

FAITHFULNESS

A. Noun.

'emunah OT:530, "faithfulness." This word occurs in Punic as emanethi ("certainty"). In the Hebrew Old Testament, the noun occurs 49 times, mainly in the Book of Psalms (22 times). The first occurrence of the word refers to Moses' hands: "But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun" Ex 17:12.

The basic meaning of 'emunah is "certainty" and "faithfulness." Man may show himself "faithful" in his relations with his fellow men 1 Sam 26:23. But generally, the Person to whom one is "faithful" is the Lord Himself: "And he charged them, saying, Thus shall ye do in the fear of the Lord, faithfully, and with a perfect heart" 2 Chron 19:9. The Lord has manifested His "faithfulness" to His people: "He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he" Deut 32:4. All his works reveal his "faithfulness" Ps 33:4. His commandments are an expression of his "faithfulness" Ps 119:86; those who seek them are found on the road of "faithfulness": "I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid before me" Ps 119:30. The Lord looks for those who seek to do His will with all their hearts. Their ways are established and His blessing rests on them: "A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent" Prov 28:20. The assurance of the abundance of life is in the expression quoted in the New Testament Rom 1:17; Gal 3:11 from Hab 2:4: "Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith."

The word 'emunah is synonymous with tsedek ("righteousness"-- cf. Isa 11:5), with chesed ("lovingkindness"-- cf. Ps 98:3, NASB), and with mishpat ("justice" cf. Jer 5:1). The relationship between God and Israel is best described by the word hesed ("love"); but as a synonym, 'emunah fits very well. Hosea portrays God's relation to Israel as a marriage and states God's promise of "faithfulness" to Israel: "And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in loving-kindness, and in mercies. I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt [acknowledge] the Lord" Hos 2:19-20. In these verses, the words "righteousness," "judgment" ("justice"), "loving-kindness," "mercies," and "faithfulness" bear out the conclusion that the synonyms for 'emunah are covenantal terms expressive of God's "faithfulness" and "love." The assurance of the covenant and the promises is established by God's nature; He is "faithful."

Man's acts Prov 12:22 and speech 12:17 must reflect his favored status with God. As in the marriage relationship, "faithfulness" is not optional. For the relation to be established, the two parties are required to respond to each other in "faithfulness." Isaiah and Jeremiah condemn the people for not being "faithful" to God: "Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon [this city]" Jer 5:1; cf. Isa 59:4; Jer 7:28; 9:3.

Faithfulness will be established in the messianic era Isa 11:5. The prophetic expectation was fulfilled in Jesus Christ, as his contemporaries witnessed in Him God's grace (cf. chesed) and truth (cf. 'emunah): "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him" John 1:18. It is

significant that John puts these two terms side by side, even as they are found together in the Old Testament.

The Septuagint translations are: aletheia ("truthfulness; dependability; uprightness; truth; reality") and pistos ("trustworthy; faithfulness; reliability; rest; confidence; faith"). The KJV gives these translations: "faithfulness; truth; set office; faithfully; faithful. "

B. Verb.

'aman OT:539, "to be certain, enduring; to trust, believe." This root is found in Akkadian, Ugaritic, and Phoenician. In the Old Testament, the word occurs fewer than 100 times. Three words are derived from this verb: 'amen ("amen"-- 30 times; e. g., Ps 106:48), 'emet ("true"-- 127 times; e. g., Isa 38:18), and 'emunah ("faithfulness").

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, Copyright (c)1985, Thomas Nelson Publishers)Trust

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31 And when the Israelites saw the great power the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.

NIV

Exodus 19:9

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12 But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them."

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Deuteronomy 1:32

32 In spite of this, you did not trust in the LORD your God, NIV

Deuteronomy 9:23

23 And when the LORD sent you out from Kadesh Barnea, he said, "Go up and take possession of the land I have given you." But you rebelled against the command of the LORD your God. You did not trust him or obey him. NIV

Deuteronomy 28:52

52 They will lay siege to all the cities throughout your land until the high fortified walls in which you trust fall down. They will besiege all the cities throughout the land the LORD your God is giving you.

