God's Nature: Immutable and Never Changes

The term used to describe God's unchanging nature and character is immutable. To understand this concept, the Bible uses figurative language to describe God's immutability.

1. What figures of speech is the psalmist using of Creation? How does the psalmist illustrate God's immutability?

Of old You laid the foundation of the earth,
And the heavens are the work of Your hands.
They will perish, but You will endure;
Yes, they will all grow old like a garment;
Like a cloak You will change them,
And they will be changed.
But You are the same,
And Your years will have no end. (Ps 102:25-27, NKJV)

2. What do you observe about God's immutability when compared to human beings?

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? (Num 23:19, NKJV)

So Samuel said to him, "The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should relent." (1 Sam 15:28-29, NKJV)

3. What do you observe is the real significance of God's immutability? What problems would you perceive if God's nature / character was changeable or evolved with culture? Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, But the word of the Lord endures forever. (1 Pet 1:22-25, NKJV) 4. What do you observe about Jesus' nature / character? Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. (Matt 24:35, NKJV) Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. (Heb 13:8, NKJV) Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. (John 14:10, NKJV)

God's Nature: Immutable and Never Changes Teacher Notes

The term used to describe God's unchanging nature and character is immutable. To understand this concept, the Bible uses figurative language to describe God's immutability.

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Yes, they will all grow old like a garment;

Like a cloak You will change them,

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But You are the same,

And Your years will have no end. (Ps 102:25-27, NKJV)

Ask the student: can you explain the figure of speech?

The figure of speech using clothing describes the changing aspect of Earth and heaven over time with the sense of decay and being worn out.

Ask the student: what is the comparison implying?

God is unchanging nature is unaffected by time. It implies that God is perfect, because He cannot improve or decay.

2. What do you observe about God's immutability when compared to human beings?

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? (Num 23:19, NKJV)

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Ask the student: what does this contrast emphasize?

By juxtaposing the inconsistent word and behavior of human beings, the prophets emphasize that God's word and mind does not change. God makes no mistakes and fulfills all the promises He makes.

Samuel indicates that when God makes a judgment for disobedience of His word, it is just and without error.

Ask the student: does this comparison help you understand God better? What does it take for you to never lie? Is it possible to always keep your word? As you grow older, will you change your views and understanding of life?

3. What do you observe is the real significance of God's immutability? What problems would you perceive if God's nature / character was changeable or evolved with culture?

Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, because

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And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass.

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But the word of the Lord endures forever. (1 Pet 1:22-25, NKJV)

Ask the student: Did you notice the figure of speech? What does it illustrate?

The apostle Peter indicates that God's word is timeless and means that the Bible does not change with time nor is out of date. It is just as relevant today as it was in the past.

God's immutability and unchangeable nature means that you can place a trust and confidence in His word and plan – for eternity!

4. What do you observe about Jesus' nature / character?

Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. (Matt 24:35, NKJV)

Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. (John 14:10-11, NKJV)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. (Heb 13:8, NKJV)

Ask the student: why does Jesus say His words are eternal?

Jesus only said what He was authorized to say. The Son's words are the words of His Father.

Ask the student: why is Jesus the same yesterday, today, and forever?

Because of God's triune nature, Jesus is in God and God is in Jesus. God works through Jesus Christ. Like God Himself, Jesus is immutable and unchangeable, which means you can place a trust and confidence in the words of Jesus the Christ.

God's love is not capricious and His moral standard is absolute. Through Jesus Christ, the promise of salvation and eternal life is real and assured.