

God Is Faithful



Mount Ararat in Turkey

Photo by Ferrell Jenkins



**God Is
Faithful**

Introduction

God Is Faithful



Faithfulness is a quality or attribute applied in the Scriptures to God

- The faithfulness of God and His word is a constant theme in the Bible

God Is Faithful



Faithfulness is dependability, loyalty and stability

- All of these describe God in His relationship to man

God Is Faithful



- He is “the faithful God who keeps covenant” (Deut. 7:9)
- Jeremiah said of Him, “Great is Your faithfulness” (Lam. 3:23)



Deuteronomy 7:9

Therefore know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments.

God Is Faithful



In our lesson, we are going to consider the faithfulness of God by:

- Establishing the reality of His faithfulness
- Presenting evidence for His faithfulness
- Seeing how God's faithfulness affects us today



**God Is
Faithful**

The Reality of the Faithfulness of God

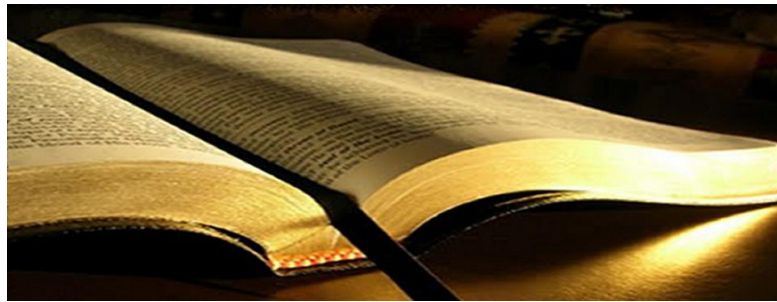
God Is Faithful



The Reality of the Faithfulness of God

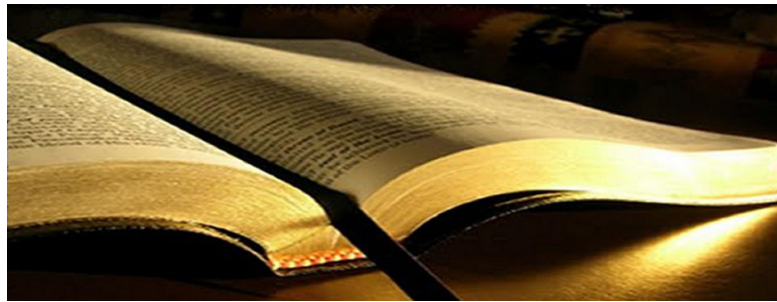
The Scriptures contain many references to the faithfulness of God

- The psalmist and the prophets repeatedly cited God's faithfulness



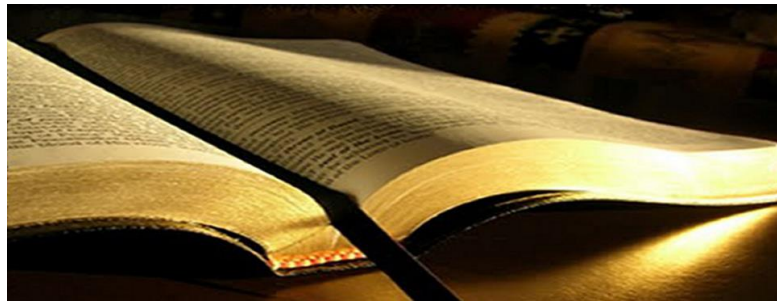
Psalm 36:5

Your mercy, O Lord, is in the heavens;
Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.



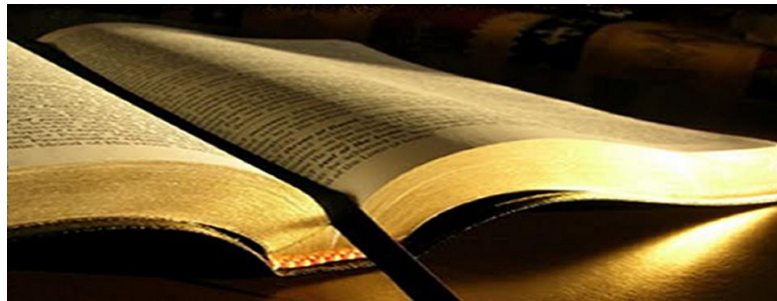
Psalm 37:3

Trust in the Lord, and do good;
Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.



