GOD IS FAITHFUL Text: 2 Timothy 2:8–13

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Introduction:

- 1. Question of Faith is Addressed Over & Over in Bible: Can We Trust God?
 - a. A Question Encountered in the Garden of Eden
 - b. A Question Encountered when Abraham was asked to Offer His Son
 - c. A Question Encountered in the Wilderness, in an Egyptian Prison, by Job, by Ourselves...
 - d. Is God Faithful? Can We Trust Him With Our Life, our Eternity, our Everything?
- 2. Faithfulness is a Beautiful word—and it is a Powerful Word...
 - a. It is **Beautiful**—Because it is the Vow Given in Marriage to Be Faithful.
 - —in sickness or in health, in poverty or in wealth, until death do we part
 - b. It is *Powerful*—the Motto sworn by every U.S. Marine: Seper fi "Always Faithful"
 - (1)The Marines are the First to be sent in— They are the Tip of the Spear
 - —Their faithfulness is tested by fire
 - (2) You Don't Depend on the Faithless in battle—you depend on the Faithful
 - (3) Many Marines Died for their Faithfulness to the U.S. and to Each Other in Battle
- 3. Sadly Society has redefined faithfulness...
 - a. Today faithfulness is Redefined as: "I have to be True to Myself..."
 - b. Which is an Excuse to Say: I Said I Would Be Faithful, but I Don't Feel Like it today.... and I Have to Be "True to Myself", therefore I don't Have to Be Faithful
 - c. Redefining it Doesn't Change What it is—It's Not Faithful—it's Faithless...
- 4. The Good News, Powerful, Beautiful News—GOD IS ALWAYS FAITHFUL!

Only God is 100% Faithful, 100% Trustworthy, 100% of the Time!

I. FAITHFUL TO HIMSELF

A. <u>TO HIS NATURE</u> (2 Tim 2:13)

- 1. God is Faithful and His Faithfulness is part of His Nature...
 - a) How many people do you know who do exactly what they say?
 - ...Before you answer, let me rephrase the question.
 - b) How many folks do you know who do exactly what they say EVERY SINGLE TIMEAgain, before you answer, let me rephrase the question one more time.
 - c) How many do you know who will do exactly what they say every single time AND WILL DO IT WITH PERFECTION NO MATTER WHAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND NO MATTER HOW THEY FEEL?
- 2. God is ALWAYS Faithful and He Cannot Deny Himself!
 - a) Somedays our faith seems strong, almost easy...

Other days are difficult—we struggle and were discouraged w/ doubt

B. TO HIS CHARACTER (Psalm 106:6-8)

- 1. God is Faithful for His Own Namesake...
 - a) Faithful to Himself, His Nature, His Character, His Namesake

2. God Was Faithful Even Though His People Were Not!

- a) They Wanted to Go Back Into Slavery!
- b) They Got Tired of the Manna—and Missed the Cucumbers in Egypt!

3. But God Promised He Would Deliver Them—even if He Had to Deliver them

- a) From Themselves and their Own Selfish Neurosis!
- b) "It Took 40 days to get Israel Out of Egypt—and 40 yrs to get Egypt Out of Israel."

C. TO HIS WORD (Hebrews 6:17-18a) God Cannot Lie!

- 1. He is Faithful to Himself, to His Nature, His Character, His Word
- 2. We Can Depend of God's Word—it is True and it will be accomplished!

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II. FAITHFUL TO HIS PROMISES

A. <u>HIS PROMISE AFTER THE FLOOD</u> (Genesis 9:11–17)

- 1. Many False Prophets are Prophesying of a Coming Flood
 - a) A Climate Disaster of Biblical Proportions due to Global Warming and Rising Sea Levels due to the melting of the Polar Caps
 - b) Headline: 'Pope Francis Warns of Second "great flood" Due to Climate Change'
 - c) It's Interesting because He Claims the Flood of Genesis is a Myth—didn't happen —but the Climate Change Flood is Real!!
 - d) He wants to add the word "ecological sin" to the Catholic Church Catechism
- 2. But Who Should We Believe? Climate Prophets of Doom?
 - —Or God who Cannot Lie?
- 3. God is 100 % Faithful 100% of the Time —> man is not

B. HIS PROMISE TO ABRAHAM (Hebrews 6:13-18)

- 1. Abraham was not perfect—but he was was a man of faith
 - a) A man who believed God and it was accounted to him as righteousness
 - b) A man who became a friend of God
 - c) A man who was given a promise from God that all the nations of the world would be blessed through Him and his descendants
- 2. God was Faithful in His Promise—and through Abraham's Lineage...

 Jesus the Messiah was born in human form into the world.

