

“Faithfulness”

Rev. 2:8-11

Introduction

- I. Sadly, many people do not know how to define Biblical faithfulness.
- II. No only that, but many disregard the importance of one being faithful.
- III. Let us see what God has to say about faithfulness and how faithfulness is required for our salvation.

Discussion

- I. God requires and expects our faithfulness.
 - A. To be faithful stewards, we must be found faithful (1 Cor. 4:2).
 - B. The congregation in Smyrna was taught the need for faithfulness (Rev. 2:8-11).
 - C. Individuals on the side of the Lamb are called “faithful” (Rev. 17:14).
- II. Define faithfulness.
 - A. The state of one who is “full of faith.”
 - B. In the Old Testament, it comes from the word “emunah.”
 1. This word denotes “firmness.”
 2. The root of the word means “established.”
 3. “Steadfast and trustworthy” (Psm. 57:7).
 - C. In the New Testament, it comes from the word “pistos.”
 1. Again, “trustworthy.”
 2. Thayer put it this way, “Of persons who show themselves faithful in the transaction of business, the execution of commands, or the discharge of official duties. One who keeps his plighted faith, worthy of trust. One that can be relied upon” (Matt. 24:42-46).
 - D. Belief alone that Jesus is the Son of God does not equate faithfulness.
 - E. In order to be faithful, one must be found reliable and obedient throughout each facet of life.
- III. Can one stop being faithful?
 - A. There are some who teach that once “saved,” a person can never become so unfaithful as to lose his salvation.
 - B. Without faithfulness, there is no salvation (Heb. 3:12-4:1).
 1. “The one talent man” (Matt. 25:24-30).
 2. Judas (Acts 1:25).
 3. Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11).
 4. Hymenaeus and Alexander (1 Tim. 1:19-20).
 5. Demas (2 Tim. 4:10).
 6. Diotrephes (3 John 9).

Conclusion

- I. Let us make sure that we are living lives of faithfulness (1 Cor. 10:12).
- II. If we are deceiving ourselves, then we need to realize the jeopardy of our souls.