



# CHRIST'S COMMISSION FELLOWSHIP

## Los Angeles

Dgroup Discussion Guide  
November 9, 2014

### Unchangeable God

Word:

**Malachi 3:6** For I, the Lord, do not change.

One of God's characteristics is His immutability. This simply means that God does not change.

Can you imagine if God frequently changes His mind? Sunrise would differ drastically from day to day. But that isn't our God. Our God does not change. His purposes, His counsel, His being, His attributes --- these do not change. Hebrews 6:13 -20 says **For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself,**<sup>14</sup> saying, "I WILL SURELY BLESS YOU AND I WILL SURELY MULTIPLY YOU."<sup>15</sup> **And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise.**<sup>16</sup> **For men swear by**<sup>[a]</sup> **one greater than themselves, and with them an oath given as confirmation is an end of every dispute.**<sup>17</sup><sup>[b]</sup> **In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose,**<sup>[c]</sup> **interposed with an oath,**<sup>18</sup> **so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have**<sup>[d]</sup> **taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.**<sup>19</sup><sup>[e]</sup> **This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters**<sup>[f]</sup> **within the veil,**<sup>20</sup> **where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.**

When God made the covenant with Abraham, He Himself sealed the covenant and took it upon Himself to make sure that the covenant would be fulfilled. True, Abraham had to wait more than two decades before the fulfilled promise of a son was given but God was true to His promise. God remains true to His promise to Abraham then as He remains true to the same promises to us today.

The covenant that God made with Abraham did not change all throughout history. His promises from the Old still holds true even today. God does not change. . . only people do. It is only people who change and move away from God's love.

Immutability of who God is

Psalm 90:2; Revelation 22: 13; James 1:17; 2 Timothy 2:13

- God's immutability is not just a character trait. It is who He is.
- These verses tell us about God's character. It tells us how faithful God is. How constant He is. Even when we are faltering in our walk, His faithfulness is constant. And it is because of His constancy that we should find reassurance – because no matter what we are going through and even though we may stray from the path – God's purpose for us, His love and His grace is unchangeable.
- A.W. Pink on The Attributes of God said *He cannot change for the better for He is already perfect, and being perfect He cannot change for the worse.*

Immutability of His Word

Psalm 89:34; Psalm 119: 89; Joshua 21:45; Isaiah 40:8

- The Word of God does not change. Seasons may change but the Word of God will continue to hold true for all time.
- These verses show us the immutability of God's word. His word is as constant as He is. The Lord does not change His mind. His promises in the Old Testament can still be claimed by us today. *Forever O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven.* When God says something then that is it, it will come true. It is only people who would rather do what they want who try to resist God's will in their life. An old adage says *God says it. I believe it. That settles it.*
- We should holdfast to God's promises. . . to look forward to the fulfillment of His promises in our life. But the only way we will know God's promises is if we read God's word, the Bible.

### Immutability of God's Hatred of sin

Proverbs 6:16 – 19; Romans 1:18; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23

- We have a holy God. And because He is holy, He cannot tolerate sin. However God's wrath is not poured out on man but rather on the sinner.
- If God hates sin, then us who call ourselves Christians should likewise hate sin. We should love what God loves, and hates what God hates.
- We should stop comparing ourselves with each other thinking that others have sinned more than us because God's standard is perfection and God says all have sinned.
- That is why sin has to be punished. Sin has to be paid for. . . and yet we dabble in sin. We have made God's law relative rather than absolute. Minimizing the severity and magnitude of the sin to suit our purposes making us less liable and lowering our responsibility. We call adultery an indiscretion, we call a lie a white lie. We try to run away from accountability for our sins choosing to negate God's laws and God.

### Immutability of God's love

Jeremiah 31:3; Psalm 100:5; Romans 8:38-39

- God says He has loved us with an everlasting love. Before we were even born, before we took our first steps, before we even committed our sin. . . and even after we committed the sin. . . God's love is constant and unchanging.
- There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. We have to have Jesus in our lives for us to enjoy God's love.

### Immutability of God's Salvation

Isaiah 51:6; Revelation 3:5; John 3: 16-17; Matthew 5:17

- When Jesus Christ died for us and saved us our place in heaven was made secure. His salvation does not fade, or tarnish or rust.
- God can do anything but He has committed Himself to our salvation.

Our response: Romans 8:28-29

***And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.***

1. express your love for God
2. make sure that you are growing more and more like Christ

If we love God then we know that even amidst of trials and difficulties we are assured of God's unchanging purpose and love for us, we can then find peace and joy in the knowledge that God is sovereign in our lives. In the same way, we are confident that everything that happens to us and in our lives are a part of God's purpose for us because He is constantly conforming us to the image of His Son. Our salvation does not stop when we receive Jesus as Lord and Savior. . . that in fact is only the beginning of a better and more exciting journey. Because as we learn to surrender to God's will, God will continue to work in us and through us.

Let us stop being just Christians, instead let us work to become followers of Christ. . . to emulate Him in our lives.

### Works: Journaling task

1. Have you experienced God's immutability in your life?
2. How do you feel about this characteristic of God?
3. Have you expressed your faith in Jesus as the source of your salvation?
4. What is your reflection on Romans 8:28-29? How is this made real in your life?