

Does God Change His Mind?

- We have to remember the fundamentals of Bible interpretation



II Timothy 3:16 (NKJV)

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,”

II Peter 1:3 (NKJV)

“as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,”

Ephesians 2:8,9 (NKJV)

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

James 2:24 (NKJV)

“You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.”

Does God Change His Mind?

- We have to remember the fundamentals of Bible interpretation
- What do we know about God's nature?



Job 26:14 (NKJV)

“Indeed these are the mere edges of His ways, And how small a whisper we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power who can understand?”

Romans 11:33 (NKJV)

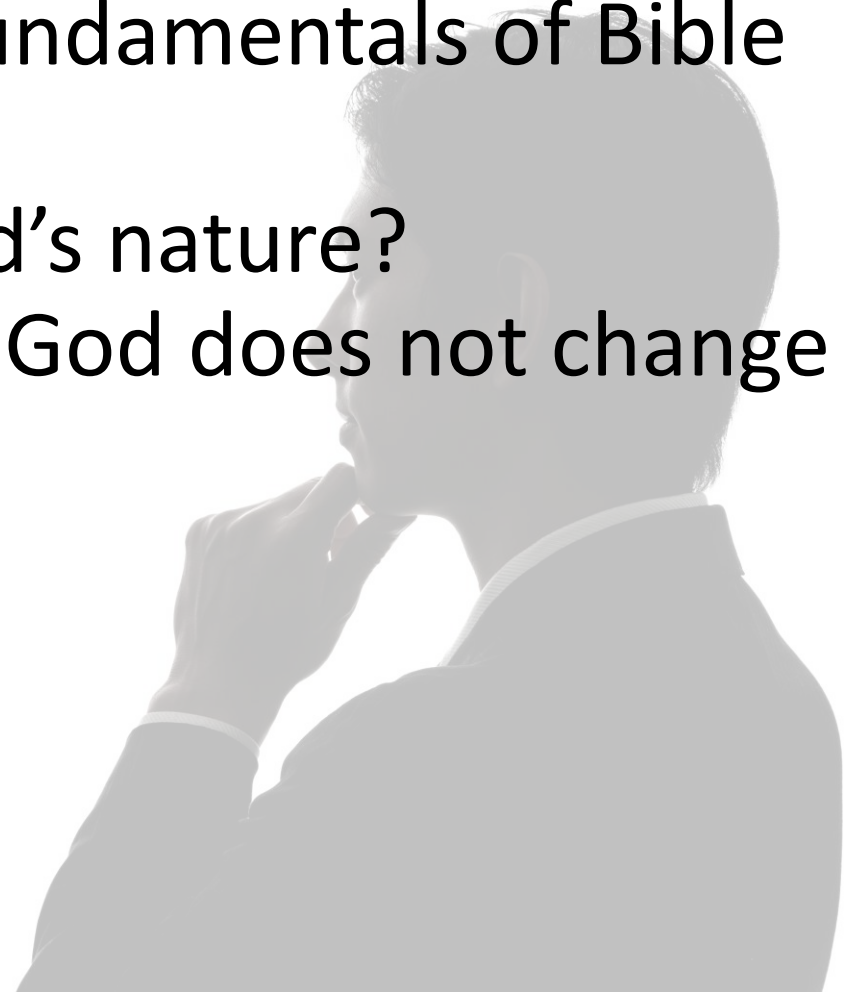
“Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!”

Deuteronomy 29:29 (NKJV)

“The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.”

Does God Change His Mind?

- We have to remember the fundamentals of Bible interpretation
- What do we know about God's nature?
- The Scriptures are clear that God does not change His mind



Immutable

“unchanging over time or unable to be changed” –Oxford Dictionary

Psalms 102:25-27 (NKJV)

“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.”

Malachi 3:6 (NKJV)

““For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed,
O sons of Jacob.”

James 1:17 (NKJV)

“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.”

II Timothy 2:13 (NKJV)

“If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.”

Hebrews 4:13 (NKJV)

“And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”

I John 3:20 (NKJV)

“For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.”

