

GOD IS FAITHFUL

By Don Krider

The word that God has dropped into my heart is "**faithfulness.**" *Lam. 3:23 ...Great is thy faithfulness* - the Lord's faithfulness. We talk about being faithful to God. We talk about **our** faithfulness but aren't you glad that it wasn't your faithfulness that saved you or that it isn't your faithfulness that is keeping you. You see, if you have any faithfulness that God is looking for, it comes from His divine nature. An attribute of Christ's dwelling in you is that there is not only righteousness, not only holiness, but there is faithfulness being produced; not the kind that men can produce, that fails or is faithful only to that which they want to be faithful to, but God is looking for that people that have died to self, that have come alive to Christ, and are trusting totally in the Lord.

You may think you can't do that. Oh, yes, you can; in fact you will have to in these last great days. The time is coming upon the earth when the church won't be able to trust any more in flesh and blood. The church will no longer be able to get its substance anywhere but from the Lord. I'm excited about that day. I'm excited about the hour when God shall shake all that can be shaken, and that which remains is the Kingdom - a Kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost, filled with faithful people.

Let's look at *Heb. 11:11 Through faith also Sarah herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age...* She operated through faith but not her own faith. Look at the next portion of this verse: *Heb. 11:11 ... because she judged Him faithful who had promised.*

This has to come by revelation. You don't all of a sudden become faithful to anything. You might become obligated, you might become weary, you might become a lot of things but faithfulness causes you to understand that God is God - that man has not given us the promise. She received that child because she finally began to realize that man could not do it. She knew she would have to get hold of a faithful God. When she began to judge Him faithful, when she got her eyes off of self, when she got her eyes off of old age, when she got her eyes off of her dead womb, when she quit trying to help God produce a promised seed, then she received the strength to conceive.

When you quit trying to help God, when you begin to judge Him faithful, you are going to be able to enjoy the Lord. The reason we don't enjoy God is that we are still trying to prove our faithfulness to God. We need to get our eyes off of our abilities. I can imagine Sarah saying to Abraham, "Abraham we are not going to have any children unless we do something about this. You're almost one hundred years old. I'm ninety years old, and you think we are going to have kids? Twenty-five years ago you had a promise; so what. Twenty-five years we have been running around out here in the wilderness and we don't have a son to give our program to. Abraham, we have to help God now." Abraham says, "Well, maybe you're right. By golly, now that I am thinking about it, it has been twenty-five years, hasn't it." So they helped God, didn't they?

Abraham had a promise from God. Sarah had a promise from God; but they got together with their own plan. That's the worst thing you can ever do, is get together and see how you can help God. The problem is that you always drag some innocent party in with you. You get a Hagar who didn't have anything to do with the thing in the first place. Listen, when somebody starts to give you their plan, check the word of God. Faithful is He that promised.

Judge Him to be faithful - make a choice that He is the faithful one. Flesh will lie to you, flesh will deceive you. Your natural eye will deceive you, your natural ear will deceive you, and it will keep you in a turmoil. It will keep you torn up. It doesn't look right, it doesn't sound right, it doesn't make sense, it can't work this way, but God promised. We don't have anything to do except judge Him to be faithful.

Abraham was called the father of the faithful, wasn't he? How faithful was Abraham? Well, I know two places when he gave his wife away (*Ge.n 12:11-20; Gen. 20:1-18*). In *Genesis chapter 16*, he compromised with his wife instead of trusting God and slept with another woman and got him an Ishmaelite. **He wasn't too faithful, was he, but God wasn't looking at faithfulness in the flesh. He was looking at a faithfulness that only God could produce.** Finally Sarah woke up and she said, "Hey, wait a minute, we are all wrong here. God is faithful. Abraham, you're not faithful and I certainly haven't been faithful. When God says that it's going to happen, it's going to happen."

Do you think God is going to build on your faithfulness? Forget it! **When you stand before the Lord, if you have been faithful at all it's because God gave you the grace to have it produced in your life.** We are trying to produce faithfulness through all kinds of programs. We'll get up at six o'clock in the morning and be faithful to pray. Pretty soon we get up at six o'clock in the morning and hate to pray. Faithfulness makes you want to do it. Faithfulness makes you want to love the Lord. Faithfulness makes you want to serve God.

It's not because there isn't great preaching that the churches aren't filled. It's not because men and women aren't witnessing. It's because the body hasn't been faithful. They have judged the wrong people faithful. They have judged pastors faithful. They have judged men faithful, but the word says it's because finally Sarah judged God faithful. She got down to the point where she realized: "Abraham couldn't do it, I couldn't do it, but God is faithful. He promised it to me and it's going to happen just like He said it would happen."

