

Victoria Fellowship Church
International & Interdenominational
Bible Study Worksheet – February 28, 2021

Theme: The Attributes of God Topic: The Attributes of God - Unchangeable and True

Main Texts: Hebrew 13:8; Malachi 3:1-7; John 17: 2-3

Key verse: Malachi 3:6a – “*For I am the Lord, I do not change*” (NKJV)

INTRODUCTION: There is the saying that “real men keep their word.” But in a world where new knowledge is ever emerging, it has become common for people to change their position on issues. Sadly, those changes are on issues of values and morals. Today, we come to God’s unchangeable and true nature. To be unchangeable is to *‘not be liable to variation or be able to be altered; not capable of or susceptible to change.’* The unchangeable attribute of God is an attribute that God is unchanging in His character, will, and covenant promises. The writer of Hebrews echoed the Psalmist when he wrote, “*In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundation of the earth and made the heavens with your hands... They will wear out like old clothing... But you are always the same...*” (Hebrews 1:10-12)

1. (a) Read 1 Kings 8:56; Job 23:13; Acts 4:28; Hebrew 1:12; James 1:17. How do these passages help paint the picture of God’s unchangeable nature? (b) Read Numbers 23:19; Psalm 110:4; 2 Timothy 2:13; Numbers 23:19; What are some implications of God’s unchangeable nature? (c) In the light of (a) and (b) above, how then should we understand passages like Exodus 32:10-14?

Related to God’s unchangeable attribute is His **true** nature. The dictionary defines something as **true** when it is *in accordance with the actual state or conditions; conforming to reality or fact; not false; real; genuine; authentic, sincere; not deceitful; something based on facts rather than being invented or imagined; accurate and reliable.* Concerning this, Hebrews 6:17-18 (NKJV) says, “*Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie...*” In the Holy Bible, God has declared who He is, what He has done, and what He is doing in the world. All of it is true because it is impossible for the unchanging God to lie or change His mind.

2. (a) Hebrews 6:18 says, ‘... it is impossible for God to lie...’ What do you make of this in the context of His attribute? (b) Read Psalm 119:89; Isaiah 40:8. How should we view the word of God in the light of His unchangeable and true nature? (c) What should be an appropriate response if I believe that God is true and will not change His mind on any of His many promises in the Bible?

That God is unchangeable and true has implications for us. For starters, it means that we can be sure that there will be no conflict, no hidden agenda, no modification of any of His promises, no chance of failure, etc. So, Hebrews 13:7 invites us to “*Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith.*” In addition to the assurance these attributes of God bring, they bestow some benefits to us. Malachi 3:6 says “*I am the Lord, and I do not change. That is why you descendants of Jacob are not already destroyed.*” Similarly, James 1:17-18 tells us that “*Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow. He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.*” (NLT). Jesus’s work on the cross is the supreme proof to us of God’s unchangeable and true nature. Jesus Christ Himself said that He came to fulfil God’s promises (Matthew 5:17-18)

3. (a) What does Titus 1:1-2; Hebrews 13:7-9 challenge us to do as people who have a God who is unchangeable and true? (b) If God never changes and never lies, what are we to make of His promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ? (c) How should we then view His promise to help us in temptation or of protection or of the eventual annihilation of the devil?

Prayer: *Unchangeable and true God, thank You for choosing to give birth to us through Your Son Jesus Christ. Help us not to be misled by the many fancy teachings around. Rather, may we hold on to Your sure word, in Jesus’ name. Amen.*