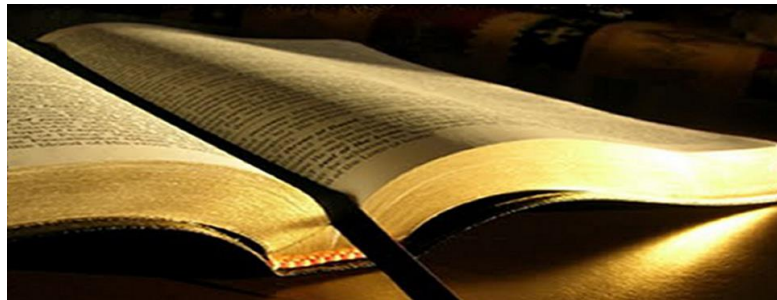
Psalm 89:1-2

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever; With my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations. 2 For I have said, “Mercy shall be built up forever; Your faithfulness You shall establish in the very heavens.”



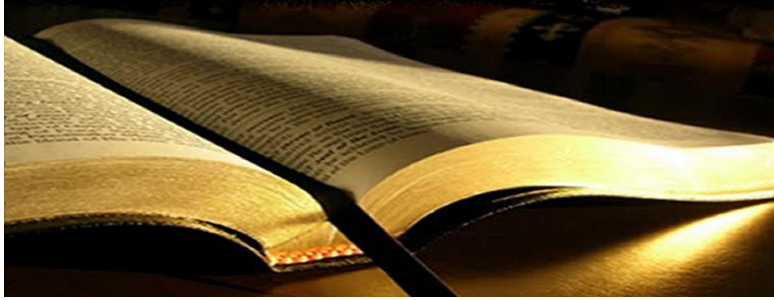
Psalm 92:1-2

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;
2 To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning,
And Your faithfulness every night.



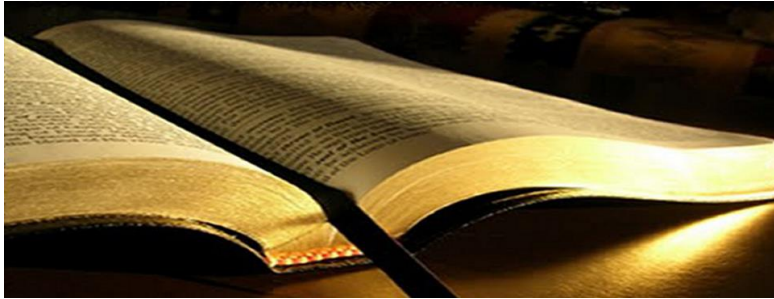
Psalm 119:90

Your faithfulness endures to all generations;
You established the earth, and it abides.



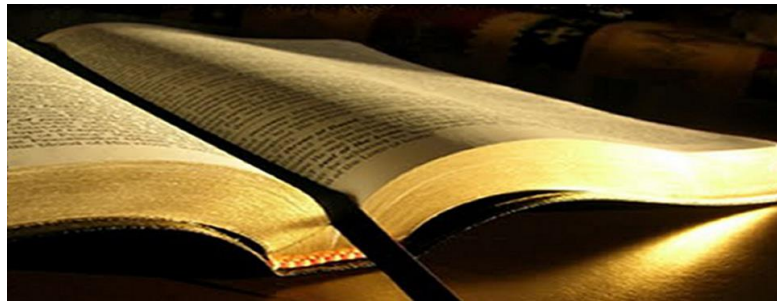
Lamentations 3:22-23

Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed,
Because His compassions fail not. 23 They are new
every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.



Isaiah 49:7

Thus says the Lord, The Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, To Him whom man despises, To Him whom the nation abhors, To the Servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise, Princes also shall worship, Because of the Lord who is faithful, The Holy One of Israel; And He has chosen You.”



Hosea 11:12

“Ephraim has encircled Me with lies, And the house of Israel with deceit; But Judah still walks with God, Even with the Holy One who is faithful.”



**God Is
Faithful**

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

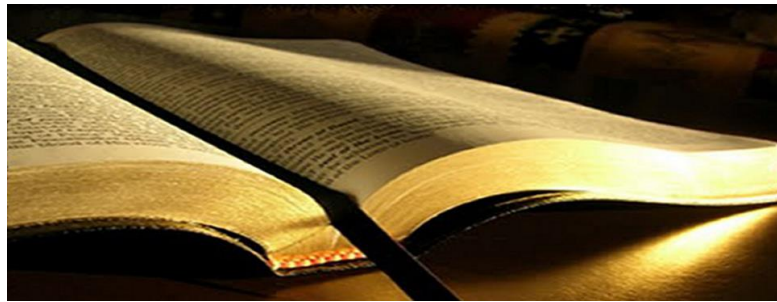
God Is Faithful



Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

It is one thing to claim that God is faithful but it is an entirely different matter to prove it

- One may claim to be something when he is nothing



Galatians 6:3

For if anyone thinks himself to be something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

God Is Faithful



Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

We have read many claims that God is faithful but, so far, we have not proven it to be so

- There are numerous ways we could go about to prove God's faithfulness but one sure way is to show His dependability when it comes to the covenants He has made with man

God Is Faithful



Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

“A covenant, is an agreement enacted between two or more parties, in which one or both make promises under oath to perform or refrain from certain actions stipulated in advance.”

