

Part 2. The Nature and Work of God

Lesson 3: The Immutability of God

Lesson Summary

The immutability of God means that He does not and cannot change in His nature, character, purposes, or promises (Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8). Unlike creation, which is constantly shifting, God remains eternally the same—perfect in essence, purpose, and moral character. His love does not fade, His justice does not bend, and His promises never fail (James 1:17; Num. 23:19). While Scripture at times describes God as “relenting” (Jonah 3:10; Ex. 32:14), these are not changes in His nature but expressions of His consistent character responding to human repentance. God’s immutability assures believers of His faithfulness (Isa. 40:8), stability in a changing world (Ps. 102:25–27), and security in salvation (Heb. 6:17–18). In a world of shifting values and unstable foundations, the unchanging God is our anchor of hope.

Key Takeaways

- **God’s nature is unchanging**—He is eternally the same in essence and attributes (Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8).
- **His purposes are fixed**—He accomplishes all He intends from eternity (Isa. 46:9–10).
- **His moral character is steady**—holiness, justice, and love remain constant (Ps. 102:25–27).
- **His promises never fail**—His covenants and Word are sure (Heb. 6:17–18; Num. 23:19).
- **Apparent changes in Scripture** (Jonah 3:10; Ex. 32:14) reflect His unchanging character responding to human choices.
- **Believers’ comfort**—in a shifting world, God’s faithfulness secures our hope (Isa. 40:8; Lam. 3:22–23).

Questions & Answers

1. **Q:** What does God’s immutability mean?
A: That He never changes in nature, character, purposes, or promises (Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8).
2. **Q:** How is God’s purpose different from human plans?
A: His purposes are eternal, wise, and unthwarted by circumstances (Isa. 46:9–10).
3. **Q:** Do verses about God “relenting” mean He changes?
A: No—these describe His consistent nature responding to repentance with mercy (Jonah 3:10; Ex. 32:14).
4. **Q:** Why does God’s immutability bring comfort?
A: Because His promises never fail, His love never fades, and His Word always stands (James 1:17; Isa. 40:8).
5. **Q:** How does immutability secure our salvation?
A: God’s covenant is guaranteed—He cannot lie or revoke His promises (Heb. 6:17–18; Num. 23:19).
6. **Q:** What is the believer’s response to God’s immutability?
A: Trust, worship, and confidence in His unchanging love and faithfulness (Lam. 3:22–23).

“In a changing world, our unchanging God is the anchor of our faith, the guarantee of His promises, and the source of unfailing hope.”