**Great is Thy Faithfulness**

**by Pastor Fee Soliven**

**Lamentations 3:22-26**

**Sunday Afternoon**

**April 14, 2024**

**Lamentations 3:22-26**

22 Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. 23 They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. 24 "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him!" 25 The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him. 26 It is good that one should hope and wait quietly For the salvation of the LORD

**Faithfulness is one of the most Important Qualities in a Person’s Life**

Saints, we need to be able to believe what others say or promise to do, and they must be able to trust us as well.

Unfaithfulness is a form of deception or hypocrisy, and it leads to feelings of disappointment and betrayal when we discover that our trust in someone has been misplaced.

As Christians, we should always strive to be faithful to God and to others.

When Jacob considered all that the Lord had done for him, he prayed,

**Genesis 32:9-10**

9 Then Jacob said, "O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, the LORD who said to me, 'Return to your country and to your family, and I will deal well with you': 10 I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies and of all the truth which You have shown Your servant; for I crossed over this Jordan with my staff, and now I have become two companies.

Saints, God is always faithful, but we must pay attention to Him. We should consider the many ways He has proven Himself faithful in our life and then respond in gratitude.

**Scripture Affirms God’s Faithfulness**

**Deuteronomy 7:9**

“Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His faithfulness to a thousand generations for those who love Him and keep His commandments.”

**Psalm 33:4**

”For the word of the Lord is right, And all His work is done in faithfulness.”

**Psalm 36:5**

“Your mercy, Lord, extends to the heavens, Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.”

**Psalm 119:90**

“Your faithfulness continues throughout generations.”

**Lamentations 3:22-23**

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

**2 Timothy 2:13**

“If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.”

Saints, although our faithfulness wavers, these scriptures affirm that God is faithful all the time.

Even the sin of His children will not nullify it. Because the Lord is immutable (never changing), none of His attributes change.

That’s why we can be confident that He will keep all His promises. Saints, God’s faithfulness is a certainty we can rest upon.

When He says,

**Hebrews 13:5**

Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Saints, we can have confidence that we are secure in Him!

Saints, the Holy Spirit works to express within us the qualities consistent with God’s nature, and this includes faithfulness.

We should be who we claim to be and do what we commit to do.

To give any other impression is deception. But none of us have the strength, fortitude, and faithfulness to live the Christian life apart from the enablement of the Holy Spirit who indwells us.

Even Christ’s disciples couldn’t do it. That’s why Jesus told them to wait in Jerusalem until they were

**Luke 24:46-49**

46 Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And you are witnesses of these things. 49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

Saints, if we have trusted Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, we have been sealed by the Holy Spirit who empowers us to be faithful in every circumstance.

But if we fail and grieve the Spirit, He convicts us of sin so we can repent and receive forgiveness. He truly is our divine Enabler and Helper.

**God has Promised to be Faithful to Us**

**He will Always Forgive Us**

 **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.

Saints, forgiveness is only possible because Jesus paid our sin debt in full with His death on the cross.

Now God can forgive us because Christ’s sacrifice satisfied His justice. Those of us who have accepted Jesus can now come to God and receive forgiveness because He is faithful to keep this promise.

**God’s Faithfulness Limits the Power of our Temptation**

**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.

Saints, if we will rely on this promise, we won’t have to yield to temptation. God has established a limit and provided an escape so we can endure the enticement without falling.

**We can have the Peace of God**

**Philippians 4:7**

“and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus”

Saints, if we bring our anxieties to the Lord in prayer, we can receive His peace even in the midst of trying situations.

It will guard our hearts and minds and keep us from giving up hope or blaming and accusing God.

**The Holy Spirit Limits the power of Satan in our Lives**

**2 Thessalonians 3:3**

“But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one”

Satan is under God’s control and does not have freedom to do whatever he desires in our lives.

Saints, these four promises can enable us to face whatever challenges come our way because we can count on the faithfulness of our God.

We may not understand our situation, but we can trust in the One who forgives our sins, limits our temptations, gives us peace in troubled times, and controls Satan’s access to us.

Our confidence in the faithfulness of the Scripture is tested when we go through trials because they challenge our belief in who God is and what He has said.

These tests reveal our areas of weakness so that God can strengthen us to overcome them. His goal is that the fruit of the Spirit spoken of in:

**Galatians 5:22-25**

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Through the Holy Spirit this becomes a part of our character and is worked out in our lifestyles.

**When we walk in the Spirit, we’ll have the following characteristics:**

**1. Devoted to God**

He will be the only One we follow.

**2. Loyal**

We will be someone others can count on to do what we say we will.

**3. Unwavering**

Our reliability won’t vary from day to day.

**4. Steadfast**

We’ll be steady in our commitments and unshaken by changing circumstances.

**5. Trustworthy**

Others can believe us because we will always speak truth.

**6. Dependable**

People can rely on us to show up on time and accomplish what we undertake.

**7. Obedient**

Saints, although we won’t do it perfectly, our desire and aim will be to obey God

**8. Fruitful**

Our lives will have a positive influence on others

**9. Faithful**

We will be faithful to God and to others

**How confident are you that you can trust the Lord in every circumstance?**

**In what ways has He demonstrated His faithfulness in your life?**

**How faithful are you to other people in your life?**

**How faithful are you to the Lord?**

Saints, Soon and Very soon, Jesus is about to appear, we are almost out of here!

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**Rapture Video>**

**Acts 2:38-39**

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**Let’s Pray!**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace." '**