

The Faithful of God

Facts for emulation in life

Fredrick G. Omondi

**The Faithful
of
God**

Fredrick G. Omondi

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are taken from King James Version of the Holy Bible.

Copyright © 2017 By:
Fredrick G. Omondi

ISBN:978-9914-9749-1-1

Design and Layout © Beautex Image Designs

First Published 2016 By:
Inspirational Publications
P.O Box 14500 – 00400 Nairobi
Kenya. East Africa

All rights reserved; no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

INTRODUCTION

Faithfulness is something that is very important in the life of a person and counts a lot in the sight of the Almighty God as God's character is faithfulness. As a fact He is ever faithful (Psalm 36:5, 1 Kings 8:56) and expects you and I who are made in His image and after His likeness to be faithful people who have integrity of heart and are trustworthy and are not as the chameleons who can change their colour going by circumstances (the environment) or the bats who are both birds and animals.

God promises blessings on those who are faithful. On the other hand, the consequences of unfaithfulness are serious and bitter (Psalm 37:28, Proverbs 28:20). Now experience shows that those who are unfaithful in life end up much disadvantaged and lose in life. Such cases as divorce on many occasions come about as a result of unfaithfulness in a marriage. The issue of unfaithfulness also leads others to get summary dismissal by their employer from their employment

and others end serving a jail term. Yet others in the Educational sector end up having their examination results cancelled as a result of revelation of being unfaithful when doing them.

This book has come at a time when unfaithfulness in the lives of many people has come to a level which is near the rooftop and has brought a lot of suffering to many people and the breaking of relationships in the society. The book is to assist those that have suffered to make amends and start new lives in God being faithful and receiving blessings from God. For those who are already faithful in life they are encouraged by this book to remain so and continue to get God's blessings now in this life and thereafter in the future in another world as God had purposed on the believing and obedient (John 14: 1-3, Philippians 3:14-21). The book gives you the whole picture (both sides of the coin) in life for you to choose one side which you want to live (Deuteronomy 30:15-20).

CONTENTS

Introduction	4
Chapter 1	8
What is faithfulness?	
Chapter 2	10
The importance and necessity of faithfulness	
Chapter 3	20
The Faithful One	
Chapter 4	33
Examples of the faithful	
Chapter 5	135
Examples of unfaithfulness	
Chapter 6	141
Examples of the unfaithful	
Chapter 7	149
Benefits in being faithful	

Chapter 1

What is faithfulness?

Faithfulness is an issue of the heart and involves the act of remaining steadfast to commitment. It is remaining steadfast in God by doing what is right and true. It is giving loyalty to God by unwavering faith. It is to be devoted to God. It is to be honest and sincere in life by having strong moral principles and therefore being in a right standing with God in obedience to his word.

Faithfulness is required in all areas of one's life in both small and big things and is not a group issue but an individual issue as one has to decide alone as an individual to be faithful and that is why it is an issue of the heart where one cannot make a decision on behalf of another person.

To be faithful is to believe and trust in God and his word and be ready always to act on it regardless of the situation at hand, that is, having an unwavering faith in doing things in one's life.

Now that we have come to know the meaning of what faithful is, let us now come to the nitty-gritty side of it in the proceeding chapters and appreciate

them as they are and make any necessary adjustments in our lives for our own good.

Chapter 2

The importance and necessity of faithfulness.

Faithfulness is a relationship issue and we know that relationships need to be maintained as long as they are good morally in the sight of God.

Therefore, faithfulness for a Christian, it is a must and is not an option as it goes hand in hand with obedience to God. It is so because as we know the character of God is faithfulness and therefore those he created in his own image and in his own likeness, that is you and I, he expects us to be faithful in our lives.

But to have the character of God one need the Holy Spirit, as God is a spirit. The person of the help to you and I to live as God expects us, in obedience to his divine will. But man fell at the Garden of Eden and is therefore sinful and needs a reformation which is only possible in Christ Jesus to be able to receive the Holy Spirit as promised by God as we are going to read in some scriptures.

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned:

(For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

But not as the offense, so also is the free gift. For if through the offense of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offenses unto justification.

For if by one man's offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign, in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

Therefore as by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the

righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Moreover the law entered, that the offense might abound.

But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5:12-21

But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Romans 3:21-26

THERE was a man of the Pharisees, named Nic-o-de'-mus, a ruler of the Jews:

The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabii, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Nic-o-de'-mus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

John 3:1-6

The above scriptures all point to the sinful state of man after falling into sin and also giving the only solution which is found in Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. The reformation I talked about comes as a result of a rebirth (a new birth by the Spirit of God). It is only after that birth that one becomes reformed. Read on.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are past away; behold all things are become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17

The new birth is the creation of God in a person making the person new. Now how is it made possible? Let us see.

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever;

Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

John 14:15-17

By keeping God's commandments believing in His word (verse 1) one shows that one loves God and God on his part promises another Comforter (a Helper) to help one in life after accepting Jesus by faith. That helper is the Spirit of truth also called the Holy Spirit to help one live truthfully by being honest in life. That Spirit which is the spirit of God is not received just by anybody (the world) but only by those who have believed in Jesus Christ (John 15:26).

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you in all truth: for he shall not speak of

himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come.

John 16:12-13

One cannot bear (accept) the truth which is the word of God except one be in the Spirit. When one has received the Holy Spirit (the spirit of Christ) one will be guided into all truth and will be able to live by it and not by lies and hypocrisy. When one has become a born - again Christian God bestows on him or her some responsibilities after giving him or her some gifts (which is a treasure) and need to be used faithfully and therefore need not be casual or careless in life. It is only by living a faithful life one will be saved at the end as Noah was (Genesis 6:22-7:1). Let me share further some other scriptures.

LET a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.

Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

Christians are stewards of the mysteries of God and therefore they must remain faithful in their lives. To remain a Christian, one needs remain faithful in life.

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?

And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's who shall give you that which is your own?

Luke 16:10-12

As I said earlier, one need to be faithful in both small things (the least) and big things (in much). Many people fail the test when it comes to the issue of money as lacks integrity of heart.

Also many are careless in the things of God or other people's property and therefore cannot be trusted. God is only ready in blessing those who are faithful.

Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his Lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season?

Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

Verily I say unto you, that he shall make him ruler over all his goods.

Matthew 24:45-47

Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eye service, as men pleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

Colossians 3:22-24

Faithfulness involves obedience and is a heart issue and is rewarding in Christ Jesus.

Chapter 3

The Faithful One

The character of God just as the character of his Son is but faithfulness as we are going to see in the Holy Scripture. That is why I call him ‘The Faithful One’.

Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

Deuteronomy 7:9

Now that is how faithful God is, he can keep his covenant and mercy (being faithful) to a thousand generations! Quite a long period of time indeed.

You and I need just do the necessary on our part by loving him and keeping his commandments and God will be faithful to us as a guarantee up to a thousand generations - to our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and great, great, grandchildren. No wonder that is why when king David showed his love to God and not only that but even planned in his heart to build a temple where

the ark of God would be kept (would dwell), God gave him a promise of promises, that is, a great promise indeed that extend beyond him to his descendants up to the reign of Christ in the Millenium rule. You can read that wonderful covenant of God with David in the second book of the prophet Samuel (2 Samuel 7).

Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: **there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.**

1 Kings 8:56

That too shows the faithfulness of God and please note the words I have underlined below in that scripture.

Thy mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds.

Thy righteousness is like a great deep: O LORD, thou preservest man and beast.

How excellent is thy loving-kindness, O God!
Therefore the children of men put their trust under
the shadow of thy wings.

They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness
of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the
river of thy pleasures.

For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light
shall we see light.

Psalms 36:5-9

All the above verses express the wonderful
faithfulness of God the Creator of heaven and earth.
It is just too marvelous to fathom.

O LORD God of hosts, who is a strong LORD like
unto thee? Or to thy faithfulness round about thee?

Psalms 89:8

Now that is not an understatement as we are shown
very clearly how faithful God is - he is so faithful
that his faithfulness is described as being all around
him!