We're trying to save our kids. What we need to do is turn them over to Him who is able; turn them over to Him who is faithful. We are trying to build something bigger and something better when God has already built the something bigger and something better. When God has built the best, why build anything else. We must enter into His faithfulness and judge Him to be faithful.

Paul said, "I've judged him to be faithful, I am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day" (*2 Tim. 1:12*). I am persuaded. I have judged Him who is faithful, and He is faithful to keep what I have given to Him. This will relieve you of all responsibility when you realize that there is nothing good in your flesh, but there is one who is faithful. There is one who is able. There is one who can perform in you the mighty

works of God. There is one who will not give up on you. He will perform it because He is faithful.

You may not like it. He may have to drag you through a lot of knotholes. He may have to whip you good. He may have to shut you up until you finally come to a point where you say, "I can't do it, Lord. Every time I try to do it I just get tired, I get worn out, I get disgusted, I want to give up." Then God will say, "The best thing you have said yet is **GIVE UP**. When you give up on your faithfulness and begin to operate on mine then you will be faithful; then you will begin to operate around where I can use you." If you can boast on your faithfulness to earn anything from God, it's His faithfulness. ***1 Cor. 1:29 No flesh shall glory in the presence of the Lord.***

Sarah, considering her age, said, "I can't perform it this way." She looked at Abraham and said, "We can't get it done this way." And finally it got through to her heart and she judged God to be faithful. She said, "God made the promise, Abraham you did not. God made the promise, I did not." Ishmael was not the son of promise; Isaac was!

I'm going to pray that I will simply be in the will of God. I'm going to pray for the lost. I'm going to pray for weak brothers and sisters. I'm going to pray for the Church that God is going to build. He's faithful. He said in ***Psalm 127:1 Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.*** Unless He builds that house (or His Church) and the city (and we are that Holy City), we labor in vain to build it.

Our problem is that we are about 35,000 miles ahead of God. He's not in a hurry, He's right on time. He's putting every bolt where it's supposed to be; putting every nut where it's supposed to be. Building! He is faithful. He promised and I believe it. He promised and He will deliver. No matter how old I get, no matter how weak I get in the flesh, I don't have to worry about it because He will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ (***Phil 1:6***). I've taken my hands off of it.

Did you ever find yourself like Sarah? You looked at all the excuses you could and finally decided to do something to help God. What happened every time you tried to help God? He didn't thank you, did He. No, He had to go back and straighten it all out after you got it all messed up. We have a revelation, so we are going to run out there and do something for God. And God says, "Wait a minute! I'm faithful! All your flesh strength and all your efforts are just going to make you tired and get you nothing."

All you have to do is hold on. When somebody says, "Look, it isn't going to work," be like Sarah and say, "He promised me. I don't care what it looks like; I don't care if I am ninety years old, God said it, that settles it." Get hold of that profession of faith, hold on to it. Put it into your heart and hold fast to it. He is faithful who promised. He will bring it to pass. I don't care what it looks like, I don't care how old you get, I don't care how weak you are - if God has promised you something it is going to happen. But if God did not promise it to you, all the work you do will be in vain. Forget it, it is not going to work. If He promised it, you

can relax, you can enjoy, you can begin to praise Him, you can hold fast to what God has promised you.

Num. 23:19 God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

The Church doesn't act like it is going to have revival. It doesn't act like it has been promised revival. The Church looks more like it's looking for a way to hide somewhere. But God is faithful and He has promised. All I have to do is hold on to it. Somebody said that there are bad days coming for the Church. God said I am going to have good days all the days of my life (***Psalms 23:6; 27:3-5***). Better things are yet to come, not worse things. He made a better covenant for me; He made a better way for me. He gave a better priesthood to me. I'm going to hold fast to that. I don't care what it looks like. I don't care how the world shakes. I don't care how economy goes. I don't care how anything goes. He's the only one who is faithful.

God is faithful and He has promised us a mighty move of the Holy Spirit before His return. I'm looking for it, I'm expecting it, I'm living in it, I'm rejoicing in it, I'm singing in it, I'm praising in it and I don't care what anybody says, I'm going to see that great move of God. I'm going to live to see it because He is faithful who promised.

Rev. 1:5 And from Jesus Christ who is the faithful witness...

