

February 8, 2025

Because God is loyal and faithful

2 Thess. 3:3 *But the LORD is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.*

The Greek word for *establish* is **sterixei** which means *to fix firmly, support and to strengthen*. This passage reminds us first of all, that the LORD is faithful! He is always faithful because it is His character. I can tell you that there have been many times in my life when I have not been so faithful in abiding in Christ, but He is always faithful. We will never have to worry that He won't do what He has said He will do. And, because He is faithful, He will establish you. He will support and strengthen you to do His will and abide in Him. There is no way we could possibly do this in and of our own strength. But, as Paul writes in **Phil. 4:13** *I can do all things through Him Who gives me strength.*

The Greek word for *guard* is **phulaxei** which means *to stand guard, to watch over and to protect with vigilance*. The picture here is of the shepherd who keeps watch over his flock. He is ever watching for the predators, who so stealthily try to sneak up on the small sheep on the edge of the flock. They are in danger if the shepherd falls asleep or is distracted by something. The shepherd must keep his attention on the job at hand. And so do the LORD. He is never distracted from His sheep and He is faithful to watch over you. There is great comfort and encouragement knowing that the Almighty is watching over us. He loves you so much. We are to then in turn, do as we are encouraged to do in **Heb. 12:1-2** *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.*

Dear LORD, thank You that You are completely and absolutely faithful! You will never change, nor will You ever take Your eyes off of your sheep. You will strengthen and protect us all the days of our lives. We praise You, In Jesus Name, Amen