God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the
fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Corinthians 1:9

For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

1 Peter 4:17-19

Many Christians continue to suffer in the world simply because they remained faithful and refused completely to be compromised (2 Timothy 3:12). God has assured them of His faithfulness on the day of judgment. So brothers and sisters in the Lord do take heart as it is well with the Lord, the God of all glory. If you thought that maybe was making fun of you get but to know that I hate jokes as they keep us far away from the Lord Jesus Christ. Now please do read the following scripture and know that I meant what I said to you exhorting in love.

Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts?

And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered.

Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

Malachi 3:14-18

There you are. It is most profitable to serve God by being faithful in righteousness (obedience to God)

as you will be made God's jewel and will be spared as God's son. But the wicked will not be spared as they are serving their father Satan (John 8:31-47, 1 John 3:7-10).

As I said above, the wicked will not be spared by God and in actual fact they are not profiting by their wickedness. Read on.

TRULY God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart.

But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped.

For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

For there are no bands in their death: but their strength is firm.

They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men.

Therefore pride compasseth them about as a chain; violence covereth them as a garment.

Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish. They are corrupt, and speak wickedly concerning oppression: they speak loftily.

They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walketh through the earth.

Therefore his people return hither: and waters of a full cup are wrung out to them. And they say, How doth God know? And is there knowledge in the Most High?

Behold, these are the ungodly who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.

Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocency.

For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning.

If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend against the generation of thy children.

When I thought to know this it was too painful for me;

Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.

Surely thou didst set them in slippery places: thou castedst them down into destruction.

How are they brought into desolation, as in a moment! They are utterly consumed with terrors.

As a dream when one awaketh; so, O Lord, when thou awakest, thou shalt despise their image.

Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.

So foolish was I, and ignorant: I was as a beast before thee.

Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand.

Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

Whom have I in heaven but thee? And there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.

My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

For lo, they that are far from thee shall perish: thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from thee.

But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all thy works.

Psalm 73

God is good and shows his faithfulness to those that are faithful to him. He is faithful to those who are faithful-remember the golden rule in the book of Matthew (Matthew 7:12).

Don't be ignorant and stop envying the foolish and wicked but draw near to God in faithful obedience and for sure you will be saved and very safe in the end. God the Creator is trustworthy as He is the only one you can depend on as he is most dependable. Put your trust in God and you will not live to regret it.

FINALLY, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:

And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith. But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.

2 Thessalonians 3:1-3

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

And having a high priest over the house of God;

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

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

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Hebrews 10:19-25

AND after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honor, and power, unto the Lord our God: For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt

the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.

And again they said, alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever.

And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshiped God that sat on the throne, saying, A'-men; Alleluia.

And a voice came out of the throne, saying, praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great.

And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the

Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellow servant and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

Revelation 19:1-11

Now what you have just read is the grand finale of remaining steadfast in faithfulness in the Lord Jesus Christ. The one who was seen in heaven sitting on a white horse and called Faithful and True is none other than Jesus Christ the King of kings and the Lord of lords who will rule together with the holy saints (the holy Church) for ever and ever. Only the faithful will enter heaven as God who dwells there is a faithful God.

Chapter 4

Examples of the faithful

If one is faithful to God I can say from the onset one will always face opposition.

Therefore one need to be persevering in life a lot and also one need to trust in the Lord whom he has believed in to preserve his soul (2 Timothy 4:14-18, 2 Timothy 2:8-13, 2 Timothy 1:6-12).

Those who will qualify to be called the faithful of God must first be tested in life in both small and big things and pass the tests before they can fall in the category of the faithful. We find that God does not tempt people but Satan is the one that does that. God rather on the other hand only tests people (his children) so as to see if their faith is truly anchored on him and also to build and establish their faith (Genesis 22:1-14, James 1:12-13, 1 Peter 1:5-7, Luke 4:1-14).

God does not want to destroy those who try to be faithful only Satan does that (John 10:10).

In this world we find that for example those who are in Educational Institutions for learning are also tested for example those who are in Primary or

Secondary schools do sit for some tests as well as terminal examinations and only after passing do they receive their certificates and are allowed to proceed further in their learning and those who are in Universities sit for Continuous Assessment Tests (CATS) as well as the final examination and if they pass are awarded Diploma certificates or conferred degrees as necessary.

In Christianity it is the same. One becomes a Christian and automatically has been enrolled in a classroom where one will be ever learning the rest of one's life and at the same time being tested (Hebrews 5:5-14, Philippians 2:5-11, Matthew 5:1-16). The difference is in the place of learning the former being purely physical (classrooms and lecture halls) whereas the latter being mainly spiritual in nature as it is heavenly unlike the former which is earthly. The former is more on life on this earth and is therefore temporal and the latter in the Institution of salvation it is more on the life in heaven and is a rehearsal of the life there in heaven where God dwells. Remember the Lord's Prayer where God's wish is for men to do His will

here on earth as it is being done in heaven by His holy angels. (Matthew 6:9-13). Christians are not of the world to live as the world lives. Remember Jesus' prayer for His followers (John 17:13-24).

The Israelites were but a shadow of the Church of Christ which was to come in the new dispensation in which we are living in and for sure they were tested in the wilderness and they failed miserably save for just two individuals and God vowed that they will not enter the land of Canaan which he promised them save for their children who did not complain and murmur (Exodus 14:1-13; 15:22-24; 16:1-30; 17:1-3 and Numbers 13:1-14:36). But we do find that in all the above incidences God proved himself faithful by providing for them and protecting them as was necessary.

Faithfulness has to do with one's faith in God (Hebrews 11:4-11). The Israelites failed because they lost their faith in God and remained faithless leading to their unfaithfulness.

Now let me bring you to a list of some of the faithful of God as recorded in the scriptures:

1. Noah

AND it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years.

There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man

and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowl of the air; for it repented me that I have made them.

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

AND the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteousness before me in this generation.

Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by the sevens, the male and this female: and of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female.

Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth.

For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

And Noah did according to all that the LORD commanded him.

And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.

And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood.

Of clean beasts and of beasts that are not clean, and of fowls, and of everything that creepeth upon the earth.

There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.

And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Ja'-pheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark;

They, and every beast after his kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind, and every fowl after his kind, every bird of every sort.

And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life.

And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in.

And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lifted up above the earth.

And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters.

And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills that were under the whole heaven, were covered.

Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.

And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man:

All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died.

And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping thing, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark.

And the waters prevailed upon the earth a hundred and fifty days.

AND God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters assuaged;

The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained;

And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated.

And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seven tenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ar'-a-rat.

And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month: in the tenth month on the first day of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen.

And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made:

And he sent forth a raven, which went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth.

Also he sent off a dove from him, to see if the waters were abated from off the face of the ground; But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned unto him into the ark, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth: then he put forth his hand, and took her, and pulled her in unto him into the ark.

And he stayed yet other seven days; and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark;

And the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf plucked off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth.

And he stayed yet other seven days; and sent forth the dove; which returned not again unto him anymore.

And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry.

And in the second month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, was the earth dry.

And God spake unto Noah, saying,
Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee.

Bring forth with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth.

And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him:

Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, and whatsoever creepeth upon the earth after their kinds, went forth out of the ark.

And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

And the LORD smelled a sweet savor; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more everything living, as I have done.

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

Genesis 6:1-8:22

Noah walked with God because he was in a right standing with him as we are told he was both a just and a perfect man.

It means he was an honest man in life and lived in righteousness as one cannot be perfect without having righteousness. Remember the bride of Christ will be perfect as a result of being righteous before the Bridegroom (Revelation 19:6-9). We are told that all flesh (all people) on the earth were corrupt save for Noah as Noah believed and trusted

in the Lord God and that is why he obeyed God's instructions fully to the letter and proved himself faithful to God. God depended on him to build an ark to save him and his household and a sample each of other creatures and without any supervision Noah availed himself and did what was necessary as per God's commandment (Instruction).

2. Abraham

NOW the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee:

And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Har'-an.

And Abram took Sar'-ai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Har'-an; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.

And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Si'-chem unto the plain of Mo'-reh. And the Ca'-na-an-ite was then in the land.

And the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.

And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Beth-el on the west, and Ha'-i on the east: and there he builded on altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD.

And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the south.

And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn three; for the famine was grievous in the land.