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if he charges his angels with error,

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Job 15:15

15 If God places no trust in his holy ones,
if even the heavens are not pure in his eyes,

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Job 31:24

24 "If I have put my trust in gold
or said to pure gold, 'You are my security,'

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12 Can you trust him to bring in your grain
and gather it to your threshing floor?

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Psalms 4:5

5 Offer right sacrifices
and trust in the LORD.

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Psalms 9:10

10 Those who know your name will trust in you,
for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.

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Psalms 13:5

5 But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in your salvation.

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Psalms 20:7

7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses,
but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

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you made me trust in you
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Do not let me be put to shame,
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Many will see and fear
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who makes the LORD his trust,
who does not look to the proud,
to those who turn aside to false gods.

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Psalms 44:6

6 I do not trust in my bow,
my sword does not bring me victory;

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Psalms 49:6

6 those who trust in their wealth
and boast of their great riches?

NIV

Psalms 49:13

13 This is the fate of those who trust in themselves,
and of their followers, who approve their sayings.

Selah

NIV

Psalms 52:8

8 But I am like an olive tree
flourishing in the house of God;
I trust in God's unfailing love
for ever and ever.

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Psalms 55:23

23 But you, O God, will bring down the wicked
into the pit of corruption;
bloodthirsty and deceitful men
will not live out half their days.
But as for me, I trust in you.

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Psalms 56:3

3 When I am afraid,
I will trust in you.

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4 In God, whose word I praise,
in God I trust; I will not be afraid.
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7 Then they would put their trust in God
and would not forget his deeds
but would keep his commands.

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Psalms 78:22

22 for they did not believe in God
or trust in his deliverance.

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2 I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge
and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."

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8 Those who make them will be like them,
and so will all who trust in them.

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Psalms 115:9

9 O house of Israel, trust in the LORD--
he is their help and shield.

NIV

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10 O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD--
he is their help and shield.

NIV

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11 You who fear him, trust in the LORD--
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Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
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Psalms 135:18

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8 Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,
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Show me the way I should go,
for to you I lift up my soul.

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Psalms 146:3

3 Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortal men, who cannot save.

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Proverbs 3:5

5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;

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Proverbs 21:22

22 A wise man attacks the city of the mighty
and pulls down the stronghold in which they trust.

NIV

Proverbs 22:19

19 So that your trust may be in the LORD,
I teach you today, even you.

NIV

Isaiah 8:17

17 I will wait for the LORD,
who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob.
I will put my trust in him.

NIV

Isaiah 12:2

2 Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust and not be afraid.
The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song;
he has become my salvation."

NIV

Isaiah 26:4

4 Trust in the LORD forever,

for the LORD, the LORD, is the Rock eternal.

NIV

Isaiah 30:15

15 This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says:

"In repentance and rest is your salvation,
in quietness and trust is your strength,
but you would have none of it.

NIV

Isaiah 31:1

1

Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help,
who rely on horses,
who trust in the multitude of their chariots
and in the great strength of their horsemen,
but do not look to the Holy One of Israel,
or seek help from the LORD.

NIV

Isaiah 36:15

15 Do not let Hezekiah persuade you to trust in the LORD when he says, 'The LORD will surely deliver us; this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.'

NIV

Isaiah 42:17

17 But those who trust in idols,
who say to images, 'You are our gods,'
will be turned back in utter shame.

NIV

Isaiah 50:10

10 Who among you fears the LORD
and obeys the word of his servant?
Let him who walks in the dark,
who has no light,
trust in the name of the LORD
and rely on his God.

NIV

Jeremiah 2:37

37 You will also leave that place
with your hands on your head,
for the LORD has rejected those you trust;
you will not be helped by them.

NIV

Jeremiah 5:17

17 They will devour your harvests and food,
devour your sons and daughters;
they will devour your flocks and herds,
devour your vines and fig trees.
With the sword they will destroy

the fortified cities in which you trust.

