

GOD IS: IMMUTABLE

God is forever the same, "*the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change*" (James 1). SJ Lawson says, "regardless of our life stages, God is the same each day. When we lift our prayers to Him, we don't anticipate mood swings or divine inconsistency." He is reliable, our Rock.

1- God is unchangeable in His CHARACTER. God is immutable in all His perfect divine being, "*the same yesterday, today, and forever*" (Hebrews 13:8). Psalm 102, "*You O Lord are enthroned forever. Of old You laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You will remain. You will change them like a garment, but You are the same, and Your years have no end.*" God has no beginning and no end, and cannot change. He is forever the same in every aspect of His character, attributes, essence. Malachi 3:6, "*I the LORD do not change*" (Job 23:13). He is constant.

RC Sproul says, "God's immutability is linked with His aseity (self-existence) because God is eternally what He is and who He is. His being is incapable of mutation or change. We as creatures are mutable and finite." Only God is unchangeable. Even God could not create another infinite being, because there can be only one. God never increases or decreases. He is already all that He can be, in all His attributes.

2- God is unchangeable in His COMMANDS. God's Word is immutable. What He says, He will do. His Word is always in accordance with His unchangeable character. Psalm 119, "*Forever O LORD Your word is fixed in the heavens. Your righteousness is righteous forever. Your Law is true. Every one of Your righteous rules endures forever.*" Numbers 23:19, "*God is not a man, that He should lie or change His mind.*" SJ Lawson says, "Unlike us, God's Word can never be altered or abridged. It never fails. What He says will come to pass. God neither lies nor takes back what He has said. We tend to change our minds, twist the truth, intentionally or unintentionally we mislead others. God is totally trustworthy, immutable."

1 Peter 1 quotes Isaiah 40, "*the Word of our God will stand forever*" as the "*imperishable seed.*" Matthew 5 "*Truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.*" Matthew 24, "*My Words will never pass away.*" You can totally trust Him!

3- God is unchangeable in His COUNSEL. His decrees and plans are promises, extending from His immutable character. Isaiah 14, "*The LORD of hosts has sworn, as I have planned, so shall it be, and as I have purposed, so shall it stand. This is the purpose concerning the whole earth, this is the hand that is stretched out over all the nations, for the LORD of hosts has purposed, and who will annul it? His hand is stretched out, and who will turn it back?*" You have to change your plans because of inability or inactivity. Nothing can frustrate God's plans. Proverbs 19, "*Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.*" Psalm 33, "*the counsel of the LORD stands forever.*"

WA Grudem says, "God is unchanging in His being, perfections, purposes and promises, yet God does feel emotions and act differently in response to different situations." When Scripture says God repented or changed His mind, that's an anthropomorphism, an accommodation of divine character to our finite minds. "It expresses His present attitude with respect to the situation as it exists in that moment, not that God actually changes His eternal decrees." God doesn't have to dance around your disobedience.

4- God is unchangeable in His CHANGING OF YOU. That's His consolation, compassion, salvation. Deuteronomy 32, "*Ascribe greatness to our God the Rock. His work is perfect, for all His ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is He.*" Grudem says God is unchanging, not in every way that we can imagine, but only in ways that Scripture affirms. God IS. He never becomes. His being is eternal, infinite, immutable. Our being is always becoming, changing by nature. That's why only in God can you find your unchangeable Rock of Salvation. Deuteronomy 32 says, "*This is no empty word for you, but your very life.*" Many Scriptures echo this unchangeable character of His purpose in salvation, as Hebrews 6, "*so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to Him for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.*"

"*We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul.*" Jesus is the consolation of Israel (Luke 2), the promised Messiah, Lord and Savior. He is the personification of the unchanging God, who gives you eternal spiritual life in Christ. He promises (Romans 8:29) to conform believers to the image of the Son, as you trust and obey your Rock of salvation - God who never changes, whose salvation never fails.