And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sar'-a-i his wife,

Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon:

Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see thee, that they shall say,

This is his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save thee alive.

Say, I pray thee, thou art my sister: that it may be well with me for thy sake; and my soul shall live because of thee.

And it came to pass, that when Abram was come into Egypt, the Egyptians beheld the woman that she was very fair.

The princes also of Pharaoh saw her, and commended her before Pharaoh: and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.

And he entreated Abram well for her sake: and he had sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels.

And the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sar'-a-i Abram's wife.

And Pharaoh called Abram, and said, what is this that thou hast done unto me? Why didst thou not tell me that she was thy wife?

Why saidst thou, She is my sister? So I might have taken her to me to wife: now therefore behold thy wife, take her, and go away.

And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him: and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had.

AND Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

And he went on his journeys from the south even to Beth-el, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Beth-el and Ha'-i;

Unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first: and there Abram called on the name of the LORD.

And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents.

And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.

And there was a strife between the herdsmen of Abram's cattle and the herdsmen of Lot's cattle: and the Ca'-na-an-ite and the Per'-iz-zite dwelled then in the land.

And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee and between my herdsmen and thy herdsmen; for we be brethren.

Is not the whole land before thee? Separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Go-mor'-rah, even as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zo'-ar.

Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.

But the men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly.

And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:

For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.

Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

Then Abram removed his tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mam'-re, which is in He'-bron, and built there an altar unto the LORD.

Genesis 12:1-13:18

You can see from the above scripture that Abram did not question God on what God had told him to do but rather went ahead and obeyed as he had

great faith in God, unlike many of us Christians today we do have a lot of unnecessary questions to ask God and little faith to crown it with! You can see that God who is ever faithful blessed Abram so much. It follows therefore that obedience/faithfulness to God brings with it a pack of blessings now unto eternity (Matthew 8:11).

AND it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.

And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Mo-ri'-ah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.

And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.

And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.

And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son.

And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

And Abraham said, my son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.

And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.

And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou anything unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

And Abraham called the name of that place Je-ho'-vah-ji'-re as it is said to this day, In the Mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

Genesis 22:1-14

When Abraham was tested by God he did not consult his wife or had any debate with anybody whether he should do what he was told by God or not do, that is he did not seek any one's opinion but rather he took a personal decision to obey God's voice and went ahead to do exactly as he was told by God and did pass the test with flying colors. He showed he feared God by what he did. He was that loyal to God and was ready to offer even his son Isaac whom he loved, to God as a burnt offering. In

fact Abraham was so faithful to God and God was impressed by him and called him not only the father of faith but also His friend. I don't think I have come across in the Old Testament where God has called any other person as His friend. It is in the New Testament that I find Jesus calling or rather referring to his disciples as His friends. But even there too I find Jesus doing so on one condition, if the disciples obey all his commandments (John 15:14-15). It follows therefore that in obeying God one shows faithfulness to him and also one may be considered to love God and to be his friend.

3. Moses

For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.

And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after;

Hebrews 3:4-5

AND Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the E-thi-o'-pi-an woman whom he had married: for he had married an E-thi-o'-pi-an woman.

And they said, hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? Hath he not spoken also by us? And the LORD heard it.

(Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)

And the LORD spake suddenly unto Moses, and unto Aaron, and unto Miriam, Come out ye three unto the tabernacle of the congregation. And they three came out. And the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came out.

And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.

My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house.

With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them; and he departed.

And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous.

And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my Lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and where in we have sinned. Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother's womb.

And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.

And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? Let her be shut out from the camp

seven days, and after that let her be received in again.

And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again.

And afterward the people removed from Ha-ze'-roth, and pitched in the wilderness of Par'-an.

AND the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, everyone a ruler among them.

And Moses by the commandment of the LORD sent them from the wilderness of Par'-an: all those men were heads of the children of Israel.

And these were their names: of the tribe of Reuben, Sham-mu'-a son of Zac'-cur.

Of the tribe of Simeon, Sha'-phat the son of Hor'-i.

Of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Je-phun'-neh.

Of the tribe of Is-sa-char, I'-gal the son of Joseph.

Of the tribe of E'-phra-im, O'-she'-a the son of Nun.

Of the tribe of Benjamin, Pal'-ti the son of Ra'-phu;
Of the tribe of Zeb'-u-lun, Gad'-di-el the son of
So'-di.

Of the tribe of Joseph, namely of the tribe of Dan,
Am'-mi-el the son of Ge-mal'-li.

Of the tribe of Asher, Se'-thur the son of Michael.

Of the tribe of Naph'-ta-li, Nah'-bi the son of
Voph'-si.

Of the tribe of Gad, Geu'-el the son of Ma'-chi.

These are the names of the men which Moses sent
to spy out the land. And Moses called O'-she-a the
son of Nun Je-hosh'

And Moses sent them to spy out the land of
Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way
southward, and go up into the mountain:

And see the land, what it is; and the people that
dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak,
few or many.

And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it
be good or bad; and what cities they be that dwell
in whether in tents, or in strongholds;

And what the land is, whether it be fat or lean,
whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of

good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land.
Now the time was the time of the firstripe grapes.
So they went up, and searched the land from the
wilderness of Zin unto Re'-hob, as men come to
Ha'-math.

And they ascended by the south, and came unto
He'-bron; where A-hi'-man, She'-shai, and Tal'-
mai, the children of Anak, were. (Now He'-bron
was built seven years before Zo'-an in Egypt).

And they came unto the brook of Esh'-col, and cut
down from thence a branch with one cluster of
grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff;
and they brought of the pomegranates, and of figs.

The place was called the book Esh'-col, because of
the cluster of grapes which the children of Israel cut
down from thence.

And they returned from searching of the land after
forty days.

And they went and came unto Moses, and to Aaron,
and to all the congregation of the children of Israel,
unto the wilderness Par'-an, to Ka'-desh; and
brought back word unto them, and unto all the

congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land.

And they told them, and said, We came unto the land wither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.

Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.

The A-mal'-ek-ites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hit'-tites, and the Jeb'-u-sites, and the Am'-o-rites, dwell in the mountains: and the Ca'-na-an-ites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.

And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.

Numbers 12:1-13:30

If you read further the life of Moses the servant of God in the above books of Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy you will find that he endeavored so much in obeying the voice of the Lord God who called him to be a servant just as Abraham and

Noah were called as well as others which you will read.

4. Elijah

AND E-li'-jah the Tish'-bite, who was of the inhabitants of Gil'-e-ad, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Che'-rith, that is before Jordan. And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there.

So he went and did according unto the word of the LORD: for he went and dwelt by the brook Che'-rith, that is before Jordan.

And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.

And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.

And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, Arise, get thee to Zar'-e-phath, which belongeth to Zi'-don, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee.

So he arose and went to Zar'-e-phath. And, when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but a handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat, and die.

And E-li'-jah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.

For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of

oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.

And she went and did according to the saying of E-li'-jah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by E-li'-jah.

And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him.

And she said unto E-li'-jah, what have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? Art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?

And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and called him up into a loft, where he abode and laid him upon his own bed.

And he cried unto the LORD and said, O LORD my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?

And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.

And the LORD heard the voice of E-li'-jah; and the soul of the child came unto him again, and he revived.

And E-li'-jah took the child, and brought him down out of the chamber into the house and delivered him unto his mother: and E-li'-jah, said, See thy son liveth.

And the woman said to E-li'-jah, Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth.

AND it came to pass after many days, that the word of the LORD came to E-li'-jah in the third year, saying, Go, show thyself unto Ahab, and I will send rain upon the earth.

And E-li'-jah went to show himself unto Ahab. And there was a sore of famine in Sa-mar'-i-a.

And Ahab called O-ba-di'-ah, which was the governor of his house (Now O-ba-di'-ah feared the LORD greatly:

For it was so, when Jez'-e-bel cut off the prophets of the LORD, that O-ba-di'-ah took a hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.)

And Ahab said unto O-ba-di'-ah, Go into the land, unto all the fountains of water, and unto all brooks: peradventure we may find grass to save the horses and mules alive, that we lose not all the beasts.

So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one way by himself, and O-ba-di'-ah went another way by himself.