NIV

Jeremiah 7:4

4 Do not trust in deceptive words and say, "This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD!" NIV

Jeremiah 7:14

14 Therefore, what I did to Shiloh I will now do to the house that bears my Name, the temple you trust in, the place I gave to you and your fathers. NIV

Jeremiah 9:4

4 "Beware of your friends;
do not trust your brothers.
For every brother is a deceiver,
and every friend a slanderer.

NIV

Jeremiah 12:6

6 Your brothers, your own family--
even they have betrayed you;
they have raised a loud cry against you.
Do not trust them,
though they speak well of you.

NIV

Jeremiah 28:15

15 Then the prophet Jeremiah said to Hananiah the prophet, "Listen, Hananiah! The LORD has not sent you, yet you have persuaded this nation to trust in lies. NIV

Jeremiah 39:18

18 I will save you; you will not fall by the sword but will escape with your life, because you trust in me, declares the LORD."

NIV

Jeremiah 48:7

7 Since you trust in your deeds and riches,
you too will be taken captive,
and Chemosh will go into exile,
together with his priests and officials.

NIV

Jeremiah 49:4

4 Why do you boast of your valleys,
boast of your valleys so fruitful?
O unfaithful daughter,
you trust in your riches and say,
'Who will attack me?'

NIV

Jeremiah 49:11

11 Leave your orphans; I will protect their lives.
Your widows too can trust in me."

NIV

Micah 7:5

5 Do not trust a neighbor;
put no confidence in a friend.
Even with her who lies in your embrace
be careful of your words.

NIV

Nahum 1:7

7 The LORD is good,
a refuge in times of trouble.
He cares for those who trust in him,

NIV

Zephaniah 3:2

2 She obeys no one,
she accepts no correction.
She does not trust in the LORD,
she does not draw near to her God.

NIV

Zephaniah 3:12

12 But I will leave within you
the meek and humble,
who trust in the name of the LORD.

NIV

Luke 16:11

11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? NIV

John 12:36

36 Put your trust in the light while you have it, so that you may become sons of light."
When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

NIV

John 14:1

1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. NIV

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Acts 14:23

23 Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust. NIV

Romans 15:13

13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

NIV

1 Corinthians 4:2

2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. NIV

1 Corinthians 9:17

17 If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. NIV

2 Corinthians 13:6

6 And I trust that you will discover that we have not failed the test. NIV

Hebrews 2:13
13 And again,
"I will put my trust in him."
And again he says,
"Here am I, and the children God has given me."
NIV

Ex 14:31
Ex 19:9
Num 20:12
Deut 1:32
Deut 9:23
Deut 28:52
Judg 11:20
2 Kings 17:14
2 Kings 18:30
1 Chron 9:22
Job 4:18
Job 15:15
Job 31:24
Job 39:12
Ps 4:5
Ps 9:10
Ps 13:5
Ps 20:7
Ps 20:7
Ps 22:4
Ps 22:9
Ps 25:2
Ps 31:6
Ps 31:14
Ps 33:21
Ps 37:3
Ps 37:5
Ps 40:3
Ps 40:4
Ps 44:6
Ps 49:6
Ps 49:13
Ps 52:8
Ps 55:23
Ps 56:3
Ps 56:4
Ps 56:11
Ps 62:8
Ps 62:10

Ps 78:7
Ps 78:22
Ps 91:2
Ps 115:8
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Ps 115:11
Ps 118:8
Ps 118:9
Ps 119:42
Ps 125:1
Ps 135:18
Ps 143:8
Ps 146:3
Prov 3:5
Prov 21:22
Prov 22:19
Isa 8:17
Isa 12:2
Isa 26:4
Isa 30:15
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but you would have none of it.

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who trust in the multitude of their chariots
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NIV

Isaiah 36:15

15 Do not let Hezekiah persuade you to trust in the LORD when he says, 'The LORD will surely deliver us; this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.'

NIV

Isaiah 42:17

17 But those who trust in idols,
who say to images, 'You are our gods,'
will be turned back in utter shame.

NIV

Isaiah 50:10

10 Who among you fears the LORD
and obeys the word of his servant?
Let him who walks in the dark,
who has no light,
trust in the name of the LORD
and rely on his God.

