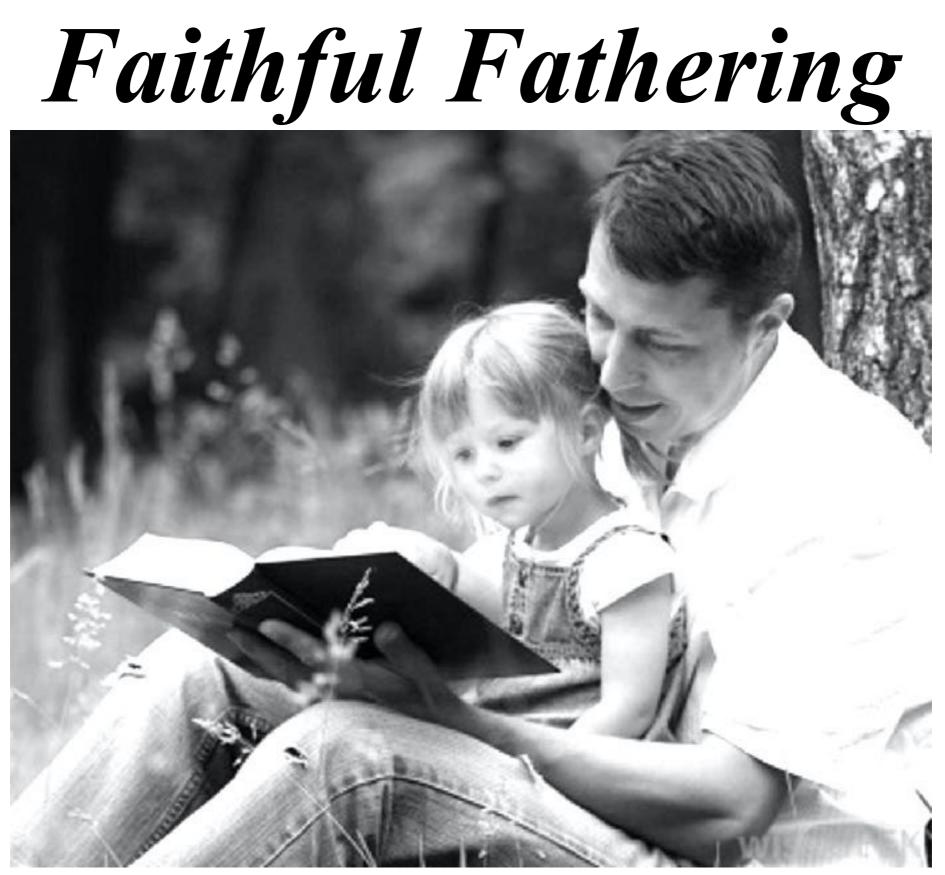
Who is YOUR King?!?

OSPELS

VATTHEW



Matthew 23:16-22













"Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obliged *to perform it*."

Matthew 23:16

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Matthew 23:16



The pandemic of self-deception:

If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains.

John 9:41b

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Fools and blind! For which is greater . . .Fools and blind! For which is greater . . .

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Matthew 23:17a, 19a

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The pandemic of self-deception:"blind guides""fools"

The pandemic of self-deception: • "blind guides" "fools" The deceitfulness of sin obscures the sin of deceitfulness!

Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obliged to perform it.' And, 'Whoever swears by the altar, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gift that is on it, he is obliged to perform it.'

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Cultural background:

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oath-keeping guidelines:

You shall not steal, nor deal falsely, nor lie to one another. And you shall not swear by My name falsely, nor shall you profane the name of your God: I am the LORD. 'You shall not cheat your neighbor, nor rob him. The wages of him who is hired shall not remain with you all night until morning.

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"swearing by __" = publicly obligating oneself to truthfulness.
oath-keeping guidelines: Lev. 19:11-13- Don't profane God's name When you make a vow to God, do not delay to pay it; For *He has* no pleasure in fools. Pay what you have vowed— Better not to vow than to vow and not pay.

Ecclesiastes 5:4-5

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The Pharisees' self-deceived practices:

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Jesus Christ's corrective instruction

"Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obliged to perform it.'

Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctifies the gold?

And, 'Whoever swears by the altar, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gift that is on it, he is obliged to perform it.'

Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that sanctifies the gift?

Therefore he who swears by the altar, swears by it and by all things on it.

He who swears by the temple, swears by it and by Him who dwells in it.

And he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by Him who sits on it.

The Pharisees' self-deceived practices:

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Matthew 23:20-22

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Matthew 23:20-22

The Pharisees' self-deceived practices:Swear by things that only *point* to GodSwear deceitfully

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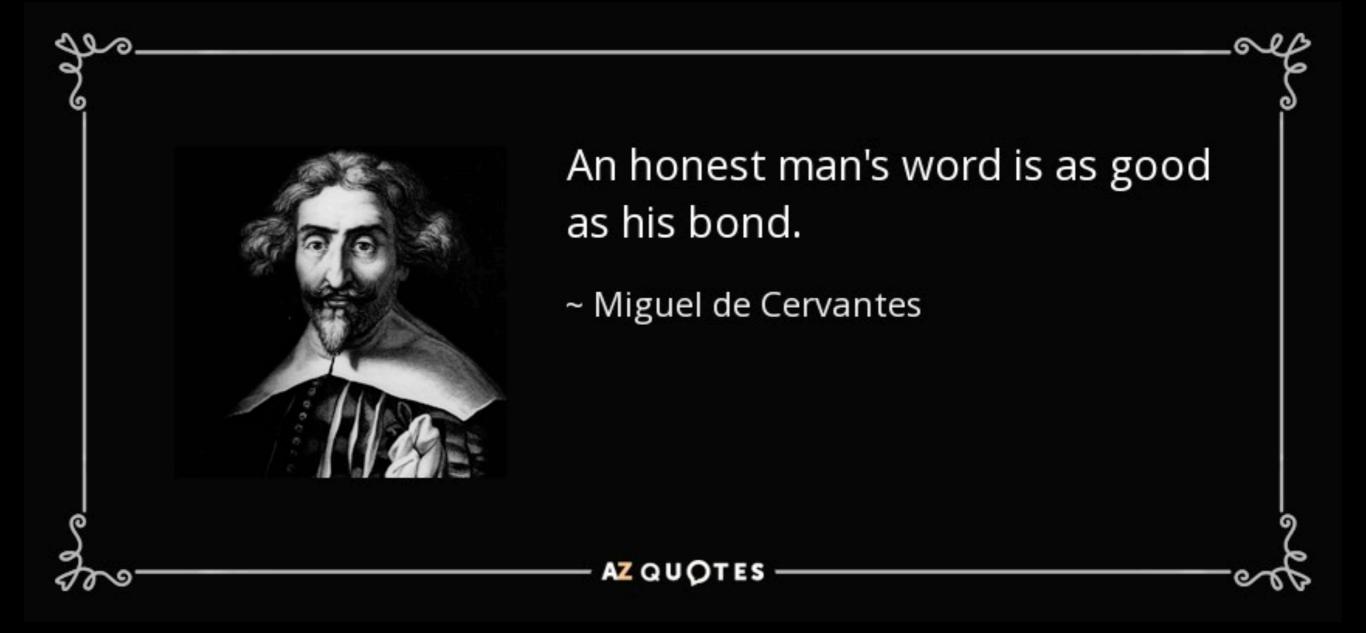
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God hears every promise

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Matthew 5:37b



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Always be truthful

The pandemic of self-deception:

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The deceitfulness of sin obscures <u>the sin of</u> <u>deceitfulness!</u>

Application for us:

Application for us: God's standard:

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Application for us: God's standard: a) Verbal integrity

... swears to his own hurt and does not change.

Psalm 15:4b

A talebearer reveals secrets, but he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.

Proverbs 11:13

A talebearer reveals secrets, but he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.

Proverbs 11:13

A wholesome tongue *is* a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

Proverbs 15:4a

A wholesome tongue *is* a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

Proverbs 15:4a

Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

Ephesians 4:29

God's standard:
a) Verbal integrity

God's standard:
a) Verbal integrity
b) Relational integrity

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Psalm 15:4b

Lying lips *are* an abomination to the Lord, But those who deal truthfully *are* His delight.

Proverbs 12:22

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God's standard:
a) Verbal integrity
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a) Verbal integrity
b) Relational integrity
c) Vocational integrity

in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

Ephesians 6:5b-6

in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

Ephesians 6:5b-6

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.