And as O-ba-di'-ah was in the way, behold, E-li'-jah met him: and he knew him, and fell on his face, and said, Art thou that my lord E-li'-jah?

And he answered him, I am: go, tell thy lord, Behold, E-li'-jah is here.

And he said, What have I sinned, that thou wouldest deliver thy servant into the hand of Ahab, to slay me?

As the LORD thy God liveth, there is no nation or kingdom, whither my lord hath not sent to seek thee: and when they said, He is not there; he took

an oath of the kingdom and nation, that they found thee not.

And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold, E-li'-jah is here.

And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from thee, that the Spirit of the LORD shall carry thee whither I know not; and so when I came and tell Ahab, and he cannot find thee, he shall slay me: but I thy servant fear the LORD from my youth.

Was it not told my lord what I did when Jez'-e-bel slew the prophets of the LORD how I hid a hundred men of the LORD's prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water?

And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold E-li'-jah is here: and he shall slay me.

And E-li'-jah said, As the LORD of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I will surely show myself unto him today.

So O-ba-di'-ah went to meet Ahab, and told him: and Ahab went to meet E-li'-jah.

And it came to pass, when Ahab saw E-li'-jah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel?

And he answered, I have not troubled Israel: but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Ba-a-lim.

Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto Mount Carmel, and the prophets of Ba'-al four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jez'-e-bel's table.

So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto Mount Carmel.

And E-li'-jah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? If the LORD be God, follow him: but if Ba'-al, then follow him: And the people answered him not a word.

Then said E-li'-jah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Ba'-al's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under:

And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

And E-li'-jah said unto the prophets of Ba'-al, Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and dress it first; for ye are many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire under.

And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Ba'-al from morning even until noon, saying, O Ba'-al, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.

And it came to pass at noon, that E-li'-jah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking or he is pursuing or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.

And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them.

And it came to pass, when mid day was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the

evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.

And E-li'-jah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down.

And E-li'-jah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the LORD came, saying, Israel shall be thy name:

And with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD: and he made a trench about the altar, and great as would contain two measures of seed.

And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid him on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice, and on wood.

And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time.

And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water.

And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that E-li'-jah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word.

Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is God; the LORD, he is the God.

And E-li'-jah said unto them, Take the prophets of Ba'-al; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and E-li'-jah brought them down to the brook at Ki'-shon, and slew them there.

And E-li'-jah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance rain.

So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And E-li'-jah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees,

And said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked and said, There is nothing. And he said, Go again seven times.

And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not.

And it came to pass in the meanwhile, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jez'-reel.

And the hand of the LORD was on E-li'-jah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jez'-reel.

1 Kings 17 & 18

Elijah served God faithfully as has been recorded above and feared not even to go and approach the

king of Israel and to order him to assemble for him the people and all the false prophets at Mount Carmel, where he challenged them.

5. Joseph

And it came to pass about this time, that Joseph went into the house to do his business; and there was none of the men of the house there within.

And she caught him by the garment, saying, lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out.

And she caught him by his garment, saying, lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled forth,

That she called unto the men of her house, and spake unto them, saying, See, he hath brought in a Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice:

And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out.

And she laid up his garment by her, until his lord came home.

And she spake unto him according to these words, saying.

The Hebrew servant, which thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me:

And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled out. And it came to pass, when his master heard the words of his wife, which she spake unto him, saying, after this manner did thy servant to me; that his wrath was kindled.

And Joseph's master took him, and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were bound: and he was there in the prison.

But the LORD was with Joseph, and showed him mercy, and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer of it.

The keeper of the prison looked not to anything that was under his hand; because the LORD was with him, and that which he did, the LORD made it to prosper.

Genesis 39:1-23

Joseph was tempted by Satan on several occasions because Satan must have wanted that Joseph's dreams don't come to pass (Genesis 37:1-11) But here too we see Joseph overcame the temptations and was made a ruler (second in command) in Egypt after Pharaoh the king and his dreams came to pass as God was with him and the dreams must have originated from God Himself.

Now we are told God was with Joseph and not because Joseph was a prosperous man but because Joseph was a God-fearing man and who obeyed the commandment of God. When you have God you are blessed as God is the one that blesses us and He is blessed forever. Moreover God is the one that makes us rich blessing the work of our hands we who are obedient to him (Deuteronomy 8:18; 28:1-13).

Joseph proved himself faithful to God by what he did by shunning evil by keeping away from what was not his (Potiphar's wife). Remember the book of Luke (Luke 16:10-12) which talks of faithfulness and how one need to handle what does not belong

to one. Joseph had the wisdom of God as God was with him.

Being faithful to God is being enmity to the world but it is worthy as has great reward after all the sufferings for God's sake (Matthew 5:10-12, 2 Timothy 3:10-13, 1 Peter 5:12-16, Revelation 2:8-11)

6. Job

THERE was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters.

His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

And his sons went and feasted in their houses, everyone his day; and sent and called for their three sisters to eat and to drink with them.

And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.

Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came along also among them.

And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, from going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast not thou made a

hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand.

So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were ploughing, and the asses feeding beside them:

And the Sa-be'-ans fell upon them, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from

heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chal-de'-ans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshiped,

And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave,

and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.

In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

Job 1:1-2:10

Satan does not tire up in tempting the saints. Earlier in the first chapter of that book he had tempted Job God's servant but Job overcame him and here we see him at it again. But even here, Job overcame Satan's temptation. In all these cases Job maintained his integrity despite all the difficult times he went through in life. Job did all this because he was a faithful man. He remained loyal to his God who had provided for him making him the greatest man of all the men of the east (Job 1:1-3).

7. Joshua and Caleb

AND the LORD spake unto Moses saying,
Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, everyone a ruler among them.

And Moses by the commandment of the LORD
sent them from the wilderness of Par'an: all those
men were heads of the children of Israel.

And these were their names: of the tribe of Reuben,
Sham-mu'-a the son of Zac'-cur.

Of the tribe of Simeon, Sha'phat the son of Hor'-i
Of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Je-phun'-
neh.

Of the tribe of Is'sa-char, I'-gal the son of Joseph
Of the tribe of E'-phra-im, O-she'-a the son of Nun.
Of the tribe of Benjamin, Pal'-ti the son of Ra'-phu
Of the tribe of Zeb'-u-lun, Gad'-di-el the son of
So'-di.

Of the tribe of Joseph, namely, of the tribe of Ma-
nas'-sch, Gad'-di the son of Su'-si.

Of the tribe of Dan, Am'-mi-el the son of Ge-mal'-
li.

Of the tribe of Asher, Se'-thur the son of Michael.
Of the tribe of Naph'-ta-li, Nah'-bi the son of
Voph'-si.

Of the tribe of Gad, Geu'-el the son of Ma'-chi.

These are the names of the men which Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called O-she'-a the son of Nun Je-hosh'-ua.

And Moses sent them to spy the land of Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain:

And see the land, what it is and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many;

And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strongholds.

And what the land is whether it be fat or lean, whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the first ripe grapes.

So they went up, and searched the land from the wilderness of Zin unto Re'-hob, as men come to Ha'-math.

And they ascended by the south, and came unto He'-bron; where A-hi'-man, She'shai, and Tal'-mai, the children of Anak, were. (Now He'-bron was built seven years before Zo'-an in Egypt.)

And they came unto the brook of Esh'-col, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs.

The place was called the brook Esh'-col, because of the cluster of grapes which the children of Israel cut down from thence.

And they returned from searching of the land after forty days.

And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Par'-an, to Ka'-desh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land.

And they told him, and said, we came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.

Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.

The A-mal'-ek-ites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hit-tites, and the Jeb'-u-sites, and the Am'-o-rites, dwell in the mountains: and the Ca'-na-an-ites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.

And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.

But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.

And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.

And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

Number 13

From the above scripture it comes out that out of the 12 spies sent by Moses to spy the land of Canaan only two of them namely Joshua the son of

Nun and Caleb the son of Jephune brought a good report to Moses, Aaron and all the congregation of the children of Israel. They proved faithful to God who had promised that land as they had faith in that God of Israel who was their God. The two were full of faith despite the conditions which they found some of which were frightening like walled cities and giants. The two were steadfast in their faith in their God and encouraged all the rest that they are able to overcome the land and that they should do so straight away without wasting any time. The lesson the two had learned before is that in the things of God one need go forward by faith in the word of God and not by sight by looking at the circumstances around one.

