

The Word is Faithful

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If you have children, or are going to have children, you may be interested in this. Recent studies show that directly after birth through age 3, baby's brains are continuing to develop rapidly because human babies are born before their brains are fully developed. As part of this continuation in brain development, babies are born with the highest number of neurons that they will have at any other stage and age of life. The human potential is wrapped up in this neat little package, and these neurons will affect health, growth and maturity throughout their lives.

The new birth from God is similar in comparison to physical human growth in that, all our potential is wrapped up inside that new man, that incorruptible seed at the time of the new birth. It's a new day! It's Christ in you, the hope of glory! The physical side of life is unaffected by the new birth because it is spirit, however as a person puts on God's Word in their life, and walks out on that information, a great transformation takes place, which affects the mental, physical and spiritual side of our lives.

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Such a fantastic verse in the Word of God! The Amplified Bible translates this verse is very descriptive. (AMP) ² **And do not be conformed to this age [any longer with its superficial values and customs], but be transformed *and* progressively changed [as you mature spiritually] by the renewing of your mind [focusing on godly values and ethical attitudes], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His plan and purpose for you]**".

Throughout the course my life, I have thought about this verse, as I am sure we all have. It is the "go to" verse that has helped me time and time again. When we boil it all down to one basic thing, and back to the least common denominator, the only thing that makes this whole renewing of the mind work is... **GOD'S WORD!** It is God's Word that has integrity. It's God's Word that is faithful and works all the time. It's God's Word that brought us the new life by way of the new birth in the first place. And it is God's Word that we can count on, without fail, throughout the course of every day of our lives.

Lamentations 3:22 *It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed [destroyed], because his compassions [tender love] fail not. 23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.*

Great is God's faithfulness! Another great verse about God and His Word. God is faithful, He is reliable, He is trustworthy, he does not fail to show compassion. That is not something that He tries to be. It's not something that He wishes to be. It's not something that He is endeavoring to be. FAITHFULNESS is something HE is! God is faithful!

1Timothy 1:15 *This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.*

Here it is talking specifically about the Word of God being faithful regarding Jesus Christ coming into the world to save sinners. This is prefaced by emphasizing that the Word of God is faithful, but the faithfulness of the Word applies to all of the Word of God. God is faithful, reliable, trustworthy. The Word of God is not inert. It is not motionless, lifeless or inactive. It's not stale and decrepit. It is not outdated. It does what it says it does so a person can count on it 100% of the time. And has proven the test of time.

Psalm 62:11 God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power *belongeth* unto God.

When we read “twice have I heard this,” it is a way to emphasize saying, “many times.” God has spoken many times that power belongs to Him. God is powerful.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God *is* quick [living], and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The Word of God is active *and* full of power, which makes it operative in our lives when we put it on and walk out on it. It energizes our lives, and it is effective in what it does for our lives.

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: 11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it. 12 For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap *their* hands. 13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign *that* shall not be cut off.

The Bible is the revelation from God to mankind. It is true and it is powerful. There are many characteristics and attributes of God that are transferred and reflected in His Word. The Word God is the revelation of God Who is faithful; Who is light; Who is love; Who does not lie; Who is powerful, Who is wise; as well as so many other wonderful and magnificent attributes and characteristics that are the makeup of His Word.

It may appear at times that God’s Word does not work in a person’s life. That it is hit and miss, and that it falls short of expectations. That it will not accomplish what it needs to accomplish. Not true.

To the contrary, His Word will not return void, meaning it is not useless; it is not without results, it is not without accomplishing what He desires, and without succeeding *in the matter* for which He sends it to do!

II Timothy 3:16 “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God...”

All, meaning **ALL** Scripture, Old Testament and New Testament is given by inspiration of God, meaning ALL Scripture is God-breathed, it is the revelation from God; not just a little bit here and a little bit there. God did not sprinkle His Word a little in the Bible, and a little in the Bhagavad Gita (Hinduism), and a little bit in the Koran (Islamism), and a little bit in the Tao Ti Ching (Taoism), and little bit in the Tripitaka (Buddhism). NO, none of those things contain the revelation from the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. (They may be from, or about a god, but the true God. God put it all in one place. He spoke it to those who would listen and obey and write it down. As a result, we have the revelation that God purposed for us to have. Yes, it takes some work to see the revealed Word and will of God, but it is there for us. And every bit of it is faithful. Furthermore, it continues to describe itself in II Timothy 3:16:

Verse 16 “...and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.”