I don't care how many people said that it isn't going to happen, God has one faithful witness who has been tested, tried, and has been proven. He doesn't change His mind and He doesn't love with respect of persons. I am going to tell you again that things don't get bad in the Kingdom of God, they get better. Things don't get bad in the Spirit, they get better. But the flesh gets shaken so that we don't have confidence in it. The true worshipers can worship Christ in Spirit and in truth; those who worship Him in Spirit and have no confidence in the flesh (***Phil 3:3***). The Church still wants to see somebody; they still want to be able to touch somebody physically.

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

It could happen tonight, it could happen in the morning, it could happen within this next week that we will wake up and what we know today as the government of this country operating the way it does, may be gone. The judgment of God may have run its course and when you wake up tomorrow you won't have a job to go to.

Then those who have judged Him faithful will find the house of God. They will come together rejoicing. They will come together singing and praising. When they wake up and everything is falling apart, they are **not** going to say, "Woe is me - I lost it all." They are going to say, "Thank you Lord, this is the mighty move of God that you promised." This is the great day of restoration that the Lord has promised, but to make it come to pass, He must

shake everything that can be shaken. But you see, if you know that He who promised is faithful, it won't make any difference.

The Church has to get hold of this. Man falls and the Church begins to fall with him. The preacher goes wrong and 500 people fall down. I have news for you, the preacher isn't able to bring this revival. He may, with all of his heart, hold fast to his profession but it's going to be the Holy Spirit that brings it. My prayer is that you will stand strong in the Lord because the time is at hand, but He is faithful who promised. People are trying to go out and gain in the world so that they can have their confidence in the world. Money is not faithful. The government isn't faithful. It can't be because there is only one faithful witness: the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev. 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.

I'm going to show you what kind of people are walking with the Lord today and will be revealed in the last day. The word of God explains itself.

Rev. 17:14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

What does it take for me to be able to walk with the Lord every day of my life? These three things: called, chosen, and faithful. You didn't call yourself; God called you. You didn't choose God; He chose you. You can't make yourself faithful; God does that. You have to die to self. You have to die to all your religious efforts and all your religious abilities. Get it into your spirit and begin to sing unto the Lord a new song, a song that comes from the innermost being.

Let's quit praying in carnality. Begin to pray in the spirit and that doesn't mean you're going to pray only with an unknown tongue. That means that when you pray, it's going to be spiritual things that come out of your mouth. It's going to be prayers that the Church will be strengthened with the inner man not just the outer man.

(Eph. 3:16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;).

No matter what happens to the outer man, Christ will be shaped and formed in us. If you really believe you are called, then Romans 8:28 takes a whole new meaning.

Rom. 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

"You mean that all of this that is going on is working for my good?" It's sure not working for the world's good. When all of the signs around us are coming down around the world's ears, it's not working for their good. The plan that God has from the beginning is that HE would shake everything so the true Church will be revealed. When this shaking happens, those who just come to church and say, "I'm a Christian" are going to be shaken off so the called and the chosen and the faithful can be revealed.

The Church ought to be so much on fire today that nobody who is not called and chosen and faithful can stay in it. I'm looking for an explosion to blow away the dead wood, and then will come forth the new growth; then will come forth the true branches; then will come forth the true leaves; then will come forth the true fruit; then will come forth that tree of righteousness.

Sarah is a key to something here. She tried with all of her strength to bring an heir to Abraham. God already has His heirs.

It's not by might nor power, but by my Spirit sayeth the Lord of hosts (Zech. 4:6).

He says: "I am giving life to whomsoever I will. I am birthing into my Kingdom whomsoever I will and they that will walk with Me are the called and the chosen and the faithful."

You see, when Sarah (the religious church) quit trying to produce the heirs, God gave them one. When we quit trying to have revival, when we die to self and quit seeing everything after "I see, I hear, I feel, and I think" we're going to have one. We had better get our hands off of God's program. We had better get our hands in the air and begin to hold fast to the profession that we truly believe in our heart.

The Lord is going to send a revival like this world has never seen but at the same time chaotic things are going to happen. This world is going to be shaken, the religious system is going to be shaken, but thank God, there will be a called, a chosen, and a faithful people that have stood faithful to God - a people that have taken their hands off of God's movement and are no longer trying to figure out how to make it work.

