoken in this way: 'I will give you the holy and **trustworthy** promises made to David.'

Acts 13:34 (NET)

RELATED TO JESUS' SECOND COMING (= NOT YET FULFILLED).

Then the one seated on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new." He also said, "Write, because these words are **faithful** and true."

Revelation 21:5 (CSB)

Then he said to me, "These words are **faithful** and true. The Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place."

Revelation 22:6 (CSB)

10

WHEN NEEDED, PAUL EMPHASIZED ITS TRUSTWORTHY NATURE.

ALL Scripture is trustworthy; but when Paul wrote to Timothy and Titus, there were some specific things that he wanted them to pay close attention to. (They may have been things that were especially important for them in their particular ministries.)

Here/this is a **trustworthy** saying ...

Found in: 1 Tim. 1:15a; 3:1a; 4:9a; 2 Tim. 2:11a; Titus 3:8a (NIV)

In some of these passages, **we** may be uncertain about whether Paul was referring to the statement before or after his assertion that it was "trustworthy."

But it doesn't really matter if we don't know... because:

- 1) We aren't in **their** specific ministries (where the emphasis might have been needed); and,
- 2) We know that **all** of it is trustworthy!

11

PERHAPS THE BEST THING ABOUT ALL THIS: GOD IS FAITHFUL AND TRUSTWORTHY, AND OUR UNFAITHFULNESS CANNOT CHANGE HIS CHARACTER!

Such a change would be a **contradiction** of who he is!

If we are **unfaithful**, he remains **faithful**, since he cannot deny himself.

2 Timothy 2:13 (NET)

What if some of them were **unfaithful**? Can their **unfaithfulness** cancel God's **faithfulness**? That would be unthinkable! God is honest, and everyone else is a liar, ...

Romans 3:3-4a (GW)

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???

So WHAT is the SIGNIFICANCE of all this?

???

First:

- GOD (as Creator)
- JESUS (God in human form)
- The BIBLE (God's words to us)

... can be TRUSTED!
... are faithful and true!

We also saw some significant ways these facts need to impact our lives!

13

We learned that... THESE FACTS ARE TO INFLUENCE HOW WE LIVE!

WE CAN TRUST GOD... with our lives.

WE CAN TRUST GOD... to keep his promises.

WE CAN TRUST GOD... to forgive us.

WE CAN TRUST GOD... to keep us spiritually strong.

WE CAN TRUST GOD... to prepare us for Jesus' return.

WE CAN TRUST JESUS... when he returns to judge the world.

WE CAN TRUST JESUS... for doing all that was necessary to save us.

WE CAN TRUST THE BIBLE... in all that it says, including all its prophetic statements.

★ GOD'S FAITHFUL, TRUSTWORTHY CHARACTER CANNOT CHANGE! ★

14

But there's more!!

As we read Scripture, we discover that ...

We need to learn from God's example and become faithful and trustworthy!

NOT ONLY DOES GOD REQUIRE US TO BE THIS WAY... HE ALSO ENABLES US TO BE THIS WAY!

But the fruit of the Spirit is ... faithfulness ...

Galatians 5:22 (CSB)

(More about this next time.)

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YOUR (OUR) → MISSION!

Think about these FAITHFUL FACTS!

Since these facts are true... How should they influence the way we think and live?

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Credits

SCRIPTURE

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