

## HAS GOD CHANGED?

Greeting precious people, this week we are going to look at the commonly held belief that God has changed. There is an erroneous belief held among many today of both Christian and non Christian that God has some how changed over the years; that He has gone through some sort of metamorphous in order to adapt to the changing culture.

Many consider God, as He is portrayed in the Old Testament to be quick tempered; judgmental; full of anger and wrath and even down right mean. This is commonly held among those who have never really read or understand the Old Testament.

Then as one looks the New Testament and see Jesus Christ, God in man reconciling the world unto Himself, many picture God as being much more lenient; understanding; accommodating; tolerant; accepting and even condoning of all sorts of abhorrent behavior.

Nothing could be further from the truth for the God of the Old Testament is the God of the New Testament, He has NOT and NEVER will change. The Word of God the Bible makes it clear that God has not; will not; cannot change. The following are just a few verses that attest to this.

Malachi 3:6, "For I am the LORD, I do not change." Numbers 23:19, "God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" Hebrews 6:17-18, "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, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us." Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." James 1:17, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."

If God did or could change the implications would be humongous! The greatest result would be that you could not trust or rely on Him. For if He changed so would His word. That which He stated before could not be trusted because He and His word would be subject to change. I am so glad that God has not changed or never can or will. Therefore my hope and peace rests upon the never changing God who always lives up to His Word.

So why does man want to believe that God has changed? Many reasons no doubt but the main reason is so that man can feel more comfortable in his sin. Man often asserts that God does not consider certain actions to be sinful any longer. That which used to be considered sin by God now is just an "alternative life style"; an "affair"; "compulsive behavior disorder"; or any number of other rationalizations or justifications he is able to make.

The belief that God changes and adapts to the culture; as the culture goes/changes so does God has given way to and has become the justification for all sorts of evil behavior. This behavior has become accepted and considered normal while that which is just and right is considered unusual at best.

If you really think that God has changed, that He is different in the New Testament than He was in the Old Testament then you need to read the Book of

Revelation to see how He will deal with sin in the end. Or look at the Cross, for the Cross speaks of both God's love for man as well as His hatred for sin. God has not changed His view on sin. God has given us His law that we might come into agreement with Him that sin, all sin is exceedingly sinful. Our sin, great or small in our eyes is what caused Jesus to go to the cross.

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