

Faithful

The word faithful is used 82 times in the King James Version of the Bible, 54 in the New Testament. The word translated “faithful” is used 66 times in the New Testament. It is sometimes translated, “believing” (John 20:29); also “believed” (Acts 10:45); and “true” (2 Corinthians 1:18). It is defined by Vine’s as, “trusted, reliable, and it is said of God, Christ, and the Words of God.” Strong defines it as, “objectively, trustworthy, subjectively, trustfully.” Thayer says, One who trusts in God’s promises (Gal. 3:9), is convinced that Jesus has been raised from the dead –; one who has become convinced that Jesus is the Messiah and the author of salvation.

The word is used in the context of, “who then is a faithful and wise steward” (Luke 12:42). We find that Paul by inspiration said, “it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful” (1 Corinthians 4:2). In several places, we find God is faithful (1 Corinthians 1:9; 10:13; 2 Corinthians 1:18. Finally, in Ephesians 1:1 we find some who are “faithful in Christ Jesus.”

The most interesting places that this word is used is in Revelation 2:10, which says, “Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.” Here the meaning would be “an admonition to hold the faith and not deny the Lord, even to the point of dying for the faith. The Lord is not saying ‘until you die,’ though this is required; but He is saying accept death rather than recant.” [Revelation an Introduction and Commentary by Homer Hailey, copyright 1979, Baker Book House Company, page 128].

Another passage is found in Titus 1:6, which says, “If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused or riot or unruly.” What does faithful mean in this passage? If this man has two children and one of them attends only once a week is this

man qualified to be an elder? Just what is our definition of faithful? What if this man has children who attend another congregation that is not what we call faithful? Are his children faithful? Is this man qualified to be an elder? Is attendance the flagship of the definition of the word “faithful?” One could attend all the service of the church and not be faithful! So what do we mean by faithful?

They might not be faithful in other areas of their life. Attending all the services may be a gauge of their faithfulness but it does not guarantee that of his children are faithful.

What does it mean to be “faithful?” If God is faithful and He is, what does it mean for God to be faithful? Do we have one definition for God and another for ourselves? Christ is also faithful? What do we expect of Him? Do we expect more of Him than we do for ourselves, when defining the word “faithful?” We have found that the Word of God is faithful, but what does that mean? Can we have different meanings to the same word in the same context? What does it mean to have “faithful children?” How long is a father responsible for his children; all of his life or theirs? These are some interesting questions that need answers. I hope this will help you get your Bibles out and start studying. Let us think on these things! Love Keith

Those serving...Next Sunday

Song Leading
Scripture Reading
Opening Prayer
Lord’s Supper

Closing Prayer
Announcements/Invitation

Don Evans
Caleb Stacks
Calvin McCoy
Tommy Stacks(P)
Jerry Shepherd, John Hughes, Harry Wise,
Timmy Thomas, Art Hein, Tony Casselle
Keith Dixon
Larry Eldridge

BULLETIN INFORMATION

If there is something that needs to be put in the bulletin please email Crissy at trudyblue1@yahoo.com. Please get this info to her before Thursday evening. You can also text her with info at 706-206-8514