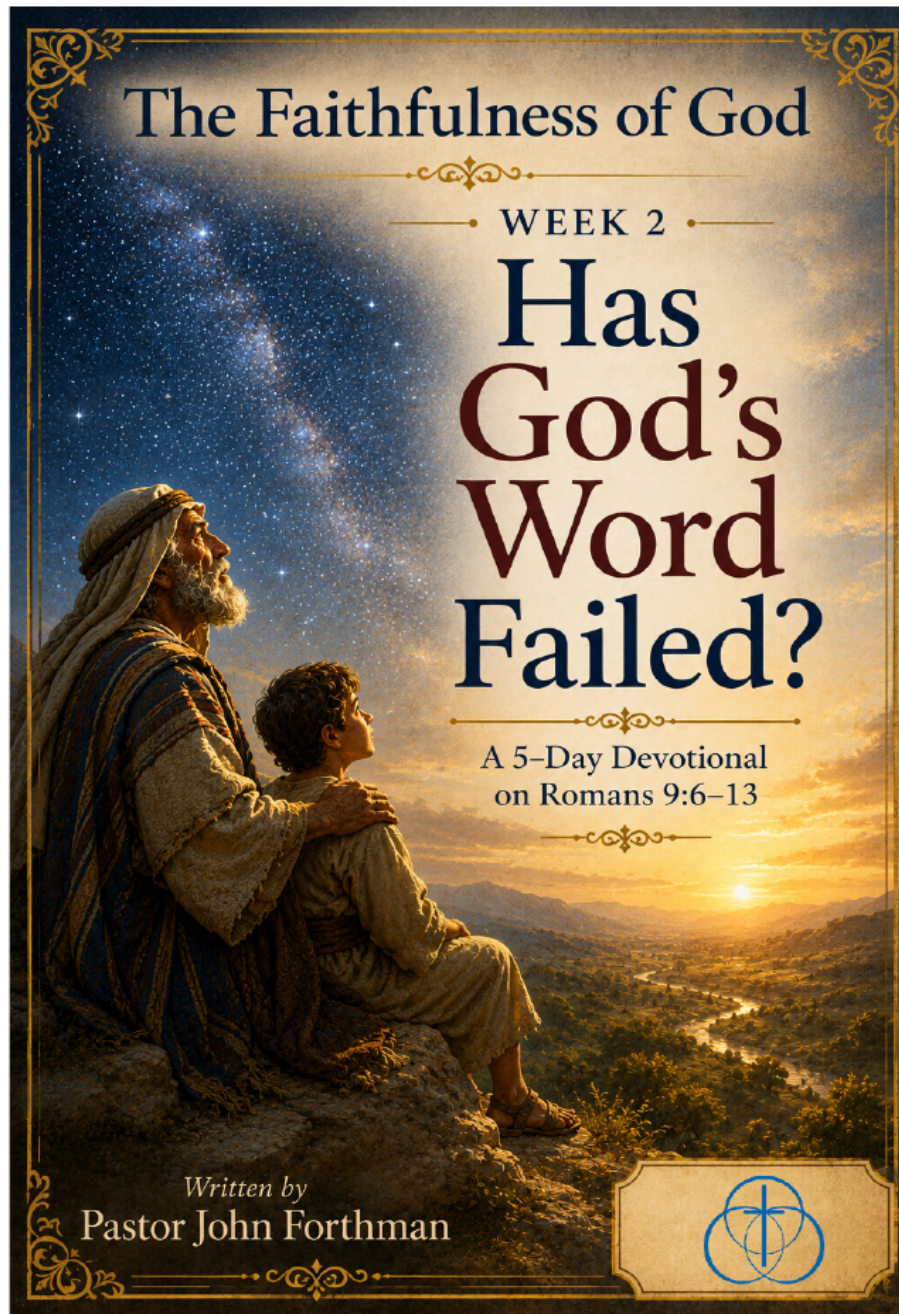




A 5-Day Devotional on Romans 9:6-13 • Pastor John Forthman

Day 1 - God Never Breaks A Promise

Scripture: Romans 9:6a - *"But it is not as though the word of God has failed."*

Reflection

Every one of us has experienced broken promises. Perhaps someone promised to always be there for you but wasn't. Perhaps someone made a commitment they couldn't keep. Broken promises hurt because they break trust.

