

Friday 25th June 2021

*Ps.91,4: "The faithfulness of the LORD will be your shield and rampart."*

*Jn.8,31-32: "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

In his first letter to the Corinthian church Paul says, 'God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.' (1Cor.1,9) He says this in order to encourage them. As God has called them and accepted them into fellowship through the gospel of Jesus Christ which they received in faith, so in the same way God through his word will guard and keep them to the end, so that whatever issue there be they have to work through (and in the Corinthian church there are a few and they are not minor!), they will do so by God's word.

God's faithfulness is with respect to his acceptance of the sinner in Jesus Christ based on the forgiveness of sins. By receiving the word of Christ we shield against all that seeks to thwart God's purpose. If our faithfulness falters, his never does.

*Eph.6,14-17: "Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled round your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."*