– *The Anchor Bible Dictionary*

God Is Faithful



Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

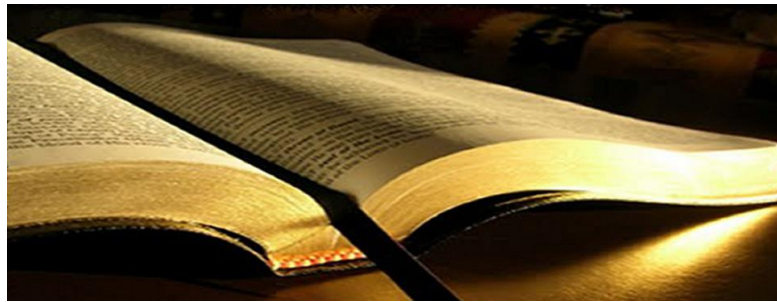
So let us look at several of the covenants God has made with man which will not only illustrate but also provide testimony to the fact that God is faithful

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

The Covenant with Noah

Even before the time of Abraham, God made a covenant with Noah assuring him that He would never again destroy the world by flood (Gen. 9:11)



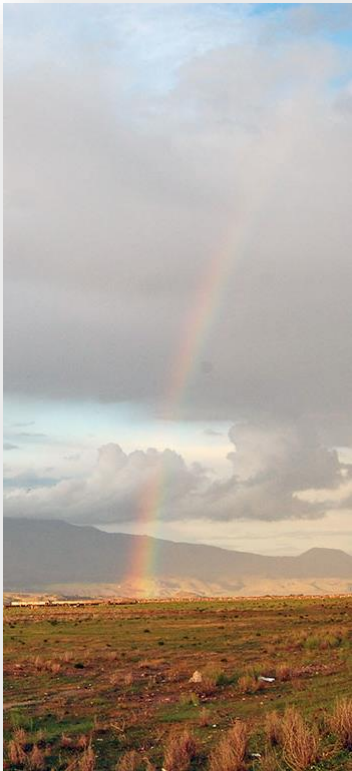


Genesis 9:11

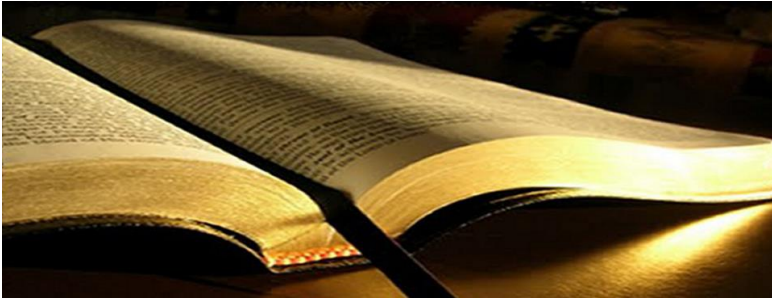
“Thus I establish My covenant with you: Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood; never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

The Covenant with Noah



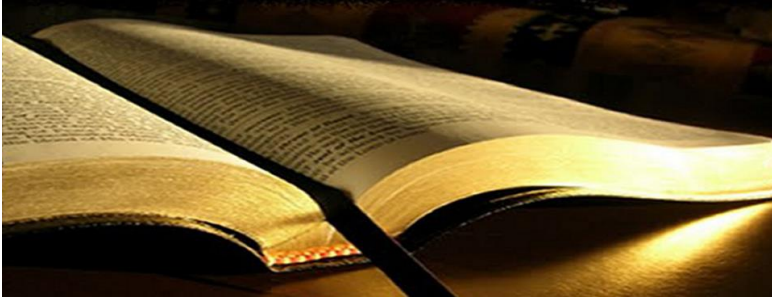
God established that covenant and, in His faithfulness, has upheld the promise He made in it



Genesis 9:14-17

It shall be, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the rainbow shall be seen in the cloud; 15 and I will remember My covenant which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.





Genesis 9:14-17

16 The rainbow shall be in the cloud, and I will look on it to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” 17 And God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