Paul begins today's passage with a powerful reminder: God's Word has never failed. Not once. Throughout Scripture we see the same pattern. God makes a promise, and in His perfect time He fulfills it. Sometimes His timing surprises us. Sometimes His methods surprise us. But His faithfulness never changes.

Our confidence as Christians is not based on favorable circumstances. It is based on the character of a faithful God. When life feels uncertain, don't measure God's faithfulness by your present circumstances. Measure it by His unchanging character.

Questions for Reflection

- Where have I experienced broken promises?
- Have those experiences affected the way I view God?
- How does today's verse encourage my faith?

Prayer: Faithful Father, thank You that Your Word never fails. Help me trust Your promises even when I cannot yet see how You are working. Amen.

Day 2 - God's Timing Is Perfect

Scripture: *Genesis 21:1 - "Now Yahweh visited Sarah as he had said, and Yahweh did for Sarah as he had promised."*

Reflection

Abraham and Sarah waited twenty-five years for God's promise to be fulfilled. Imagine the questions they must have wrestled with. Has God forgotten? Did we misunderstand? Will this promise ever come true?

Yet Genesis simply says, "Now Yahweh visited Sarah as he had said." What a beautiful reminder. God did exactly what He promised. Not early. Not late. Right on time.

Waiting is one of the hardest parts of the Christian life. Yet waiting is often where God grows our faith the most. The God who was faithful to Abraham and Sarah is still faithful today.

Questions for Reflection

- What am I waiting on God for today?
- How has God proven faithful to me in the past?
- What would it look like to trust His timing?

Prayer: Lord, give me patience while I wait and confidence that You are working even when I cannot see it. Amen.

Day 3 - God's Purpose Is Greater Than Our Plans

Scripture: Romans 9:11b - "So that the purpose of God according to His choice would stand."

Reflection

Jacob and Esau remind us that God often works differently than we expect. Humanly speaking, many people would have expected Esau, the firstborn, to receive the covenant blessing. God chose differently. Why? Because God's purposes are always wiser than our expectations.

Sometimes we become discouraged because God doesn't answer our prayers the way we imagined. Yet His plans are always shaped by perfect wisdom and perfect love.

Trusting God means believing that His purposes are better than our own - even when we cannot yet understand them.

Questions for Reflection

- Where am I struggling to trust God's plan?
- Have I confused my expectations with God's promises?
- How can I surrender my plans to Him today?

Prayer: Father, help me trust Your wisdom above my own understanding. Teach me to rest in Your perfect purposes. Amen.

Day 4 - Looking Back To Move Forward

Scripture: Joshua 23:14 - *"Not one of all the good words which Yahweh your God spoke concerning you has failed; all have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed."*

Reflection

Joshua had lived long enough to look back over Israel's history. His conclusion was simple. God keeps His promises.

Sometimes the best way to strengthen our faith for tomorrow is to remember God's faithfulness yesterday.

Think about your own life. There have probably been seasons when you wondered what God was doing. Yet now, looking back, you can see His hand guiding you all along. Our memories become reminders of His faithfulness.

When today's questions seem overwhelming, remember yesterday's answers.

Questions for Reflection

- Where have I seen God's faithfulness in my own life?
- What difficult season now reveals God's wisdom?
- How can remembering God's past faithfulness strengthen today's faith?

Prayer: Lord, thank You for every evidence of Your faithfulness throughout my life. Help me remember Your goodness when my faith feels weak. Amen.

Day 5 - Every Promise Has Its Yes In Jesus

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 1:20 - *"For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes."*

Reflection

As Paul looked back over Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all of Israel's history, he saw one unifying truth. Every promise pointed toward Christ.

Jesus is the fulfillment of God's covenant. The fulfillment of God's mercy. The fulfillment of God's salvation. The fulfillment of God's love.

When Jesus rose from the grave, He forever proved that God's promises cannot fail. Our faith does not rest in circumstances. Our faith rests in a risen Savior.

As we finish this week, remember this: The same God who fulfilled every promise leading to Christ is still faithfully keeping His promises today. You can trust Him.

Questions for Reflection

- How does Jesus demonstrate God's faithfulness?
- Which promise of God do I need to cling to today?
- How can I encourage someone else with God's faithfulness this week?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank You for fulfilling every promise of God. Help me live each day with confidence in Your unfailing faithfulness. Amen.