



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – April 21, 2024

Heart to Heart...

"God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." (I Corinthians 1:9) A great teaching of truth. GOD IS FAITHFUL. "No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it." (I Corinthians 10:13) When was the last time you reflected on, GOD IS FAITHFUL? Is this the God we worship and serve? "If we are faithless, He remains faithful; for He cannot deny Himself." (II Timothy 2:13) The undeniable foundation of God is that He is faithful in everything He does. Many don't believe this, even those who profess to believe in God and the Lord Jesus Christ. They look at their struggles, pains in their life and begin to question why God is allowing it. No matter what you face, how difficult it is to endure, the true fact in the midst of it all is: GOD IS FAITHFUL!

The word "faithful" means, "to be reliable, trustworthy and loyal." We don't use the term "faithful" in this sense many times and it causes us to question God or have distorted view of who He is. For instance, we call brethren "faithful" because they attend the assemblies when the doors are open. We call them "faithful" members. If one comes sometimes to the assemblies and we think of them as "somewhat faithful." Others that show up rarely we state they are "unfaithful." The need to assemble to worship is vital but we have also seen some ungodliness in those who attend regularly. This kind of thinking and conclusion can skew our trust the GOD IS FAITHFUL. Sitting with other brethren to worship does not qualify one as being faithful to the Lord. Jesus called the Pharisees hand on their religious duties, worship and condemned them for their faithless heart, trusting in God. Just read Matthew 23 and it becomes very clear.

GOD IS FAITHFUL and we are called into fellowship into His faithfulness through Jesus Christ. That means some are "infants" in Christ but they long, desire to know their Savior and

grow into His likeness. These are faithful. They stumble, struggle with certain things but they want to walk with Jesus. Others are more mature in their walk with God and can discern what is evil and good in life. (Hebrews 5:14) There are still others who aren't involved in every activity but are very important Jesus (I Corinthians 12:23-24). We think those that are the most visible are the faithful but to the Lord, the weak are necessary.

To be a faithful follower of the Lord means, when you fail, you look to Jesus, not people. The unfaithful look to themselves for their strength. Our relationship to the Lord is not about us but all about GOD IS FAITHFUL. Trust Him! Listen to Him! "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (I John 1:9) My "faithfulness" is not mine. It is a faith response away from me and embracing His faithfulness. It is knowing God will do as God said He will do! Think about it!!!

Brent