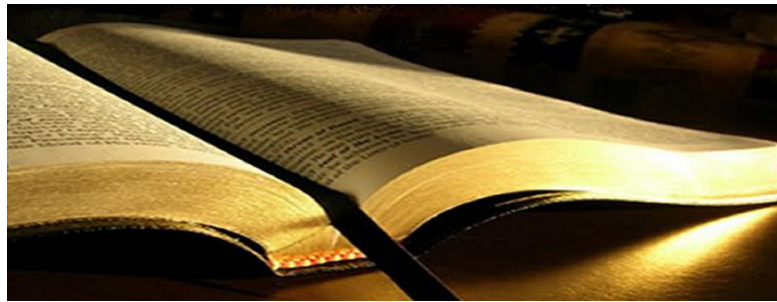
Evidence for the Faithfulness of God



The Covenant with Abraham

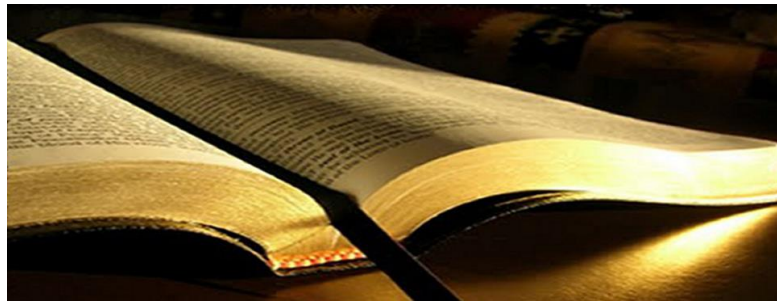
In making a covenant with Abraham, God had promised to bless his descendants and make them His own special people

- In return, Abraham was to remain faithful and to serve as a channel through which God's blessings could flow to the rest of the world



Genesis 12:1-3

Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you. 2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. ↓



Genesis 12:1-3

3 I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God



The Covenant with Abraham

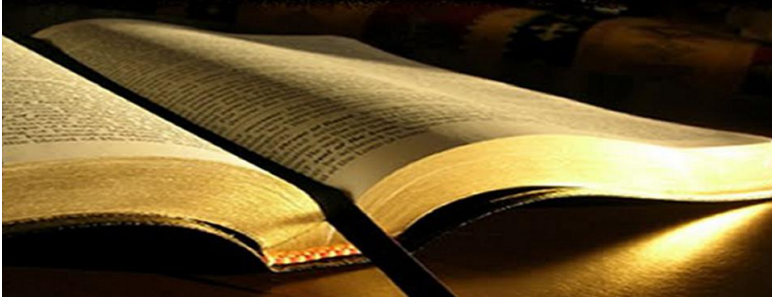
In Genesis 15 God reaffirmed
His promise to Abraham

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

The Covenant with Abraham

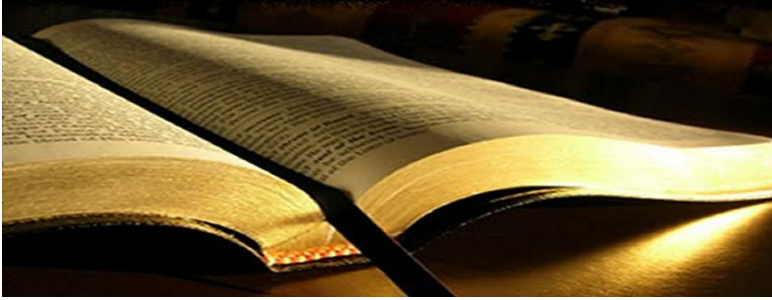


God remained true to His word and fulfilled every promise in the covenant that He had made with Abraham



Psalm 105:8-12

He remembers His covenant forever, the word which He commanded, for a thousand generations, 9 The covenant which He made with Abraham, and His oath to Isaac, 10 and confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, ↓



Psalm 105:8-12

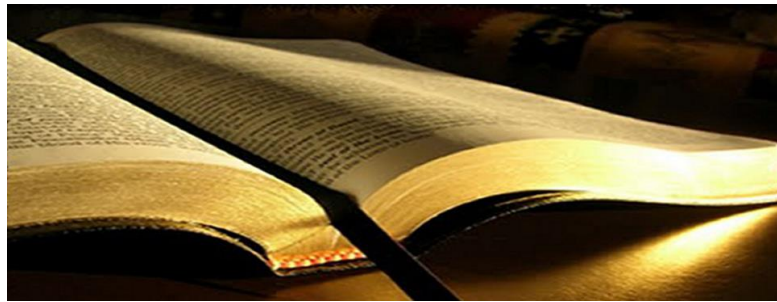
11 Saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan as the allotment of your inheritance," 12 when they were few in number, Indeed very few, and strangers in it.

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

The Covenant with Abraham



God's faithfulness to this covenant continued to its ultimate conclusion in the seed of Abraham – Jesus Christ



Galatians 3:16

Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ.

