



WEDNESDAY, 10:15 AM

General Session 2

Dr. Bruce McAllister

Perseveringly Faithful

“It is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.”

1 Corinthians 4:2

I. God Is Perfectly Faithful

- A. In the Old Testament (Deut. 7:9)
- B. In the New Testament (1 Cor. 1:9)
- C. To us personally (Heb. 10:22–23; 1 Thess. 5:24; 1 Cor. 10:13; 1 John 1:9; Lam. 3:23)

Belief affects behavior; behavior reflects belief. Our view of God determines our view of life. The Word of God constantly underscores a primary attribute of God: His faithfulness. Both Old and New Testament alike underscore God’s faithfulness as the basis for our relationship with Him. God is faithful to His Word, His purposes, and His people. He is absolutely and perfectly faithful. He is trustworthy, dependable, reliable, steadfast, unwavering, and loyal!

II. God Expects Us to Be Faithful

- A. Faithfulness is the standard by which men initially enter the ministry. (1 Tim. 1:12; 2 Tim. 2:2)
- B. Faithfulness is the standard by which ministers will eventually be judged by Christ. (1 Cor. 4:2; cf. 1 Pet. 5:4; Heb. 13:17)

In New Testament days the steward (Greek, *oikonomos*) was the household manager. The pastor is clearly “the steward of God” (Titus 1:7). He is the household manager serving the Lord’s interest in His church while He is away.

Faithful ministers are sorely needed today in Christian enterprise. God wants men of integrity, ethics, and industry who will carry out the assigned task with energy, enthusiasm, and endurance. He desires servants to invest all their God-given resources to make gain for God. He wants His managers to turn a spiritual profit for the kingdom and glory of God. He wants men as managers who are reliable, dependable, trustworthy, and faithful.

III. God Illustrates Faithfulness in Luke's Parables

- A. Luke 12:42–48 teaches that one who is faithful must be active. He must stay with the assigned task. “Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.” (12:43) “For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required.” (12:48b)
- B. Luke 16:1–12 teaches that one who is faithful must be attentive.
 - 1. Faithfulness in small matters is the basis for greater opportunity in larger matters (16:10). “He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much.”
 - 2. Faithfulness in the management of temporal money is the basis for receiving true spiritual riches (16:11). “If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon who will commit to your trust true riches?”
 - 3. Faithfulness in others' matters is the basis for acquiring opportunity for managing personal assets (16:12). “And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?”
- C. Luke 19:12–27 teaches that faithfulness means being productive.

“Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities” (17); “five cities” (18–19). “For I say unto you, “That unto everyone one which hath shall be given; and from him that hath not, even that he hath shall be taken away from him.” (26)

Conclusion:

Abraham's faith in God (Romans 4:20–21)