When we read that the Word of God is profitable we know that is true because God is behind it. The Word of God is profitable... all of it, all of the time. No fluctuations or ups and downs. You don't need to wake up in the morning and check to see if it is still profitable. Because the Word of God, the Bible is the revelation of God Who is faithful, powerful, loving and so many other things, we can be absolutely sure His Word is profitable.

1 Corinthians 4:1 Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. 2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

Paul and company had proven to be faithful ministers of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. But the Corinthian believers had not proven themselves to be faithful to God and to Christ, and Paul tells them that a requirement that needed to be found in a steward, an administrator of the things of God, was faithfulness. "Required" means something that is sought after, something that is looked for. Faithfulness is not something that comes as part of our genetic makeup. Faithfulness in someone might be sought after but is not necessarily easy to find. Faithfulness is not based on the clothes you wear, or having a specific title by your name. If we want to be stewards of the things of God, we must invest the time and effort to consistently believe in God and become trustworthy.

God is faithful; that is the essence of what He is. But people are **not** born faithful. Faithfulness takes time. It is like hunting for buried treasure. We follow the roadmap as God has laid out. We follow the trail that leads to the treasure that Christ has established by his accomplished works. The map, the directions, the pathway, the trail is correct; it will never lead you astray. At times it is perilous, but it is worth staying on the path because it will get us where we want to go. It will give us the right path to the **treasure**.

Colossians 2:2 That their hearts might be comforted [encouraged], being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; 3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Working Translation: 2 So that their hearts may be encouraged, united in love, even unto all riches of the complete certainty of understanding, unto the knowledge [*acknowledgment*] of the mystery of God concerning Christ, 3 in which all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden.

So much is packed into these two verses! God desires that our hearts be encouraged, united in love, even unto the complete certainty of understanding. That's outstanding! Complete certainty is something that every human longs to have, so that they no longer are tossed from pillar to post. It's complete certainty, having understanding to the end of acknowledgment of the mystery of God concerning Christ. And to that end, we find ALL THE TREASURES OF WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE!

So we practice faithfulness during our waking ours, and we teach other believers in the body to do the same.

I Timothy 4:6 If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of [the right way of believing] faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.

By laying these *things* before our brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, being nourished by the words of the [*right way of*] believing and of the good teaching that *was taught*, which you have faithfully followed. We faithfully study it, faithfully practice it, and then faithfully and accurately teach it to others. This is the only way people can learn to know and believe and trust God and His Word.

Verse 7 but refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.

The way you refuse food contrary to the Word of God is not by saying: “Thank you, but not right now...maybe later.” The way you refuse it is: “NO! Not today, not tomorrow, never!” The reason we refuse words, ideas, philosophies, contrary to the Word of God is because no matter how intelligent and logical they sound, they are nothing more than profane and foolish. What you do instead is exercise unto godliness, unto developing a close, true, vital personal relationship with God.

Verse 8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

Bodily exercise is profitable for a little while, but godliness is profitable for all things, all the time. It has the promise of what was and what is of this present life and of that which is to come in the future. (A very easy way to prove that bodily exercise profits for a little time is to count the calories you burn after you run for an hour, and then subtract the calories contained in your favorite food snack. You'll see that you are practically wasting your time!) Godliness is the true, vital and spiritual relationship with God. Godliness is profitable unto all things, now and forever. Godliness is not a “once in a lifetime” thing. To develop your relationship with God takes work, it takes faithfulness, it takes time. That is why we exercise unto godliness. God is always faithful, His Word is always faithful.

Godliness is not something magical or emotional. What matters in order to develop our relationship with God is not the emotional aspect of it, but the work we put into it, the commitment, the efforts and time to develop that relationship. Our relationship with God is something very precious that we have to cultivate, guard, develop and treasure.

Verse 9 This *is* a faithful saying [the Word is faithful] and worthy of all acceptance [acceptance].

Titus 3:8: *This is a faithful saying* [the Word is faithful], and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful [might think carefully] to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

The Word of God, the “logos” is faithful. This Word of God spoken of here is regarding the gift of holy spirit and other things made available by Jesus Christ’s accomplishments. We see that these things mentioned in these two verses (and elsewhere) had to constantly be affirmed so that they which believed in God would make sure that they maintained good works. The faithful Word of God has integrity. Integrity simply means that what it says it what it means. God has a purpose for everything He says; Where He says it, Why He says it. To whom He says it. When He says it.

We can count on the Word of God to work in our lives. We can be assured that when we believe what it says, that we will get the results that it says.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

The Lord is not delaying His promises, as some consider *it* a delay, but He is long-suffering toward you... So let’s let the simplicity and the accuracy and integrity of God’s Word rule in our life. THE WORD IS FAITHFUL!