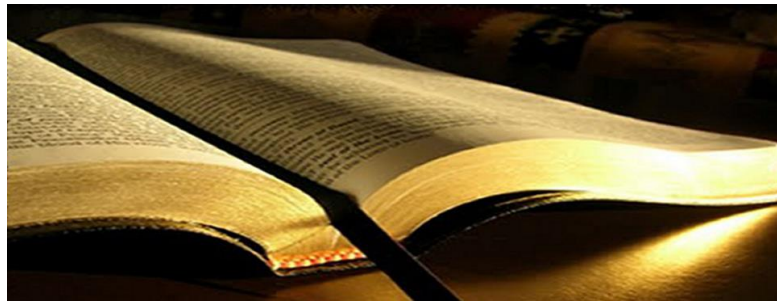
Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

The Covenant with Israel



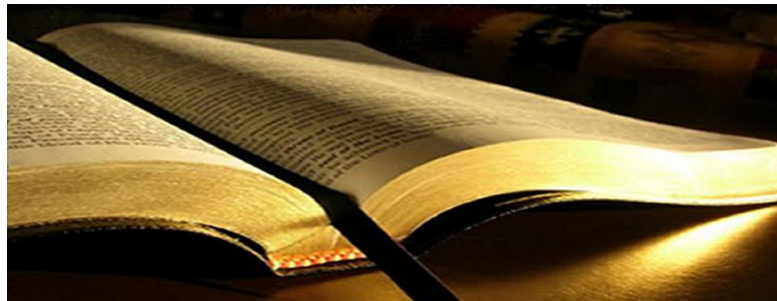
Three months after leaving Egypt, the children of Israel camped at the base of Mount Sinai (Ex. 19:1)

- God promised to make a covenant with them (Ex. 19:3-6)



Exodus 19:3-6

And Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel: 4 ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. ↓



Exodus 19:3-6

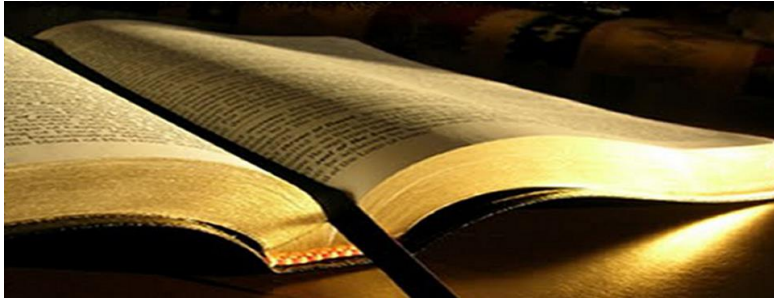
5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. 6 And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.”

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

The Covenant with Israel

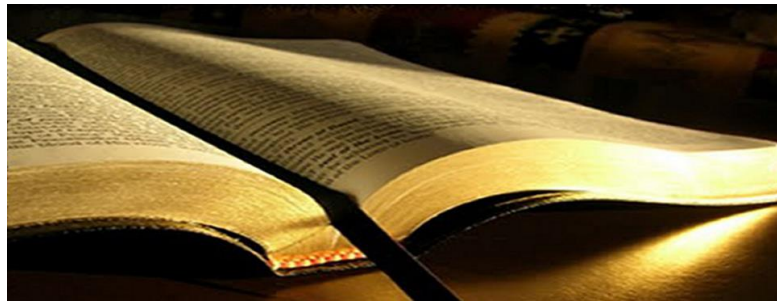


Even though Israel time and time again failed to honor God's covenant, God continued to faithfully uphold it and respect it



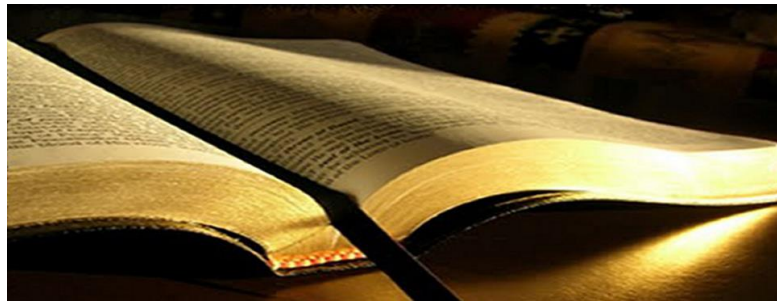
Psalm 106:44-45

Nevertheless He regarded their affliction, when He heard their cry; 45 and for their sake He remembered His covenant, and relented according to the multitude of His mercies.



Psalm 111:5

He has given food to those who fear Him;
He will ever be mindful of His covenant.



Romans 3:3-4

For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? 4 Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar.

