

God is Faithful

3x in letters to Corinthians (1 Cor 1.9; 10.13; 2 Cor 1.18)

What does it mean that God is faithful? Is he full of faith? No, we know what this means by ordinary use. He sticks to his word; you can count on him. "Old faithful" geyser in Yellowstone.

A theme evident throughout the Bible, but stated in this way only here. Why to the Corinthians?

Context of first occasion - 1 Cor 1.4-9

Question about the resurrection - 1 Cor 15
Haunting question of us all...am I saved? 1 Cor 1.8
Because God is faithful

Context of second occasion - 1 Cor 10.8-13

God was faithful in dealing with sin among his people
He will not tolerate our continuing in sin either
But he will also not let us be tempted beyond our ability to handle it
Can never say "It was just too much for me..."

Context of third occasion - stands alone "as God is faithful"

Faithful in his promises to Abraham, Isaac, Israel, David, all His people of all time

God is faithful to his creation:

Sun, moon, stars, seasons

Creatures - Matt 6.25, especially man Matt 5.45

Rainbow

Will ultimately be released from its corruption into the life of the sons of God - Rom 8.19-21

God is faithful even when we are not:

2 Tim 2.13 (see context)

1 John 1.9

2 Peter 3.9

God is faithful even if we die:

The context of 1 Cor (especially 1 Cor 15.19)

"My flesh will dwell in hope" Psalm 16 and Acts 2.26

Job 13.15

God is faithful...are we???