8. Samuel

AND Samuel said unto the people, It is the LORD that advanced Moses and Aaron, and that brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt.

Now therefore stand still, that I may reason with you before the LORD of all the righteous acts of the LORD, which he did to you and to your fathers.

When Jacob was come into Egypt, and your fathers cried unto the LORD, then the LORD sent Moses and Aaron, which brought forth your fathers out of Egypt, and made them dwell in this place.

And when they forgat the LORD their God, he sold them into the hand of Sis'-e-ra, captain of the host of Ha'-zor, and into the hand of Phil-is'-tines, and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them.

And they cried unto the LORD, and said, we have sinned, because we have forsaken the LORD, and have served Ba'-a-lim and Ash'-ta-roth: but now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, and we will serve thee.

And the LORD sent Jer'-ub-ba'-al, and Be'-dan, and Jeph'-thah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side, and ye dwelled safe.

And when ye saw that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon came against you, ye said unto me, Nay; but a king shall reign over us: when the LORD your God was your king.

Now therefore behold the king whom ye have chosen, and whom ye have desired! And, behold, the LORD hath set a king over you.

If ye will fear the LORD, and serve him, and obey his voice, and not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall both ye and also the king that reigneth over you continue following the LORD our God:

But if ye will not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall the hand of the LORD be against you, as it was against your fathers.

Now therefore stand and see this great thing, which the LORD will do before your eyes.

Is it not wheat harvest today? I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send thunder and rain; that ye may perceive and see that your wickedness is great, which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king.

So Samuel called unto the LORD; and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day: and all the people greatly feared the LORD and Samuel.

And all the people said unto Samuel, Pray for thy servants unto the LORD thy God, that we die not: for we have added unto all our sins this evil, to ask us a king.

And Samuel said unto the people Fear not: ye have done all this wickedness- yet turn not aside from following the LORD, but serve the Lord with all your hearts;

And turn ye not aside: for then should ye go after vain things which cannot profit nor deliver; for they are vain.

For the LORD will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it hath pleased the LORD to make you his people.

Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way:

Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you.

But if ye shall still do wickedly, ye shall be consumed, both ye and your king.

1 Samuel 12:1-25

In the above scripture we find how the prophet Samuel was a honest man and walked blameless before the people of Israel from his childhood to old age and which the Israelite acknowledged before God and king Saul. Samuel challenged the Israelites just as Jesus challenged the Jews and none of them could point rightly a finger at him of any wrong doing (John 8:31-47) and even his other enemies Jesus challenged for any wrong doing on his part (John 18:19-23) moreover the governor Pontius Pilate found no fault in Jesus before the people of Rome (John 18:28-38). All in all save for his sons, the prophet Samuel served God so faithfully as an individual

9. Elisha

Now Na'-a-man, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honorable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valor, but he was a leper.

And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Na'-a-man's wife.

And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Sa-mar'-i-a! for he would recover him of his leprosy.

And one went in, and told his lord, saying Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.

And the king of Syria said, Go to go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment.

And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying,

Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have therewith sent Na'-a-man my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy.

And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy?

Wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me.

And it was so, when E-li'-sha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? Let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.

So Na'-a-man came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of E-li'-sha.

And E-li'-sha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.

But Na'-a-man was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand; and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.

Are not Ab-a'-na and Phar'-par, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? May I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.

And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said,

My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? How much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?

Then he went down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

And he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him: and he said, Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel: now therefore, I pray thee, take a blessing of thy servant.

But he said, As the LORD liveth, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he urged him to take it; but he refused.

2 Kings 5:1-16

From the above account we can see clearly that the prophet of God was a very faithful man who lived a honest life and could not compromise his ministry

by filthy lucre and he proved fit as God's true servant (Titus 1:7).

In the world today we are short of many true servants of God who are faithful in their calling and even in this country if Naaman ever came for prayer for healing, he would have left the country empty handed as we just have many unfaithful servants who are more concerned with material than spiritual things and may the Lord open their eyes to see their folly and to repent in sackcloth and in ashes as they have fleeced the widows, orphans and the poor alike.

The so called "blessing" in many cases are but forms of bribes and can easily taint one's ministry. Moreover it is not the ministers that do the healing but God who deserves all the glory. Also not all people are rich to pour blessings on ministers and therefore all true ministers will not entertain receiving of gifts, when serving.

10. Daniel

IT pleased Da-ri'-us to set over the kingdom a hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom;

And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage.

Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.

Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could not find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.

Then said these men, we shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.

Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Da-ri'-us, live for ever.

All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the captains, have consulted together to

establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.

Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

Wherefore king Da-ri'-us signed the writing and the decree.

Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.

Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree;

Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing is

true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.

Then the king, when he heard these words, was so displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he labored till the going down of the sun to deliver him.

Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.

Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and Cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel.

Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of music brought before him: and his sleep went from him.

Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.

And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live forever.

My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

Then king Da-ri'-us wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and steadfast forever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of lions.

So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Da-ri'-us, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

Daniel 6:1-28

Daniel was truly a faithful servant of God and even king Darius acknowledged it and God who knew Daniel's heart and delivered him from those lions. King Darius applied the golden rule on Daniel's accusers (Matthew 7:12). The lesson we must all learn here is that what one does in life as an individual affects others around him or her as it happened to the accusers of Daniel their children and their wives perished with them: for further reading on people's actions affecting the others you can read the following incidences from these scriptures:- Genesis 6:-1-22, 19:1-25, 39:1-50:26 / Revelation 7:1-6, Numbers 16:1-33, Joshua 7:1-26, 2 Samuel 11:1-12:12 / 16:15-22/13:1-38).

In the above scripture we see that Daniel was a faithful man and was found faultless. His enemies tried even to go further to find fault in him concerning the law of his God and even in that area he was still faultless as he continued to pray to God and gave thanks all which is not sin before God. Daniel refused to succumb to a decree by mortal men and which is unlawful as it goes against the word of God (against God's law). Daniel had in

him an excellent spirit which is essentially the spirit of God (the Holy Spirit) and therefore had wisdom to discern the good and the bad, the wheat and the chaff. He knew very well that God is supreme and so are His laws, Amen.

Daniel was well versed with the laws of the land as well as the commandments of God and he obeyed fully. I do believe God is looking for blameless Christians as one who looks for gold. Christians are expected to be above reproach both in human governments. (Romans 13:1-7, 1 Timothy 3:7) and in God's government- a truly balanced life. That, is the ideal situation where one's record is good both on earth and in heaven and may the Lord help us to attain this.

11. Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah

NEB-U-CHAD-NEZ'-ZAR the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Du'-ra, in the province of Babylon.

Then Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the

captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counselors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar the king had set up.

Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasures, the counselors, the sheriffs and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered unto the dedication of the image that Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar had set up.

Then a herald cried aloud,

To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages.

That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar the king hath set up:

And whoso falleth not down and worshipeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

Therefore at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of music, all the people, the

nations, and the languages, fell down and worshipped the golden image that Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar the king had set up.

Wherefore at that time certain chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews.

They spake and said to the king Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar , O king live for ever.

Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, shall fall down and worship the golden image:

And whoso falleth not down and worshipeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-go; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Then Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and

A-bed'-ne-go. Then they brought these men before the king.

Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar spake and unto them, Is it true, O Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-go do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?

Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?

Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-go, answered and said to the king, O Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Then was Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-g: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.

And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-go, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.

Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-go.

And these three men, Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-go, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

Then Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste and spake, and said unto his

counselors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

Then Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-go ye servants of the most High God, come forth, and come hither. Then Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-go, came forth of the midst of the fire.

And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counselors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was a hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.

Then Neb-u-chad-nez'-zar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-go, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and yielded their

bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.

Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak anything amiss against the God of Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-go, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.

Then the king promoted Sha'-drach, Me'-shach, and A-bed'-ne-go, in the province of Babylon.

