



Berean Christian Fellowship

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Faithless Consumerism

**“For the word of the Lord is upright,
And all His work is done in faithfulness”
(Psalm 33:4).**

Why are we becoming an increasingly faithless society? Why are we so ill-committed to the things we promise to see through—even as “Christians?” Why are we shunning responsibilities? What principles in our lives are distracting us from God’s command for us to be faithful—to Him, and to our spouses, children, churches, employers, and governments?

Let’s look a bit at something called “materialism” — “a preoccupation with or emphasis on material objects, comforts, and considerations, with a disinterest in or rejection of spiritual, intellectual, or cultural values” (Dictionary.com). Consumerism is what you get in a materialistic society. When we consume something, we “use it up” or get what we need/want out of it. When we’re done with it, we “toss it out” and find something to take its place. If something doesn’t perform to our expectations we simply replace it. Advertisements daily teach us that the point of life is “satisfaction,” which is always available at a small effort or a price— “something better” is always out there.

This has an effect on our relationships, because we begin to measure everything’s worth by our “happiness” and our “pleasure,” which means everything has a price tag. If our marriages, children, churches, commitments, etc are making us unhappy, we “sell out” and start over. A consumerist mindset makes everything expendable. It used to be that “your word was your bond,” and God’s certainly is, but today “a promise just means I’m loyal to you until something better comes along.” Today, so many relationships exist for the sake of

expedience, not love. Even Believers “shop” churches and “switch” at the slightest inconvenience to them. This mentality has poisoned our society, just as it did in Israel when Hosea declared, *“the Lord has a case against the inhabitants of the land, Because there is no faithfulness or kindness Or knowledge of God in the land”* (Hosea 4:1). God, however has been and will remain faithful to Israel and His Church, regardless of their faithfulness to Him. His *“faithfulness continues throughout all generations”* (Psalm 119:90a) and His *“compassions never fail. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness”* (Lamentations 3:22b-23). God is faithful through the ups and downs of life, nor does time change His mind as Isaiah declared: *“O Lord, You are my God; I will exalt You, I will give thanks to Your name; For You have worked wonders, Plans formed long ago, with perfect faithfulness”* (Isaiah 25:1). God does not return or replace us when we displease Him, nor does He walk out on His commitments. *“If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself”* (2 Timothy 2:13), yet there are consequences for our sin.

And even if we are following God, we can still endure loss of “happiness” and “pleasure,” in life, but even this is God’s faithfulness to us with Eternity in mind for the Psalmist declared, *“in faithfulness You have afflicted me,”* (Psalm 119:75b), and *“those whom the Lord loves, He disciplines”* (Hebrews 12:6a). God’s plan of Salvation through Jesus Christ goes beyond showing His faithfulness to us—it proves His immeasurable love for us. *“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass”* (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24). Amen.

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