

El Emunah: The Faithful God

Spread your protection over them,
that those who love your name may rejoice in you.

(Psalm 5:11b, NIV)

“Great is thy faithfulness” (Lamentations 3:23, KJV). What a wonderful verse, what a wonderful hymn. Our God is *El Emunah*, the faithful God. We find *El Emunah* in Deuteronomy 7:9, where we read, “Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands.” (Deuteronomy 7:9, NIV)

Note that God is faithful to “those who love him and keep his commands.” This doesn’t mean we must live perfectly, but obediently, confessing our sins and in His strength turning away from them. Jacob wasn’t perfect, but he was obedient when he heard God: “Then the Lord said to Jacob, ‘Go back to the land of your fathers and to your relatives, and I will be with you.’” (Genesis 31:3, NIV) When Jacob obeyed, he found God faithful.

Moses’ song in Deuteronomy 32 describes God as our “faithful God,” and says of His faithfulness to Jacob that “...like an eagle that stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, that spreads its wings to catch them and carries them on its pinions [wings]. The Lord alone led him...” (Deuteronomy 32:11-12a, NIV) What a breathtaking image! Our God is like an eagle nudging us out of the nest. If we fail to fly, in His faithfulness He swoops down to catch us on His wings. Over and over He will push us out of the nest until we’re strong enough to ride the wind. This is our Faithful God, *El Emunah*.

There are times when we must step out in faith, and it isn’t easy. It isn’t meant to be. But isn’t it comforting to know that our Faithful God is always there to catch us? When we call out to Him as *El Emunah*, our Faithful God, just using His name is an expression of our faith, a reminder and encouragement that we serve a God who is faithful in all He does, (Psalm 33:4) our Lord who has promised He will never, *never* forsake us. (Hebrews 13:5, TLB)