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

The Covenant with David

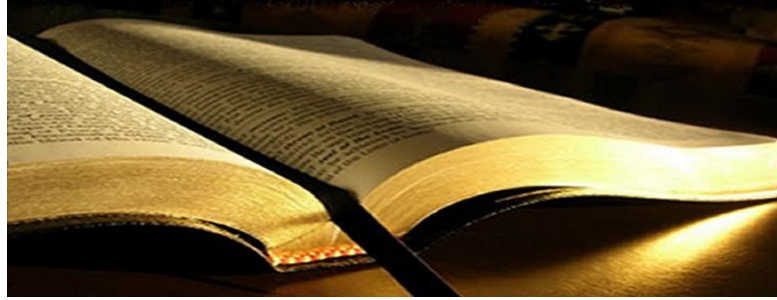


A covenant was established between God and King David, in which David and his descendants were established as the royal heirs to the throne of Israel (2 Sam. 7:12-16)



2 Samuel 7:12-16

“When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ↓



2 Samuel 7:12-16

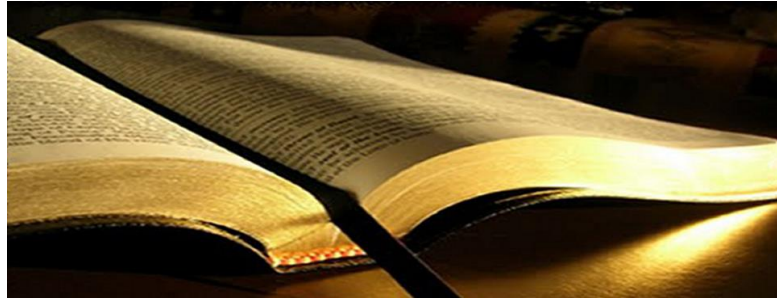
14 I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. 15 But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.”””

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

The Covenant with David



In spite of the sins of the descendants of David, God kept His covenant He had made with David



2 Chronicles 21:7

Yet the Lord would not destroy the house of David, because of the covenant that He had made with David, and since He had promised to give a lamp to him and to his sons forever.

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

The Covenant with David



This covenant agreement reached its highest fulfillment when Jesus, a descendant of David, was born in Bethlehem about a thousand years after God made this promise to King David

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

The Covenant with David



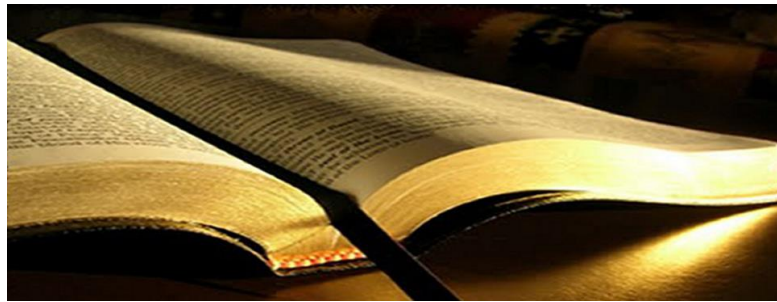
Matthew's gospel begins by showing that Christ is "the Son of David" (Matt. 1:1) and thus had the right to rule over God's people

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

The Covenant with David

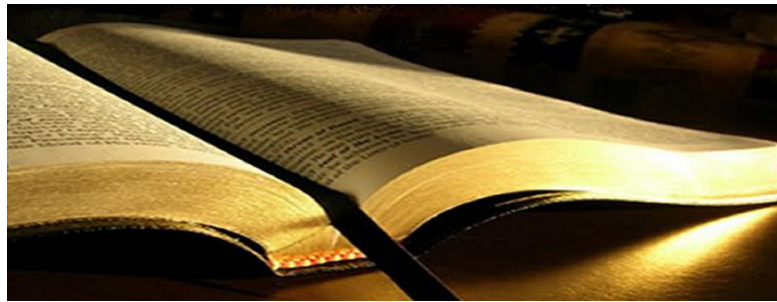


The apostle Peter said in his sermon on the Day of Pentecost when the gospel went forth in its fulness that Jesus was a fulfillment of the promise God had made to David (Acts 2:29-36)



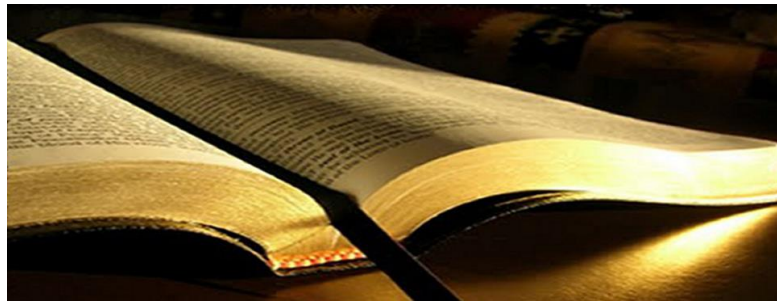
Acts 2:29-36

“Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, ↓



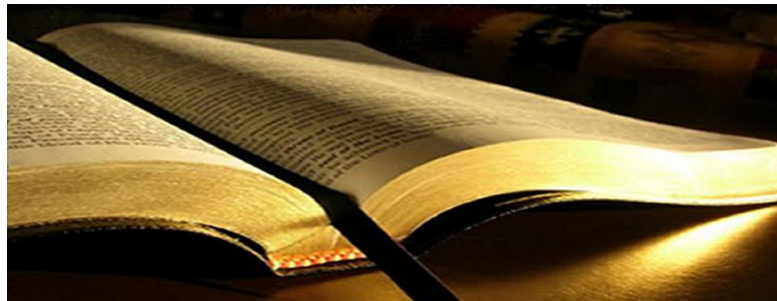
Acts 2:29-36

31 he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. 32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. ↓



