Faithful - continued

12:9). If they are unfaithful to Jesus, Jesus will remain faithful to them (1 Corinthians 1:9; Romans 3:3; Numbers 23:19; Titus 1:2).

Titus 3:8

Faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire that thou affirm confidently, to the end that they who have believed God may be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men:

Paul's fifth and final "faithful" saying concerns the good works of a Christian. Obeying the plan of salvation is not the end of the journey, but the beginning. Faithful service through good works is to follow baptism.

Christians must prioritize their time and energy and focus on "good works" (Matthew 5:16; Acts 9:36; Ephesians 2:10; I Timothy 2:10; etc.).

What Is Certain in Life?

Christians can have confidence in salvation from sin, spiritual leadership (elders), godly living, sure rewards, and the value of good works. Friend, Jesus is "faithful" (trustworthy) to you. Are you "faithful" to him? - Chris Reeves

Sentence Sermons

- Legalizing evil does not justify the evildoer, nor does it satisfy him.
- The good thing about kindness is that when you give it away, it often keeps coming back.
- It's important to truly understand you opponent <u>before</u> you answer him.
- You shouldn't try to win or gain respect by demanding it. You should get respect by earning it.

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Trustworthy Statements

Paul wrote to Timothy so that the brethren could know how to behave in God's house (I Tim. 3:14-15). In Paul's letters to Timothy and Titus, he shared five "faithful", trustworthy statements that offer certainty in an uncertain world.

We cannot be certain about the future (Proverbs 27:1), but we can be certain about God's truth. We know that truth can be trusted (Psalm 19:7; 93:5; Revelation 19:9,11; 21:5; 22:6). Let's consider the five "faithful", trustwothy sayings of the apostle Paul.

I Timothy 1:15-16

Faithful is the saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief: howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me as chief might Jesus Christ show forth all his longsuffering, for an ensample of them that should thereafter believe on him unto eternal life.

Paul's first "faithful" saying concerns Jesus' mission to the world. Why did Jesus come to the earth? Jesus did not come for economic, social, or political reform. He came to saye sinners

(Luke 19:10).

Knowing that Jesus came to save Paul, then I can know that he came to save me. This should give me confidence and I should replace despair, with joy and hope.

I Timothy 3:1

Faithful is the saying, If a man seeks the office of a bishop, he desires a good work.

Paul's second "faithful" saying concerns the need for elders in the local church. What is needed today in the Lord's church more than anything? It is not political officials, motivational speakers, etc., but elders.

Paul elevated the work of an elder to one of great desirability and honor (I Timothy 5:17). Godly elders are greatly needed today and godly elders will be greatly rewarded today (I Peter 5:4).

I Timothy 4:7-9

but refuse profane and old wives' fables. And exercise thyself unto godliness: for bodily exercise is profitable for a little; but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life which now is, and of that which is to come. Faithful is the saying, and worthy of all acceptation.

Paul's third "faithful" saying concerns godliness. Being physically fit and healthy is good, but spiritual health is even more important. Consider how much time and money is spent today on physical health <u>vs.</u> effort spent praying, studying the Bible, assembling, singing, etc.

Godliness is produced through good works (I Timothy 2:10), spiritual exercise (I Timothy 4:7), sound doctrine (I Timothy 6:3), and contentment (I Timothy 6:5, 6, 11).

2 Timothy 2:11

Faithful is the saying: For if we died with him, we shall also live with him: if we endure, we shall also reign with him: if we shall deny him, he also will deny us: if we are faithless, he abides faithful; for he cannot deny himself.

Paul's fourth "faithful" saying concerns certain divine promises. God will not fail his people. God gives his people certain rewards and punishments based upon their obedience or disobedience to him. If Christians die, they will live (Romans 6:3-11). If they suffer, they will reign (Romans 5:17; I Corinthians 4:8). If they deny Jesus, they will be denied (Matthew10:33; Luke 9:23;