

## Faithful God

*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: --Deuteronomy 7:9*

The word faithful may evoke images of a faithful spouse, a faithful friend, a faithful dog, or even *Old Faithful*. Old Faithful has been erupting for over three hundred years regardless of fires, storms, or who is watching. It has been constant and reliable.

I have a friend, Nancy, who has been there for me; and whether I am happy or sad, pleasant or unpleasant, she has been steadfast and I know I can count on her. I am also blessed with a husband who loves the LORD and I know I can trust him to do what he believes is best for me.

Through my life I have proven the LORD to be faithful. He has always kept His promises. He is consistent with what was written in His word thousands of years ago.

One of the aspects of His faithfulness is His mercy. I thought about times I sinned and how I deserved to be punished severely, yet when I asked His forgiveness, "*He has not dealt with us after our sins,*" (Ps. 103:10a). In fact, in the next two verses, He says, "*For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.*"

God's faithfulness (His consistency, His steadfastness, His truthfulness, His strict performance of His promises) is a great gift that He gives to those who fear (reverence) Him. We can count on Him to do what He has promised. We can count on Him to do what is best for us (Romans 8:28).

*But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him and his righteousness to children's children; to such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His commandments to do them.—Psalm 103:17-18*