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God's standard:
a) Verbal integrity
b) Relational integrity
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God's standard:
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d) Financial integrity

• God's standard: a) Verbal integrity b) Relational integrity c) Vocational integrity d) Financial integrity . swears to his own hurt and does not change. [Prov. 15:4b]

Cinderella Man

God's standard:
a) Verbal integrity
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 God's standard: a) Verbal integrity b) Relational integrity c) Vocational integrity d) Financial integrity e) Spritual integrity

Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.

1 Corinthians 4:2

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1 Corinthians 4:2

These six *things* the Lord hates, yes, seven *are* an abomination to Him: A proud look, a lying tongue,

Proverbs 6:16-17a

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Proverbs 6:16-17a

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

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"Flee! All has been discovered!"

 God's standard: a) Verbal integrity b) Relational integrity c) Vocational integrity d) Financial integrity e) Spritual integrity

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Matthew 23:16-22

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Matthew 23:16-22

But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God's throne; nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

Matthew 5:34-37

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Matthew 5:34-37

Then he began to curse and swear, *saying*, "I do not know the Man!"

Matthew 26:74

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Peter said to Him, "Even if I have to die with you, I will not deny you!" Matthew 26:35

Then he began to curse and swear, *saying*, "I do not know the Man!"

Matthew 26:74

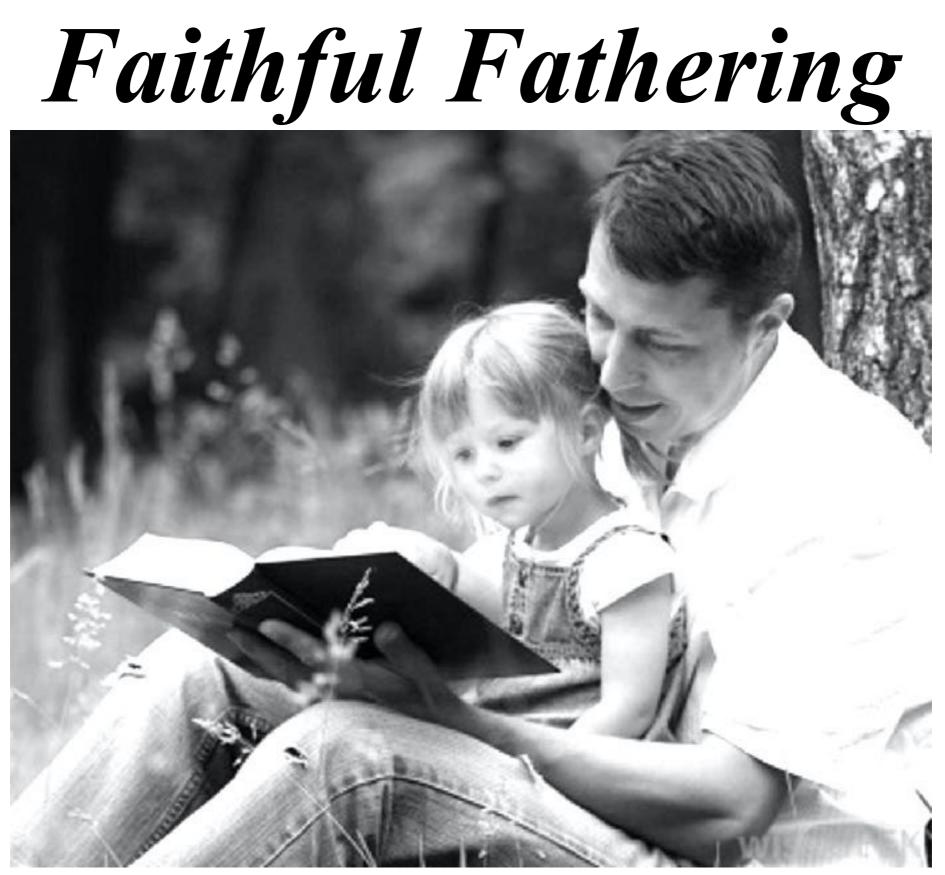
God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

Hebrews 6:17b-18



The integrity of the upright will guide them, But the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them.

The integrity of the upright will guide them, But the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them.



Matthew 23:16-22

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