INTRO: ARE YOU FAITHFUL? I have been beginning each of my last 6 sermons with that question as we have been studying FAITHFULNESS. So, the question is: ARE YOU TRULY A FAITHFUL PERSON TO GOD, TO OTHERS, TO YOUR MINISTRY, TO YOUR CHURCH, TO YOUR FAMILY! ARE YOU FAITHFUL IN ALL THINGS? Only YOU can truly answer that question, however, others will be able to see your faithfulness as well. So, maybe you should ask them what they think. But, today as we take another step in our study on FAITHFULNESS, we will ask another question: IS GOD FAITHFUL? Now, right off of the bat, that may be easy to answer. But, there are times when we go through dark seasons of our life when we struggle with God being FAITHFUL. Things do not go the way we want, or we face a great trial, or some tragedy happens in our life and we ask, IS GOD FAITHFUL? Well, theologically and practically speaking, the answer to that question is a DEFINITE YES! GOD IS ALWAYS FAITHFUL! When we face circumstances in which the FAITHFULNESS OF GOD IS QUESTIONED, it is not that God has left us down at all, but rather that WE CANNOT SEE THE BIG PICTURE AS GOD IS DIRECTING IT. In those times, we just need to trust in THE EVER LASTING CARE OF THE LORD! What is that called? IT IS CALLED FAITH! Today we are going to study the FAITHFULNESS OF GOD so that we can understand His working more, appreciate Him more, and learn that no matter how bad things look, GOD IS STILL VERY FAITHFUL AND WILL GET US THROUGH FOR OUR GOOD AND FOR HIS GLORY!

INTRODUCTORY SCRIPTURES ON THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD:
Isaiah 41:10; 43:2,3; 1 Corinthians 1:9; 10:13; 1 Thessalonians 5:13

I. THE MEANING OF GOD’S FAITHFULNESS VS. 9a

“HE IS GOD, THE FAITHFUL GOD.”

A. The Meaning of God’s Faithfulness Described in His Word
   1. “Know Therefore.” – In light of what has been said in the previous context, make a CERTAIN PRIORITY to understand WHAT IS ABOUT TO BE SAID NOW.
   2. “The Lord Thy God, He is God.” – This phrase is filled with great meaning about God. It teaches that He is GOD, AND GOD ALONE, WHO IS PERSONAL, EXCLUSIVE, UNPARALLELED, AND UNMATCHED AS THE ONE AND ONLY TRUE GOD.
   3. “The Faithful God.” – In relation to all other “false-gods” which may have existed then or now, GOD CAN BE TRUSTED ABOVE ALL ELSE!
   4. “Faithful.” – A word used in Old Testament Hebrew to express the KEY ATTRIBUTE of God, to express the TOTAL DEPENDABILITY of God’s CHARACTER AND PROMISE, and indicates that GOD IS EXCELLENT in all He says and does, and WILL NOT FAIL IN HIS NATURE OR PURPOSE! GOD IS ALWAYS DEPENDABLE!

B. The Meaning God’s Faithfulness Described in His Ways
   1. God will not go against His Word – Isaiah 55:11
2. God will not go against His Promises – I Kings 8:56
3. God will not go against His Nature – 2 Timothy 2:13b
4. God will not go against His People – 1 Samuel 12:22

ILLUSTRATION:

II. THE MOTIVE OF GOD’S FAITHFULNESS VS. 9b
"THE FAITHFUL GOD."

NOTE: 2 Timothy 2:13 – “HE ABIDETH FAITHFUL.” – Even if we are not faithful to God in some situations, God will remain faithful! HE CANNOT AND WILL NOT DENY HIMSELF, EVER OR AT ALL! God’s NATURE is so that He CANNOT come short of anything He has promised!

A. To Maintain His Glory, GOD IS FAITHFUL!
B. To Maintain His Truthfulness, GOD IS FAITHFUL!
C. To Maintain His Reputation, GOD IS FAITHFUL!

ILLUSTRATION:

III. THE MEASURE OF GOD’S FAITHFULNESS VS. 9c
“KEEPETH COVENANT AND MERCY WITH THEM THAT LOVE HIM”

A. Relative To God’s Character
   1. He Keeps His Covenant – GOD’S PROMISES ARE NOT EMPTY!
   2. He Keeps His Mercy – God has pity upon those who fear Him.
B. Relative To God’s Children (O.T. Israel or N.T. Church)
   1. God Is FAITHFUL to them that LOVE Him
      a. Those that Put Him First SACRIFICIALLY above all things.
      b. Those that Put themselves Last SACRIFICIALLY behind God
   2. God Is Faithful to them that OBEY Him – Joshua 1:8

NOTE: GOD’S COVENANT AND MERCY IS UPON “A THOUSAND GENERATIONS.” An expression meaning ENDLESSLY OR FOREVER! GOD WILL NEVER STOP BEING FAITHFUL!

ILLUSTRATION:

LESSON: WE CAN DEPEND UPON GOD AT ALL TIMES, SO LET’S NOT DEPEND UPON ANY OTHER!