Acts 2:29-36

34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand,
35 till I make Your enemies Your footstool.'" ↓



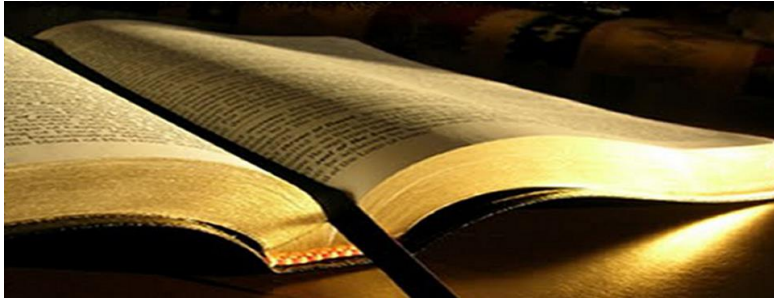
Acts 2:29-36

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

Evidence for the Faithfulness of God

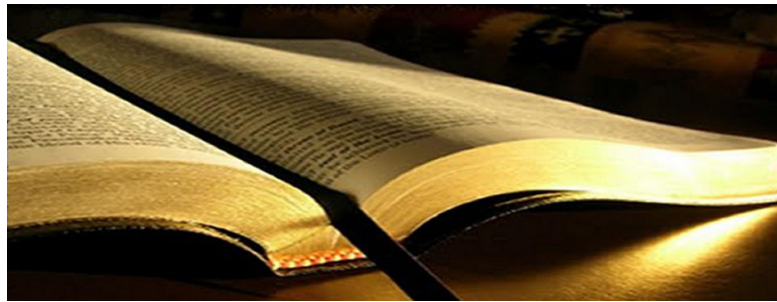
That God has always kept His covenants He has made with man is evidence of His abiding faithfulness

- Daniel, in his prayer to God, acknowledged such faithfulness
- Nehemiah, in prayer, stated the same



Daniel 9:4

And I prayed to the Lord my God, and made confession, and said, “O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments.”



Nehemiah 1:5

And I said: “I pray, Lord God of heaven, O great and awesome God, You who keep Your covenant and mercy with those who love You and observe Your commandments.”



God Is Faithful

How the Faithfulness of God Affects Us Today

The Faithfulness of God Today



God promised a day when He would make a new covenant not only with Israel but with all mankind (Jer. 31:31-34)



Jeremiah 31:31-34

“Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah — 32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the Lord. ↓



Jeremiah 31:31-34

33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ↓



Jeremiah 31:31-34

34 No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

The Faithfulness of God Today



The New Testament makes a clear distinction between the covenant of the Mosaic Law and the covenant of promise

- Paul spoke of these two covenants, the one originating “from Mount Sinai,” the other from “the Jerusalem above” (Gal. 4:21-26)

The Faithfulness of God Today



The death of Jesus on Calvary's hill ushered in the new covenant under which we are justified by God's grace and mercy – it is now possible to have the true forgiveness of sins

The Faithfulness of God Today



The new covenant is the new agreement God has made with mankind based on the death and resurrection of Jesus

The Faithfulness of God Today



Since God has been shown to keep His covenants, His faithfulness is a characteristic of the new covenant which is everlasting

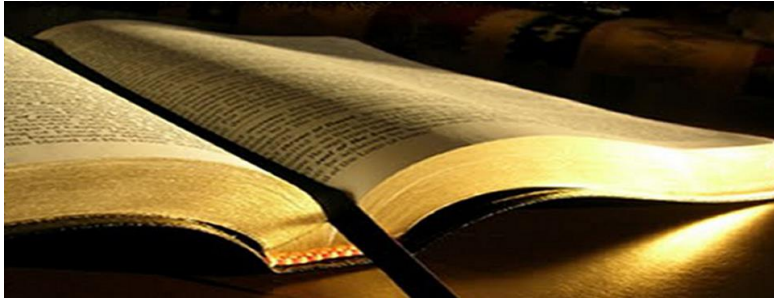
- Several blessings are given to His children because of His faithfulness

The Faithfulness of God Today

Blessings from God's Faithfulness



God's faithfulness, as well as His righteousness, is manifested in the forgiveness of sin (1 John 1:9)