NIV

Jeremiah 2:37

37 You will also leave that place
with your hands on your head,
for the LORD has rejected those you trust;
you will not be helped by them.

NIV

Jeremiah 5:17

17 They will devour your harvests and food,
devour your sons and daughters;
they will devour your flocks and herds,
devour your vines and fig trees.
With the sword they will destroy
the fortified cities in which you trust.

NIV

Jeremiah 7:4

4 Do not trust in deceptive words and say, "This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD!" NIV

Jeremiah 7:14

14 Therefore, what I did to Shiloh I will now do to the house that bears my Name, the temple you trust in, the place I gave to you and your fathers. NIV

Jeremiah 9:4

4 "Beware of your friends;

do not trust your brothers.
For every brother is a deceiver,
and every friend a slanderer.

NIV

Jeremiah 12:6

6 Your brothers, your own family--
even they have betrayed you;
they have raised a loud cry against you.
Do not trust them,
though they speak well of you.

NIV

Jeremiah 28:15

15 Then the prophet Jeremiah said to Hananiah the prophet, "Listen, Hananiah! The LORD has not sent you, yet you have persuaded this nation to trust in lies. NIV

Jeremiah 39:18

18 I will save you; you will not fall by the sword but will escape with your life, because you trust in me, declares the LORD."

NIV

Jeremiah 48:7

7 Since you trust in your deeds and riches,
you too will be taken captive,
and Chemosh will go into exile,
together with his priests and officials.

NIV

Jeremiah 49:4

4 Why do you boast of your valleys,
boast of your valleys so fruitful?
O unfaithful daughter,
you trust in your riches and say,
'Who will attack me?'

NIV

Jeremiah 49:11

11 Leave your orphans; I will protect their lives.
Your widows too can trust in me."

NIV

Micah 7:5

5 Do not trust a neighbor;
put no confidence in a friend.
Even with her who lies in your embrace
be careful of your words.

NIV

Nahum 1:7

7 The LORD is good,
a refuge in times of trouble.
He cares for those who trust in him,

NIV

Zephaniah 3:2

2 She obeys no one,
she accepts no correction.
She does not trust in the LORD,
she does not draw near to her God.

NIV

Zephaniah 3:12

12 But I will leave within you
the meek and humble,
who trust in the name of the LORD.

NIV

Luke 16:11

11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? NIV

John 12:36

36 Put your trust in the light while you have it, so that you may become sons of light." When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

NIV

John 14:1

1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. NIV

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Acts 14:23

23 Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust. NIV

Romans 15:13

13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

NIV

1 Corinthians 4:2

2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. NIV

1 Corinthians 9:17

17 If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. NIV

2 Corinthians 13:6

6 And I trust that you will discover that we have not failed the test. NIV

Hebrews 2:13

13 And again,

"I will put my trust in him."

And again he says,

"Here am I, and the children God has given me."

NIV

TRUST (NOUN AND VERB)

A. Noun.

pepoithesis NT:4006 is rendered trust in 2 Cor 3:4, KJV; see CONFIDENCE, No. 1.

B. Verbs.

1. peitho NT:3982, intransitively, in the perfect and pluperfect active, "to have confidence, trust," is rendered "to trust" in Matt 27:43; Mark 10:24; Luke 11:22; 18:9; 2 Cor 1:9; 10:7; Phil 1:1-4:23; 2:24; 3:4, KJV (RV, "to have confidence"); Heb 2:13; in the present middle, Heb 13:18, KJV (RV, "are persuaded"). See AGREE, No. 5, PERSUADE.

2. pisteuo NT:4100, "to entrust," or, in the passive voice, "to be entrusted with," is rendered "to commit to one's trust," in Luke 16:11; 1 Tim 1:11; "to be put in trust with," 1 Thess 2:4, KJV (RV, "to be intrusted").

Note: Wherever elpizo, "to hope," is translated "to trust" in the KJV, the RV substitutes "to hope." So proelpizo, "to hope before." See HOPE.

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