Daniel 3:1-30

In the above scenario we can see these brave children of Judah (and let me remind you that Jesus Christ is the Lion of the tribe of Judah and has prevailed - Revelation 1:9-18; 5:1-5), were totally committed to their God Jehovah - Elo-heenu whom they worshipped and therefore could neither serve nor worship any other god. it did not worry them that the majority of people were falling down and worshipping the golden image which was set up by king Nebuchadnezzar and did not follow the saying 'When in Rome do as the Romans do; to do as the Babylonians did as faithfulness has nothing to do

with numbers as it is an issue of the heart and is an individual issue. The trio had genuine faith in the God they served while in their country and they were so serious about it by categorically telling king Nebuchadnezzar their stand of the issue of worshipping the golden image and they were very ready to be cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace which the king commanded to be heated even seven more times.

They showed loyalty and obedience to their God in the highest order indeed in an unimaginable way and were not bothered at all by the threats of king Nebuchadnezzar.

The lesson we learn there as Christians is that we must behave differently at times and not do business as usual especially when circumstances have changed against God's commandments by not accepting to practice ungodly acts but rather even rebuke them and proclaim righteousness required by God.

12. The Jewish maidservant

NOW Na'-a-man, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, an honorable because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valor, but he was a leper.

And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Na'-a-man's wife.

And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Sa-mar'-i-a! for the would recover him of his leprosy.

And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.

And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment.

And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have therewith sent Na'-a-man my servant to thee that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy.

And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold I have therewith sent Na'-a-man my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy. And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to recover a man of his leprosy? Wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a quarrel against me.

And it was so, when E-li'-sha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? Let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.

So Na'-a-man came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of E-li'-sha.

And E-li'-sha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.

But Na'-a-man was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to

me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.

Are not Ab-a'-na and Phar'-par, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them and be clean? So he returned and went away in a rage.

And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?

Then he went down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

2 Kings 5:1-14

That little Jewish maidservant although she found herself in a foreign land she never changed her way of life as she went on to proclaim the good news where she served about the able and faithful God whom she knew and who was using his servant Elisha in healing people and doing miracles. She

was not ashamed at all in doing so (Romans 1:14-16) and it brought the healing of Naaman the captain of the hosts of the king of Syria when they accepted the message and pursued to act on it.

The maidservant took a bold step to proclaim that message in a king's house and proved herself faithful to the God of Israel.

13. John the Baptist

NOW in the fifteenth year of the reign of Ti-be'-rius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being te'-trarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip te'-trarch of I-tu-rae'-a and of the region of Trach-o-ni'-tis, and Ly-sa'-ni-as the te'-trarch of Ab-i-le'-ne,

An'-nas and Cai-a-phas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the Son of Zech-a-ri'-ah in the wilderness.

And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;

As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying, the voice of one crying in the

wilderness, prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves,

We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

And the people asked him, saying, What shall we do then?

He answereth and saith unto them, He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise.

Then came also publicans to be baptized, and said unto him,

Master, what shall we do?

And he said unto them, Exact no more than that which is appointed you.

And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages.

And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not;

John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.

And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people.

But Herod the te'-trarch, being reproved by him for He'-ro'-di-as his brother Philip's wife, and for all the evils which Herod had done.

Add yet this above all, that he shut up John in prison.

Luke 3:1-20

John the Baptist a very courageous servant of the Lord who served faithfully preaching the whole truth and not mincing his words.

14. Stephen

AND in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.

And the saying pleased all he whole multitudes; and they chose Stephen a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas, as proselyte of Antioch:

Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied In Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called the synagogue of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen.

And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God.

And they stirred the people, and the elders, and the scribes and came upon him, and caught him, and brought him to the council.

And set up false witnesses which said, This man ceases not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

And all that sat in the council, looking steadfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

THEN said the high priest, Are these things so?

And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken; The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, where he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Harran,

And said unto him, get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred and come into the land which I shall shew thee.

.....
.....

When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart and they gnashed on him with their teeth. But he being full of the Holy Ghost looked up steadfastly into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him, and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen calling upon God and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Acts 6:1-7:3, 54-60

From the above account you can see that Stephen did not denounce the faith in Christ Jesus despite

the persecution which led to his death. He was faithful to the Lord unto death. He must have remembered the sayings of the Lord to his disciples in the books of Mark and Mathew and Revelation (Mark 8:34-38, Matthew 10:22-32, revelation 2:8-11).

Stephen preached to the council boldly the word of God without any fear whatsoever as he knew very well who he was serving and that he was his help and put his whole trust in him (Psalms 121). The Lord approved his ministry and stood up before God the Father as if saluting the saint and welcomed him into heaven.

15. John

THE Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which

must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne.

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,

And hath made us kings, and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. A'-men.

Behold, he cometh with cloud; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, A'-men.

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last; and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Eph'e-sus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Per'-ga-mos, and unto Thy-a-ti'-ra, and unto Sar'-dis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto La-od-i-ce'-a.

And I turned to see the voice that spake with me.

And being turned, I saw seven golden candle sticks;

And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to his foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, A'men; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

Revelation 1

John the beloved disciple was a faithful servant of the Lord and though he was banished in the isle called Patmos he still served the Lord through all the sufferings he endured. For further reading on him you can read the rest of the chapters of this book of Revelation.

16. Paul

AND it came to pass, that after we were gotten from them, and had launched, we came with a straight course unto Co'-s, and the day following unto Rhodes, and from thence to Pat'-a-ra:

And finding a ship sailing over unto Phoe-ni'-cia, we went aboard, and set forth.

Now when we had discovered Cyprus, we left it on the left hand, and sailed into Syria, and landed at Tyre: for there the ship was to unlade her burden.

And finding disciples we tarried there seven days: who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not go up to Jerusalem.

And when we had accomplished those days, we departed and went our way; and they all brought us

on our way, with wives and children, till we were out of the city: and we kneeled down on the shore, and prayed.

And when we had taken our leave one of another, we took ship; and they returned home again.

And when we had finished our course from Tyre, we came to Ptol-e-ma'-is, and saluted the brethren, and abode with the one day.

And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Cae-sa-re'-a: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.

And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.

And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judea a certain prophet, named Ag'-abus.

And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.

And when we had these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem.

Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? For I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.

And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, The will of the Lord be done.

Acts 21:1-14

In the above account we see how Apostle Paul was committed to the Lord so much such that no man could persuade him not to go to Jerusalem as he had purposed despite being told in advance by a prophet of God the dangers awaiting him at Jerusalem as the Holy Spirit had revealed to the prophet.

Now I think that is being too loyal on the part of the apostle and surely he qualified as the faithful of God and nothing less.

17. Timothy and Epaphroditus

But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state.

For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state.

For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's.

But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel.

Him therefore I hope to send presently, so soon as I shall see how it will go with me.

But I trust in the Lord that I also myself shall come shortly.

Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labor, and fellow soldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.

For he longed after you all, and was full of heaviness, because that ye had heard that he had been sick.

For indeed he was sick nigh unto death: but God had mercy on him; and not on him only but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.

I sent him therefore the more carefully, that when ye see him again, ye may rejoice, and that I may be less sorrowful.

Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness; and hold such in reputation:

Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me.

Philippians 2:19-30

For Apostle Paul to have told the church at Philippi such words about Timothy his son in the faith, Timothy must have been a faithful son indeed and served well together with the apostle.

Further, the apostle went further ahead to talk about Epaphroditus whom just as Timothy he sends to the church.

The apostle describes him not only as a brother but a companion in labor (in the work of the Lord) as well as a fellow soldier. Moreover he goes on further and says that this brother was so much absorbed in the work of the Lord and ended up being too sick and almost died because of providing

his service but fortunately God who is a faithful God was witnessing all this and by his tender mercy restored him back to health.

Epaphroditus truly was a faithful servant and that can be seen by his selfless service to the Lord.

18. Tychicus

But that ye also may know my affairs, and how I do, Tych'-i-cus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, shall make known to you all things. Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that ye may know our affairs, and that he might comfort your hearts.

Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God and the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace be with all them that love our Lord, Jesus Christ in sincerity. A'-men.

Ephesians 6:21-24

Verse 21 tells it all at once on brother Tychicus. The same sentiments the apostle addressed the church at Colossae just as he earlier addressed the church at Ephesus. Read on the same (Colossians 4:7-8).

18. Onesiphorus' household

The Lord give mercy unto the house of O-nes-iph'-o-rus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain:

But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently and found me.