Did God ask you to help Him get the sun up this morning? What if you had passed on last night, do you think God's program would have suffered a whole lot of loss? We have this thing all backwards. It's not our faith that is producing anything. **It's God's faithfulness being produced through us that produces.**

All man has the power to reproduce in his natural form is a natural state. But God working through you and in you can produce faithfulness that will read the word of God, and quit looking at it as though it was some magazine off a shelf that you read like anything else. This is spiritual food for a spiritual Church for those that are called and chosen and faithful. **It is the living word of a living God, and He will cause it to be quickened into your spirit and bring you alive.**

"Isn't there anything I can do, Lord, to make it hurry up?" He says, "No, just enjoy it. I am right on time; you're just living in the manifestation of what I finished a long time ago. You can't make it come to pass by your own ability. All you will produce is an Ishmaelite; he will live in the camp until you run him off and then he will hinder you."

It's time for the Church to look at this thing in reality. If God has promised you something, get your hands off of it. Say, "Lord, praise God, whatever trials I am going through, whatever testing I'm going through, before you manifest it that's fine, because I've already got it. I don't care what I look like, I don't care how old I am, I don't care what seemingly is wrong. You promised and I have judged You faithful. I am going to quit judging men faithful. I am going to quit judging women faithful. I am going to quit judging flesh faithful, but God, I judge You faithful. Though every man fall, though every woman fall, God You are faithful."

This way nobody is going to get any glory. You didn't call, you didn't choose. You can't make yourself faithful. The best you can do is to say, "Lord, produce faithfulness in me, I am going to die to self today. Lord, I am going to get up and deny this flesh guy today. No matter what my flesh wants to do, if it isn't what You want, I am not going to do it." That's when it gets to be fun.

We have had a lot of faith revivals, had a lot of faith movements, had a lot of programs that men have built. If they had worked, the churches would have been packed.

A revival is coming that isn't like anything we have ever seen. It's not going to be another realm of healers and deliverers. It's going to be a body coming together. It's going to be like a mighty wave. It's going to come right up out of the middle. Those who are caught up in it, those who are loving the Lord, those who are in the water of the word, those who are moving with God, are going to be in this move of God.

The first thing it is going to do is wash away the natural who has tried to play religious and keep what he wanted to and please God. The next thing you are going to see is God bringing forth a people. God is faithful who promised.

How do you know that you are going to be in it? Because God promised. How do you know that you are not going to starve to death before then? Because God promised. How do you know that you are not going to be completely destitute by the time that the Lord does this? Because God promised.

You see, when we quit working on men's promises and men's faithfulness, we are going to see God's faithfulness. And when we live in God's faithfulness, others can doubt all they want to, we will still say, "**God promised.**" **AMEN!**

Psalm 89:1 I will sing of the mercies of the LORD forever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations. (2) For I have said, Mercy shall be

built up forever: thy faithfulness shalt thou establish in the very heavens. (3) I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant, (4) Thy seed will I establish forever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah. (5) And the heavens shall praise thy wonders, O LORD: thy faithfulness also in the congregation of the saints. (6) For who in the heaven can be compared unto the LORD? Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened unto the LORD? (7) God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him. (8) O LORD God of hosts, who is a strong LORD like unto thee? Or to thy faithfulness round about thee? (9) Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them. (10) Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain; thou hast scattered thine enemies with thy strong arm. (11) The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine: as for the world and the fullness thereof, thou hast founded them.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I preached the enclosed message several years ago in a Church, and a sister came down to the front crying. She said, "Brother Krider, tonight the Holy Spirit spoke to me. I was ready to give up because I counted men faithful and they let me down every time. But God is faithful. God told me to do the work I am doing. I'm going on with the work of God."

*Men and women will promise you anything to get what they want, but God is the only faithful one who is able to do anything for you. A lot of people want to be around the called, the chosen, the faithful, because there is a charisma around them. But when you start getting in hard places, then look around. It won't take long to number the called, the chosen, the faithful. "Brother Krider, nobody will go with me." **God will go with you!***

Everywhere we go the Holy Spirit is beginning to bring a unity, a oneness in the body of Christ. The miracle that is the greatest miracle of all is that there is becoming a oneness and a unity in the body of Christ that man cannot bring. All the efforts of man can do nothing about it.

God is saying, "I am going to separate Me a people. I am going to move like I have never moved before. I have promised in My word, and I cannot lie. I am faithful. All I want you to do is hold on to it and believe it. Put it into your heart and hide it there. When men say that it is not going to happen, say that God is faithful. When they say that you are going to fail, say that God is faithful. Don't argue with them, just say that God is faithful; He promised and He is faithful." AMEN!

I pray that this message may encourage you and be a blessing to you.

*Your brother in Christ;
Don Krider
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