

What Is God Like? Lesson 3: Attributes God Does Not Share With Man – Part 2

Introduction:

- One of the simplest ways to think about God’s attributes is to think of:
 - Attributes that God does not share with man
 - Attributes that God does share with man

1. God is Independent

2. God is Unchangeable

Mal 3.6 *“For I the LORD do not change;*

A. God’s _____ never changes

Psa 102.25–27 *Of old you laid the foundation of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.*

26 *They will perish, but you will remain;
they will all wear out like a garment.*

You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away,

27 ***but you are the same, and your years have no end.***

Heb 13.8 *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*

- God causes the universe to change, but He remains the same.

“God cannot change for the better, because He is already perfect. And since He is perfect, He cannot change for the worse.” A. W. Pink

B. God’s _____ never change.

Mal 3.6 *“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.*

Lam 3.22–23 *The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;*

23 *they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.*

- God is _____ in every way.

- **If God could change, then He would become:**
 - **Either more perfect**
 - **Or less perfect**

- **God is never more or less:**
 - **Independent**
 - **Truthful**
 - **Holy**
 - **Merciful**
 - **Just**
 - **Powerful**
 - **Kind**
 - **Good**
 - **Loving**
 - **Wise than He used to be!**

“All that God is, He has always been, and all that God has been, He will forever be.” St. Anselm

James 1.17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights *with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.*

C. God's _____ never change.

**Psa 33.11 The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
the plans of his heart to all generations.**

**Matt. 13.35 This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet:
“I will open my mouth in parables;
I will utter what has been hidden **since the foundation of the world.**”**

Matt. 25.34 Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom **prepared for you from the foundation of the world.**

Eph. 1.4 even as he chose us in him **before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love**

Eph. 1.11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been **predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will,**

2Tim. 2.19 *But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity."*

1Pet. 1.20 *He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you*

Rev. 13.8 *and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.*

- When God has determined that He will do something, His purpose cannot change and it will be _____.

D. God's _____ never change.

- When God has promised something, He will not be _____ to that promise.

Num 23.19 *God is not man, that he should lie,
or a son of man, that he should change his mind.
Has he said, and will he not do it?
Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?*

Is 40.8 *The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Heb 6.18 *it is impossible for God to lie,*

E. Why it is important that God never changes.

- If God could change for the better, then He was not perfect when we first _____ Him.
- If God could change for the worse, then what kind of God might He _____?
- How could we ever _____ a God who could change?
- If God could change His purposes, then how can we trust God's _____?
- If God could change, then the whole basis of our faith _____.
- EXAMPLE: God's promise to Abraham

Heb 6.13-14 For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, 14 saying, “Surely I will bless you and multiply you.”

Heb. 6.15 And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise.

Heb. 6.16 For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation.

Heb 6.17–20 So when God desired to show more convincingly **to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose**, he guaranteed it with an oath,

- It is a strong source of _____ to know that God does not change!!

Heb. 6.18 so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, **WE** who have fled for refuge might have **strong encouragement to hold fast** to the hope set before us.

- It is a strong source of _____ to know that God does not change!!

Heb. 6.19 We have this as a sure and steadfast **anchor of the soul**, a **hope** that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, 20 where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

- It is a strong source of _____ to know that God does not change!!
- It is a strong source of _____ to know that God does not change!!
- It is a strong source of _____ to know that God does not change!!
- Our faith and hope _____ on a God who does not change.
- Only the God who does not change is _____ of our trust.
- He is faithful, even when we are not!

1 John 1.9 If we confess our sins, **he is faithful** and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 2.1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.