

True
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“Let God be found true”
Romans 3:4

True—The word is *alethes* (Greek). Actually, we should look at this entire phrase. The English does not carry the force of Paul’s declaration. In Greek Paul says, “Let it be God be true.” Paul is answering a question “If someone does not believe, does that mean that their disbelief undermines faith in God?” He shouts out, “Never let it be!” Then he says, “Let it be God be true.” The fact that some people do not believe changes nothing about the God of truth. God is true even if no one believes.

Notice that Paul says that truth is personal. God is true. The opposite is not incorrect. It is “liar.” We think of true as impersonal. A true statement. A true fact. A true sum. But the Bible sees “true” as a description of a person. And above all, “true” means faithful. God is always reliable, always consistent, always trustworthy. This is the essence of true.

How many “true” friends do you really have? The ones that you can count on no matter what the circumstances. The ones who will always tell you what they think and not try to tell you what they think you want to hear. The ones that never lead you on, never run out on you, never give up on you. People like that are hard to find. Most of us have a lot of relationships that don’t even come close. Sometimes the ones we think should be true, turn out to be the most disappointing, like family and spouses. We all know how much it hurts to discover that someone we thought was “true” is really unreliable.

Jesus knew that life was full of people who would crumble when it mattered most. The Bible says that he knew the hearts of men and so he did not give himself to them. But he also knew the heart of God and he knew that God never fails. That is what it means to really be true. That is the kind of friend we really need, the one who will never fail.

There is only one Person like that. There is only One who never gives up, never placates, never keeps score and never ceases to be merciful to us. If you don’t have Him for a friend, you will find your life very vulnerable because sometime everyone else will be untrue. Just like sometime we have been untrue. It is the nature of being human. How much better to have a friend who does not fall prey to human flaws. Let it be God be true.