C. HIS PROMISE OF SALVATION (2 Timothy 2:8–13)

- 1. God is Faithful—He Promised Salvation Through Jesus Christ
- 2. Jesus Christ is Faithful—He Carried Out the Will of the Father
- 3. God Promised Salvation and Has Made it Available to All the World!
- 4. Anyone Who Rejects God's Grace —Reject it Because They Want to

D. <u>HIS PROMISE OF JUDGEMENT</u> (Revelation 19:11–16)

- 1. There is a battle between good and evil, darkness and light, God and satan
 - a) And there are times when it seems the evil outweighs the good...
 - b) When the forces of darkness seem stronger than the light
- 2. But We Read the End of the Book—and we Know Who wins!
 - a) (Rev. 20:11-15) God will not tolerate evil forever, it will be defeated & judged

E. <u>HIS PROMISE OF ETERNAL LIFE</u> (Titus 1:2)

- 1. This is a Promise God Made Before Time Began! —
- 2. And God Cannot Lie! —He's Faithful to Himself, His Promises & His People Only God is 100% Faithful, 100% Trustworthy, 100% of the Time

III. FAITHFUL TO HIS PEOPLE

A. GOD IS FAITHFUL WHEN WE ARE TEMPTED (1 Corinthians 10:13)

- 1. God knows our limits, He knows we are but dust...
 - a) God will not allow us to be tempted more than we can bear...
 - b) He will allow a way of escape
- 2. God is Faithful—and He is able to deliver you (2 Peter 2:9)

B. GOD IS FAITHFUL IN HELPING US (Romans 8:28) -notice...

- 1. THE FACT: "And WE KNOW that all things work together for good..." PROMISE!
- **2. THE ACTION:** the Greek (synergeo) for "<u>WORK</u>" is present tense active: "continually keeps working"
- 3. THE COMPREHENSIVENESS: "We know that ALL THINGS..."
- **4. THE HARMONY:** "all things <u>WORK TOGETHER</u>" (synergeo) as in Synergy
- 5. THE BENEFIT: "all things work together FOR GOOD..."
- **6. THE CONDITION:** "...work together for good to <u>THOSE WHO LOVE GOD</u>" LOVE is also active—"to those who *continually* love God"

C. GOD IS FAITHFUL IN PROTECTING US (2 Thessalonians 3:3)

- 1. God is Faithful and He will establish and guard you from the Evil one
 - a) Satan had to ask permission to afflict Job...
 - b) Satan had to ask permission to sift Peter like wheat
 - c) God is in control and even the enemy is limited
- 2. Satan uses the power of Government to Persecute Christians...
 - a) We Are Entering a Post-Christian > Pre-Totalitarian Era
 - b) Our Faith Will Be Tested by the Enemy, the Culture, and the Powers that be...
 - c) But God's People Have Been Here Before!
- 3. God is Faithful—and He knows everything you suffer (Revelation 2:10–11)

Your Faith is Not in Vain—Because God is Faithful!

D. GOD IS FAITHFUL IN SAVING US (Mark 14:36)

- 1. Jesus was in the garden in agony... Within hours of a horrible death
 - a) And Jesus calls on the Father's Divine Attribute of Omnipotence
 - b) All things are possible for you! Let This Cup Be Removed!
 - c) IF There Can Be Another Way, Let it Be-but not My Will, but Thy will be done
- 2. Yes God is Omnipotent—He Has All-Power... But He is Also FAITHFUL!
 - a) God Had Made a Promise to Abraham, a Promise to the World, a Promise to YOU!
 - b) The Promise of Eternal Life! (Titus 1:2)
- 3. Jesus was Faithful to the Father, the Father Was Faithful to His Promise, Jesus was Faithful Unto Death

E. GOD IS FAITHFUL IN SANCTIFYING US (1 Thessalonians 5:23–24)

- 1. The word Sanctify means: Set apart for a holy purpose.
- 2. Jesus' blood on the cross Paid our debt in Full—Forgiving our sins
- 3. And His Blood sanctified us—cleansing us for a Holy Purpose.
- 4. So your entire Spirit, Soul and Body will ready for Meeting the Lord

F. GOD IS FAITHFUL IN FORGIVING US (1 John 1:9)

If we confess our sins, <u>He is faithful</u> and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 Jn 1:9)

- 1. Many of God's Promises are Conditional... Notice the word: IF...
- 2. We Must Have the Faith to Go to God and Confess Our Sins to Him
- 3. We Also Need the Faith to Know God is Faithful to Forgive Our Sins!
- 4. But Often Times We Don't "feel" saved and we question our salvation
- 5. We Need the Faith that God is Faithful! (Philippians 1:6)
- 6. This is Why We Must Turn to God Everyday!

God is Faithful in His Mercy! (Lamentations 3:22–23 ESV)

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CONCLUSION:

- 1. Our Sins Separated us from God—But God is Faithful!
 - —He Provided a Way of Escape!
 - a) The Wages of Sin is Death—but the Free Gift of God is Eternal Life...
 Through Jesus Christ Our Lord! (Romans 6:23)
- 2. A Promise God Made Before Time Began! (Titus 1:2)
- 3. God is Faithful in His Mercy! (Lamentations 3:22–23 ESV)
 - —Will You Be Faithful to God?