

The Immutability of God

Key Verse:

Malachi 3:6 "For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed."

Key Thought:

God does not change.

"To say that God is immutable is to say that He never differs from Himself." (p.49 TKOTH)

God is called "the Rock" in [Deuteronomy 32:4](#) and [James 1:17](#) says He does not vary nor is there even a "shadow of turning" with Him.

God is a moral being and for a moral being to change it must be in one of three ways:

1. Good to bad (better to worse)
2. Bad to good (worse to better)
3. or, if morally stable, from immature to mature or something similar.

God does not and cannot move in any of these directions. Let's look at each one a little closer:

1. Can God change from Good to bad? Why or why not?

- No, He cannot. Any deterioration within a being excludes it from being God. It may be a great creature, but it cannot be the one true God. God does not change for the worse.

2. Can God change from bad to Good? Why or why not?

- No, He cannot. God is perfectly Holy. He has never been less Holy than He is now nor can He become more holy than He is now. He cannot change for the better because that would mean at one point He was not perfectly Holy.

3. Can God become more mature in His being? Why or why not?

- No, He cannot. God cannot grow in maturity or in any other way. Any "one who can suffer any slightest degree of change is neither self-existent, self-sufficient, nor eternal, and so is not God." (p.50 TKOTH)

"Nothing that God has ever said about Himself will be modified; nothing the inspired prophets and apostles have said about Him will be rescinded. His immutability guarantees this." (p.50 TKOTH)

God is Immutable (unchanging) in His: 1.Essence 2.Attributes 3.Counsel

Read [Genesis 6:6](#) Does this mean that God does change?

- First, does Scripture contradict itself? No! The Bible does not contradict itself.
- [Num.23:19](#) and [I Sam.15:29](#) say that God does not change.
- "When speaking of Himself, God frequently accommodates His language to our limited capacities....When He institutes a *change in His dealings* with men, He describes His course of conduct as 'repenting'." (p.38 TAOG)
- God does not change who He is, He is allowing man to make a moral choice to which He will either respond in Grace & mercy or punishment. (ie., People of Ninevah, the Israelites, all people in regard to His Son Jesus Christ and the gift of salvation which is offered).

Application for us today:

"Human nature cannot be relied upon; but God can!" (p.39 Pink) We can take comfort in the fact He does not change: [Is. 54:10](#). We can be sure our Salvation is secure: [I John 5:9-13](#). It is also a terror for the wicked: [Ezek. 8:18](#); [Romans 12:19-21](#), "Hence the eternity of the punishment of all who die in their sins." (Pink)

What meaning does it have for you personally to know that God does not change?

Quotes From:

A.W. Tozer, [The Knowledge of the Holy](#), and Arthur W. Pink, [The Attributes of God](#)