The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Eph'-e-sus, thou knowest very well.

2 Timothy 1:16-18

For Apostle Paul to have said such words to his son in the faith Timothy he must have highly regarded Onesiphorus and his household how they treated him. Even at a time when the apostle was in chains in a prison in Rome Onesiphorus diligently sought to see the apostle and he succeeded (Get to know that fewer people go to visit prisoners compared to those that visit patients admitted in hospitals) probably as the scripture says they feel ashamed or may be embarrassed to be seen associated with a prisoner (an offender). But not all in prison have

committed some crime. Apostle Paul was not in prison of any wrong doing just as John the Baptist (Matthew 14:1-12) and Apostle Peter (Acts 12:1-11). Also at some part of Macedonia apostle Paul together with Silas they were arrested and put in chains in prison for no wrong doing (Acts 16:11-26). In both the above two cases God intervened and they were freed from prison.

19. Onesimus

All my state shall Tych'-i-cus declare unto you, who is a beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord:

Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that he might know your estate, and comfort your hearts.

With O-nes'-i-mus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They shall make known unto you all things which are done here.

Colossians 4:7-9

In the above scripture Apostle Paul mentioned to the church at Colossae that Onesimus was a faithful and a beloved brother and who was in their midst.

20. Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah and David

And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gid'-e-on, and of Bar'-ak, and of Samson, and Jeph'-thah; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouth of lions,

Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of the weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute,

afflicted, tormented. (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains and in dens and caves of the earth.

Hebrews 11:32-38

21. The slain at the Great Tribulation

And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the soul of them that were slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice saying, how long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

Revelation 6:9-11

The above (the Jews) who were slain during the Great Tribulation for sure had passed with 100

percent marks for their endurance in the Lord
(Mark 13:19-20)-At quite a terrible time indeed!

22. The two witnesses of God

AND there was given me a reed like unto a rod:
and the angel stood saying, Rise, and measure the
temple of God and the altar, and them that worship
therein.

But the court which is without the temple leave out
and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles:
and the holy city shall they tread underfoot forty
and two months.

And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and
they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and
three score days, clothed in sackcloth.

These are the two olive trees and the two
candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out
their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if
any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be
killed.

These have power to shut heaven that it rain not in
the days of their prophecy: and have power over

waters to turn them into blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.

And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and overcome them, and kill them.

And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt where also our Lord was crucified.

And they of the people and kindred and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another, because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.

And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them and they stood upon their feet, and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up

in heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.

Revelation 11:1-12

The two prophets of God really proved to be the most faithful to God in proclaiming the gospel of Christ Jesus at the most terrible time in the history of the earth during the reign of the Beast (the anti-Christ) and finished their testimony in that great city of Jerusalem. For sure a reward awaits them in heaven (Revelation 2:8-11, 3:7-13). I give all the praise and honor to the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

Chapter 5

Examples of unfaithfulness

Here are a few examples of unfaithfulness as is recorded in the Holy Scripture as well as how God views it.

Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in mete yard, in weight, or in measure.

Just balances, just weights, a just e'-phah, and a just hin, shall ye have: I am the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt.

Therefore shall ye observe all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: I am the LORD.

Leviticus 19:35-37

In the above scripture God was talking to His people the Israelites through his servant Moses how they should behave when they reach the Promised Land.

They were not to do any form of unrighteousness which is to be unfaithfulness before him. Let us see another scripture which is similar to the one above.

Thou shalt not have in thy bag divers weights, a great and a small.

Thou shalt not have in thine house divers measures, a great and a small.

But thou shalt have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure shalt thou have: that thy days may be lengthened in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

For all that do such things, and all that do unrighteously, are an abomination unto the LORD thy God.

Deuteronomy 25:13-16

God literally was discouraging any form of dishonest or misleading behavior in the people, which is but unfaithfulness. In this scripture he goes on to say it should not be done in the family or to outsiders, say in business and so on and those that do it are extremely unpleasant to him and the consequence is that their lives can be shortened. That applies not only to them but to us as well.

Have we not all one father? Hath not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously every

man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the LORD which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god.

The LORD will cut off the man that doeth this, the master and the scholar, out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the LORD of hosts.

And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that he regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth it with good will at your hand;

Yet ye say, wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.

And did he make not one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed.

Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.

Malachi 2:10-16

The people of God the children of Israel became unfaithful in their marriage life by involving in intermarriage after divorcing their legally married wives and God reminds them that they had made a covenant as husband and wife and that God witnessed it and by divorcing their wives they were being deceitful and by intermarrying other non Jews as wives they were constituting violence before their God.

They defended themselves arguing that their action was justified as even Abraham did what they did by putting aside Sarah and going into Hagar which to

them amounted to divorcing Sarah and intermarrying Hagar whom he later chased away. But God tells them that he allowed Abraham to send away Hagar as Abraham's relationship with her was merely lustful gratification before him but God wanted him to just be with Sarah relating with her so as to get a godly seed (a legal descendant). God views unfaithfulness as spiritual adultery and judges such behavior. Let us look at this scripture.

And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Ba'-a-lim:

And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger.

And they forsook the LORD, and served Ba'-al and Ash'-ta-roth.

And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands

of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies.

Whithersoever they went out the hand of the LORD was against them for evil, as the LORD had said, and as the LORD had sworn unto them: and they were greatly distressed.

Judges 2:11-15

Chapter 6

Examples of the unfaithful

Here now in this chapter are examples of those who were found to be unfaithful in life.

1. Gehazi

But Ge-ha'-zi, the servant of E-li'-sha the man of God, said, Behold, my master hath spared Na'-a-man this Syrian, in not receiving at his hands that which he brought: but, as the LORD liveth, I will run after him, and take somewhat of him.

So Ge-ha'-zi followed after Na'-a-man. And when Na'-a-man saw him running after him, he alighted down from the chariot to meet him, and said, Is all well?

And he said, All is well. My master hath sent me, saying, Behold, even now there be come to me from mount E'-phraim two young men of the sons of the prophets: give them, I pray thee, a talent of silver, and two changes of garments.

And Na'-a-man said, Be content, take two talents. And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver

in two bags, with two changes of garments, and laid them upon two of his servants;

And when he came to the tower, he took them from their hand, and bestowed them in the house: and he let the men go, and they departed.

But he went in, and stood before his master. And Eli'-sha said unto him, Whence comest thou, Ge-ha'-zi? And he said, Thy servant went no whither.

And he said unto him, Went not mine heart with thee, when the man turned again from his chariot to meet thee? Is it a time to receive money; and to receive garments, and olive yards, and vineyards, and sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and maidservants?

The leprosy therefore of Na'-a-man shall cleave unto thee, and unto thy seed for ever.

And he went out from his presence a leper as white as snow.

2 Kings 5:20-27

That was dishonesty of the highest order by that servant Gehazi crafting total lies in order to get some filthy lucre and gain from Naaman and thereby bringing shame to his master's ministry.

2. Judas Iscariot

THEN Jesus six days before the pass over came to Bethany, where Laz'-a-rus was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead.

There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Laz'-a-rus was one of them that sat at the table with him.

Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odor of the ointment.

Then saith one of the disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?

This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.

John 12:1-6

Here we are told Judas Iscariot was a thief as he used to steal from the treasury he being the treasurer. As a disciple that was being most

unfaithful and worse still to do more injury let us see what else that he did to crown his unfaithfulness.

WHEN Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples over the brook ce'-dron, where was a garden, into the which he entered, and his disciples.

And Judas also, which betrayed him, knew the place: for Jesus oft times resorted thither with his disciples.

Judas then, having received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, cometh thither with lanterns and torches and weapons.

Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth, and said unto them, Whom seek ye?

They answered him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am he. And Judas also, which betrayed him, stood with

John 18:1-5

You can also read detailed account of the same in the book of Matthew (Matthew 26:6-16; 47-50).

3. Ananias and Sapphira

BUT a certain man named An-a-ni'-as, with Sapph-i'-ra his wife, sold a possession,
And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

But Peter said, An-a-ni'-as, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep part of the price of the land?

While it remained, was it not thine own? And after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? Why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? Thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

And An-a-ni'-as hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things.

