KNOWING GOD

God is Immutable

Pastor Reece, July 13, 2025

"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." James 1:17

Human beings like variety but need some things to be set and unchanging.

We need a God who is not only great, loving, kind, but also doesn't change. Does the Bible teach this? There are parts of the Bible that seem to imply that God changes His mind or that His expectations of us can expire or change.

God doesn't change. Malachi 3:6, James 1:17, Hebrews 13:8, Numbers 23:19.

What does "change" mean?

It does not mean unable to move or paralyzed. It does not mean uncaring, unfeeling, unwilling to emotionally engage

It does mean that God does not change in His character or consistency. Important because it means that what He has done and what it accomplished is stable, constant, will never expire or degrade, or become ineffective in any way.

But what about the "changes" we see in God in the Bible? 2 types:

- 1. God acts fickle... like a human. Gen. 6:6, Jonah 3:4,10, Gen. 18 -God interacts with humans in ways that we can understand to draw out a response.
- 2. God makes rules and then cancels them. Lev. 11, Deut. 14, Acts 15 -There are natural laws (unchanging based on God's nature) and situational laws(specific to a circumstance of time and place.)

Conclusion: God does not change, the Bible is clear and unified.

So, what does this mean?

Well, we can start to understand why people hate God before conversion and love God after.

For ourselves...

We interact with God differently.

• How we pray and who we resolve to become.

We interact with people differently.

• We become unflappable and patient.

We interact with this world differently.

• We love the ancient, don't need comfort the same way.

God doesn't change. And for you and I, that changes everything.