**You Are Awesome Lord**

**By Pastor Fee Soliven**

**Deuteronomy 7:8-11**

**Sunday Morning**

**May 27, 2018**

**Deuteronomy 7:8-11**

8 but because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. 9 Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;

10 and He repays those who hate Him to their face, to destroy them. He will not be slack with him who hates Him; He will repay him to his face. 11 Therefore you shall keep the commandment, the statutes, and the judgments which I command you today, to observe them.

**How well do you know God?**

Saints, is God someone you come to when you need help but give little thought to otherwise? The truth is that most people don’t know Him very well.

Even those who say they believe in God and have trusted Him with their eternal life may not have an accurate understanding of Him because it’s not based on what the Bible says. Furthermore, what some people claim to believe about God is contradicted by the way they live.

**Isaiah 55:8-9**

8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

Saints, there are many qualities of God revealed in Scripture, and one of them is His faithfulness. When the Lord was about to lead His people into the Promised Land, He gave them this reminder:

**Deuteronomy 7:9-10**

“Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments; but repays those who hate Him to their faces, to destroy them; He will not delay with him who hates Him”

**To be Faithful means to be Reliable**

**Ephesians 2:12-15 (Living Bible)**

12 Remember that in those days you were living utterly apart from Christ; you were enemies of God's children, and he had promised you no help. You were lost, without God, without hope.

13 But now you belong to Christ Jesus, and though you once were far away from God, now you have been brought very near to him because of what Jesus Christ has done for you with his blood. 14 For Christ himself is our way of peace. He has made peace between us Jews and you Gentiles by making us all one family, breaking down the wall of contempt that used to separate us.

15 By his death he ended the angry resentment between us, caused by the Jewish laws that favored the Jews and excluded the Gentiles, for he died to annul that whole system of Jewish laws. Then he took the two groups that had been opposed to each other and made them parts of himself; thus he fused us together to become one new person, and at last there was peace.

Saints, we can count on God to do what He says in His own time and way. His promises are sure, but they are not always positive. His faithfulness applies not only to His commitment to show lovingkindness to those who are obedient followers of Christ, but it also includes a promise of judgment and retribution for those who hate Him.

**God’s Faithfulness is Grounded in His Unchanging Nature**

**Malachi 3:6**

“For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

**Numbers 23:19**

God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?

Saints, God is the same God in Genesis 1:1 and throughout the 66 books of the Bible until the last chapter of Revelation. He is the inescapable, awesome, and righteous Judge of all mankind, and we must all stand before Him to give an account of our lives

**Hebrews 13:8**

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever”

**Yet so Many People have a Lesser View of God**

Saints, here are some missed conceptions about God!

**1. They think they are free to live as they please, but when trouble comes, God will bail them out.**

**2. They believe God doesn’t pay attention to sin unless it’s something really bad like murder.**

**3. They are confident that God understands their faults and failures and will overlook their sin.**

Saints, we will all give an account to God here on while alive here on earth or face to face with Him after death!

**Matthew 12:35-37**

35 The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. 36 But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. 37 For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."

Saints, all these perceptions of God are contradicted in Scripture. He sees all our sins and takes them very seriously. There is no such thing as a secret sin before the Lord. He says,

**Numbers 32:23**

“Be sure your sin will find you out”

Because He is holy and just, there is a penalty for sin. God in His faithfulness not only blesses us with His best but also confronts us with our worst.

Saints, people who don’t know God personally may see Him as a distant deity who resides in heaven but can be called upon for help when needed.

If asked to describe their God, they are quick to defend their nebulous perception of Him by saying that He’s too big for words. But in reality, they can’t describe Him because they don’t really know Him.

They have an unscriptural view of God; and therefore, they have no confidence in His faithfulness but can only hope that He will answer them when they need Him.

Saints, as humans, we tend to make our own version of God, but if He’s not the One described in the Bible, we don’t have the one true God because all others are false.

Without the Bible, we’d have an excuse for our inaccurate ideas, but the Lord has given us His Word so that we can know Him and have a relationship with Him.

**John 15:13**

“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.”

**How does God display His faithfulness?**

**1. He always does what He has said and fulfills every promise He’s made**

**2. He never forgets, falters, or fails to keep His Word**

**3. He is reliable, trustworthy, unfailing, unwavering, constant, and steadfast**

Saints, this is who God is all the time in the light and the darkness, in good times or bad. His unchanging nature is the essence of His faithfulness and the reason for our security and trust in Him.

**God’s Attributes are the Foundation for His Faithfulness**

Saints, what are His attributes?

**Omniscient** - **(All Knowing)**

Saints, the Lord knows all things—past, present, and future. He’s never surprised by events and cannot forget anything. He knows how we live, whether in godliness or sin. Although we may turn a blind eye to Him, He’s aware of everything that takes place, and nothing is hidden from Him.

**Psalm 139:1-4**

1 O LORD, You have searched me and known me. 2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. 3 You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. 4 For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.

**Omnipotent** – **(All Powerful)**

Saints, God has all power to accomplish what He desires. We need never fear that He cannot answer prayer, provide for our needs, change situations, or fulfill His promises.

**Jeremiah 32:17**

“Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.”

Saints, if He doesn’t intervene in our lives the way we desire or expect, it is not because He doesn’t have the power but because He works to accomplish His will, not ours.

**Omnipresent** – **(God Fills All Space)**

The Lord is present everywhere all the time. Whether saint or sinner, we are all in His presence every moment. Although there may be times when we wish we could hide from Him because of our sin, there is no way of escape.

**Jeremiah 23:23-24**

23 "Can a man hide himself in hiding places So I do not see him?" declares the LORD "Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?" declares the LORD. 24 "Am I a God who is near," declares the LORD, "And not a God far off?

But in reality, being without the Lord is not really what we want. When we belong to Him, He faithfully walks with us through every trial, heartache, and burden, bringing His comfort, guidance, and peace.

**Truthful – (Jesus is The Truth)**

Saints, our God will never mislead us or deceive us. He’s the source of all truth and always speaks what is true in His Word.

**John 14:6**

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Within Scripture, the Lord has given us guidance for every possible situation we may face. If we’ll trust in Him and not in our own understanding, he’ll make our paths straight and lead us the right way. His truth not only affirms His great love for us but also convicts us of sin so we can return to Him.

**Unchanging – (God is Steadfast)**

The Lord is always the same—absolutely holy and perfect. Although His actions vary, His nature and attributes do not. His power never lessens; His knowledge cannot decrease; His purposes stand firm; and His promises will not fail.

**Malachi 3:6**

“For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

We, on the other hand, constantly change. Sometimes we’re faithful, and at other times we sin, but we never have to fear that the Lord has changed His mind and taken our salvation away. Every time we come to Him He gives us grace, mercy, and wisdom for life and promises to bring us safely to heaven after death.

**God’s Word testifies that the Lord is Faithful and Trustworthy**

**Psalm 56:3**

“Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You”

**Psalm 62:8**

“Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us”

**Psalm 36:5**

“Your mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds”

**Psalm 119:90**

“Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You established the earth, and it abides”

**1. How closely does your perception of God align with who He reveals Himself to be in His Word?**

**2. Are you more likely to view God according to your circumstances and experiences, others’ ideas, or Scripture?**

**3. Do you truly believe that God is faithful all the time?**

**4. How do your responses to problems, suffering, or trouble affirm or deny this truth?**

**Let’s Pray**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace.” In Jesus Name!**