And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him.

And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in.

And Peter answered unto her,

Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much.

Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out.

Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying her forth, buried her by her husband.

Acts 5:1-10

Just as Gehazi the servant of Elisha, these two also lied to Apostle Peter to cover up what they had just done and they too, received their rightful portions which was death as the wages of sin is death. These two were unfaithful in their giving among the believers because they took part of the proceeds of their land which they sold for the sole purpose of

taking the proceeds to the temple. Look at what others did (Acts 4:32-37).

4. Phygellus and Hermogenes.

This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me; of whom are Phy-gel'-lus and Her-mog'-e-nes.

The Lord give mercy unto the house of O-nes-iph'-o-rus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain:

But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me.

The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Eph'-e-sus, thou knowest very well.

2 Timothy 1:15-18

Apostle Paul here disapproves the unfaithfulness of Phygellus and Hermogenes for they had abandoned him and the work of ministry when he needed them most. But the apostle at the same time has a word of commendation on Onesiphorus and his household who really ministered to him.

5. Demas

Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me:

For De-mas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thess-a-lo-ni'-ca; Cres'-cens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

2 Timothy 4:9-10

Anyone who forsakes another especially when one is in need is an unfaithful person such as Demas who also behaved as Phygellus and Hermogenes. Because Apostle Paul was in prison, he needed some one to attend to him spiritually and also to continue in the work of the Lord as for him he had lost that freedom and someone was needed to continue in preaching the gospel to the people out there.

Chapter 7

Benefits in being faithful

There are a lot of benefits in being faithful one to another and God has many promises of faithfulness. We can see a good example in the case of Noah who alone was faithful on the earth as we are told he was a just and perfect man and walked with God. Because of Noah's faithfulness God saved him alone together with the whole of his household his wife, his sons and the wives to his sons. Therefore faithfulness is not a small thing before the eyes of God. From that we can infer that faithfulness can lead to an ultimate salvation and therefore life.

That can be so because we read earlier one of God's commandment that unfaithfulness may lead to one's days (life) being shortened. Now let us look at some of the promises or blessings in being faithful.

A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

Proverbs 28:20

Faithfulness may be equated to blessings: one who is in a hurry in wanting to be rich is one who could likely be trying by hook or crook to be rich and therefore prone to using dishonesty and therefore is not innocent but guilty of an offense or offenses.

Depart from evil. And do good; and dwell for evermore.

For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever.

Psalms 38:27-29

Being honest is good as honesty is justice. When you are honest you are living in right standing with the Lord and he will reward you. The saints who are God's faithful he preserves and they dwell for ever.

Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, and Israel had walked in my ways!

I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries.

Psalms 81:13-14

By being obedient to God's laws one is faithful to him and God will fight one's enemies.

When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Proverbs 16:7

To please God one need to hearken to his voice by walking in his statutes and God on the other hand will make one's enemies to be at peace with one. It means you won't have to worry at all about your enemies as they will not bother to try to cause trouble to you.

For the kingdom of heaven is as a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

And unto one he gave five talents, and another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

And so he that had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

His lord said unto him, well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

His lord said unto him, well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few

things, I will make thee ruler over many things:
enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

Matthew 25:14-23

We are told in the above parable that the Lord commended those who traded with the talents he gave them calling them good and faithful servants and not only promoted them but invited them to be with him. Faithfulness is good.

And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write;
These things saith the first and the last, which was
dead, and is alive;

I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but
thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them
which say they are Jews, and are not but are the
synagogue of Satan.

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.**

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

Revelation 2:8-11

In the above scripture we see that Christ was addressing the church and was exhorting her to endure in sufferings by remaining faithful to him and he will give them a crown of life and the second death shall not hurt them. Christians are called to endure hardships and remain steadfast in their faith and in the end have everlasting life crowned for life and therefore cannot die again as they have conquered death just as Christ conquered death (Revelation 1:18). Jesus was telling the Church just as today he is doing the same, that they be faithful unto death and they will receive a crown of life and they will not be hurt by the second death compare with what he said in the book of Matthew (Matthew 10:37-39).

Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no

power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Revelation 20:6

The faithful ones are the ones who will take part in the first resurrection which is the resurrection of the righteous and will reign with Christ for a thousand years here on earth in the Millennium rule and after the judgment of the unrighteous after the second resurrection they will reign with Christ for over and ever (Revelation 20:11-15). Because their names will be found in the book of life because they were doing the commandments of the Lord (Revelation 22:11-14).

Notes to the reader

I take this opportunity to congratulate you for reading this wonderful book. If you are not saved, it will be too hard for you to be always faithful as for sure one need a helper - the Spirit of God to be steadfast in being faithful else one will always be unfaithful in one way or another as is helpless. On a serious note in all sincerity say this prayer in order to be saved. 'Lord Jesus I come to you today as a sinner and do repent of all my sins and ask for your forgiveness. Please cleanse me and save me and make me a faithful person. I ask all this thanking you in the Holy name of Jesus Christ, Amen.'

If you have done the above know that you are saved (John 3:16, 1 John 5:11-12, Acts 4:11-12). Join a Bible believing church and ask the pastor to be water baptized and to be filled with the Holy Spirit. For any comments or for Books order form use the address below to communicate to us.

Inspirational Publications

P.O Box 14500 – 00400 Nairobi

Kenya. East Africa

E-mail: inspirepublicly@gmail.com

Mobile phone: +254722505468 / +254736140970

Other books by the same Author.

- The Christian Walk
- Christian Marital Life
- The Youth and Christianity
- A Christian and How not to backslide
- The ABC in Christianity
- Evangelizing the World
- The World of Wisdom
- A Christian and Giving
- The Secret in Healing and Health
- The Servanthood
- The Love of God
- The Powerful Tongue
- A Christian and the Holy Communion
- A Christian and Persecution and Imprisonment

- The Holy Spirit and A Christian
- The Message of The Hour
- A Christian and Prayer and Fasting
- A Christian and Water Baptism
- EXPOSED! The servants of satan
- Steps to Christian Maturity
- The Angelic host
- The JESUS of The Bible
- The God of Covenants
- The Blessed of God
- A Christian and God's word
- A Christian and A Repentant Life
- A Christian and Spiritual Warfare
- A Christian and Divine Protection
- In Pursuit of Righteousness
- The God of Restoration
- A Christian perspective on Leadership
- A Christian and Fellowship life
- A Christian and Dreams and Visions
- A Christian and Kingdom Investments
- Christian Nuggets in A Nutshell

- A Christian and Divine plan
- A Christian and a Victorious life
- The Christian Walk Vol. 2
- The Youth and Christianity Vol. 2
- The ABC in Christianity Vol. 2
- The Servanthood Vol. 2
- A Christian and Fasting Life
- Steps to Christian Maturity Vol. 2
- A Christian and long life, riches and wealth
- The Realities of Heaven and Hell
- The growing faith Vol. 2
- The World of Wisdom Vol. 2
- The Holy Spirit and A Christian Vol. 2
- A Christian and Consecration and Dedication
- The Goodness of GOD
- True Disciples of Jesus Christ
- A Christian and holy living
- The Judgements of God
- A Christian in a cursed world
- The Tracing of Apostasy
- The Strategy of Satan
- The Blood of Jesus Christ

- The Kingdom of God
- Being freed from idolatry and All other sins
- The Glory in Perseverance
- Christians' Status in Christ Jesus
- OBEDIENCE – The Key to All God's blessings
- The Faithfulness of God

The Faithfuls of God

‘Are you ready to be included among them by God?’

Faithfulness is so important and necessary in life as it is the character of God. One can only be in a right standing with God in complete

faithfulness to Him. As you read this book you will come to appreciate the faithfulness of God plus much more on faithfulness and accomp

anying benefits as well as the consequences of being unfaithful

The Author Fredrick Geoffrey Omondi is a born-again Christian aged 61 years. He is married and is a preacher and teacher



of the word of God and holds a Diploma in Biblical Studies from Emmaus Bible School and Voice of Prophecy in Nairobi. He is a life member of the Scripture Union of Kenya and fellowship in an altar under the Ministry of

Repentance and Holiness.



An imprint of

INSPIRATIONAL PUBLICATIONS