1 John 1:9

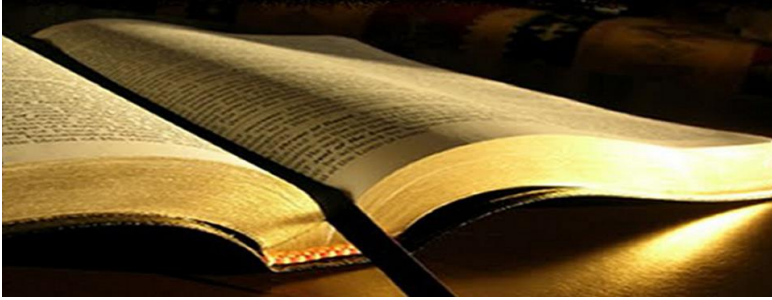
If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

The Faithfulness of God Today

Blessings from God's Faithfulness



God's faithfulness is the assurance of salvation
(Heb. 10:23)



Hebrews 10:23

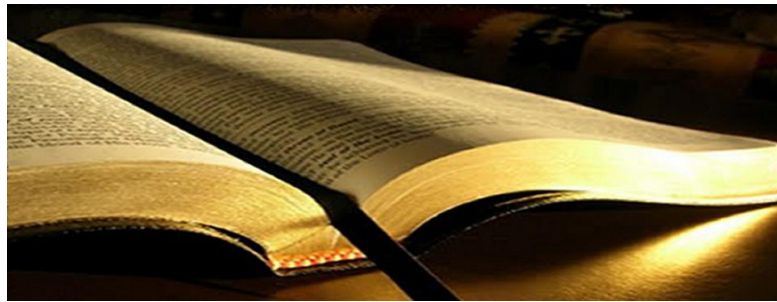
Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

The Faithfulness of God Today

Blessings from God's Faithfulness



God's faithfulness is the source of the Christian's deliverance from temptation (1 Cor. 10:13)



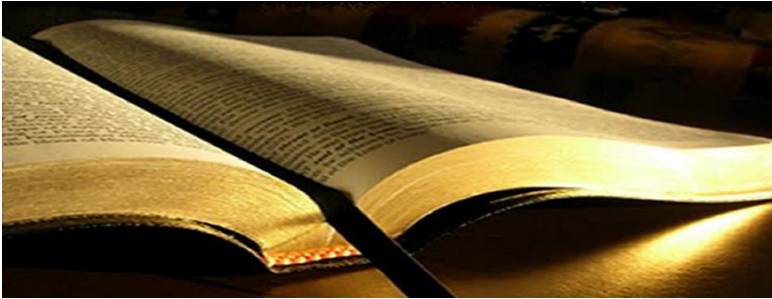
1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

The Faithfulness of God Today



God is faithful to His children because He is first of all faithful to Himself (2 Tim. 2:13)



2 Timothy 2:13

If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

The Faithfulness of God Today

The Faithfulness of Jesus Christ



It is not surprising that the attribute of faithfulness is ascribed to Christ in the New Testament

The Faithfulness of God Today

The Faithfulness of Jesus Christ



He is called a “faithful High Priest” (Heb. 2:17)

- This is seen in His fidelity to His obligations to God and to His saving work

The Faithfulness of God Today

The Faithfulness of Jesus Christ

In the book of Revelation He is called the “faithful witness” and the “Faithful and True” (Rev. 1:5; 3:14; 19:11)

- His faithfulness is seen in His unchangeable nature – He will always be true to Himself and His word





**God Is
Faithful**

Conclusion

The Faithfulness of God

International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia

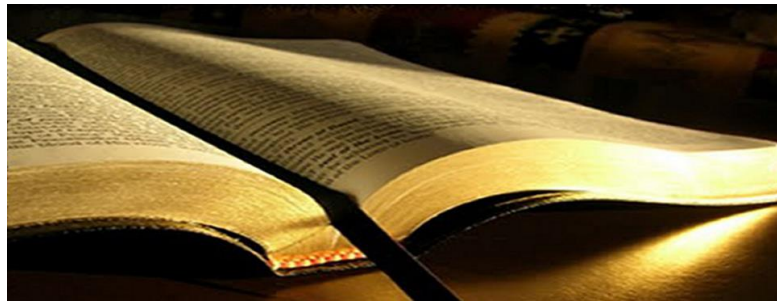


It should never be forgotten that, according to the Scripture, God is faithful in such an absolute sense as to contrast Him with men who are faithful only in a relative sense, and who appear as changeable and faithless in comparison with the faithfulness of God.

God Is Faithful



Because God is faithful, we can place complete trust in Him knowing that what He has promised He will fulfill



Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

God Is Faithful



Mount Ararat in Turkey

Photo by Ferrell Jenkins