Isaiah 46:9,10 (NKJV)

“Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,'”

Numbers 23:19 (NKJV)

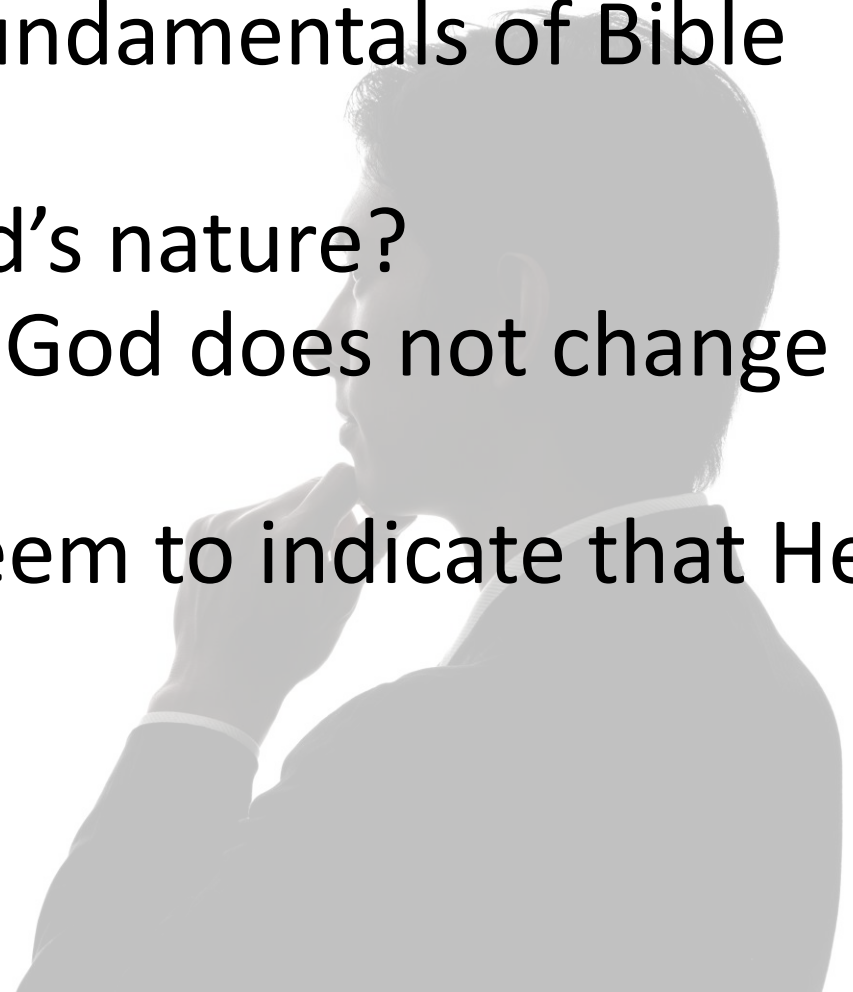
“"God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?"

ESV:

“God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?”

Does God Change His Mind?

- We have to remember the fundamentals of Bible interpretation
- What do we know about God's nature?
- The Scriptures are clear that God does not change His mind
- What about passages that seem to indicate that He does?



Genesis 18:23-33 (NKJV)

“Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. And Abraham came near and said, "Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked? "Suppose there were fifty righteous within the city; would You also destroy the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous that were in it? "Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" So the LORD said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes." Then Abraham answered and said, "Indeed now, I who am but dust and ashes have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: "Suppose there were five less than the fifty righteous; would You destroy all of the city for lack of five?" So He said, "If I find there forty-five, I will not destroy it." And he spoke to Him yet again and said, "Suppose there should be forty found there?" So He said, "I will not do it for the sake of forty." Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Suppose thirty should be found there?" So He said, "I will not do it if I find thirty there." And he said, "Indeed now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: Suppose twenty should be found there?" So He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of twenty." Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?" And He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of ten." So the LORD went His way as soon as He had finished speaking with Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.”

II Kings 20:1-7 (NKJV)

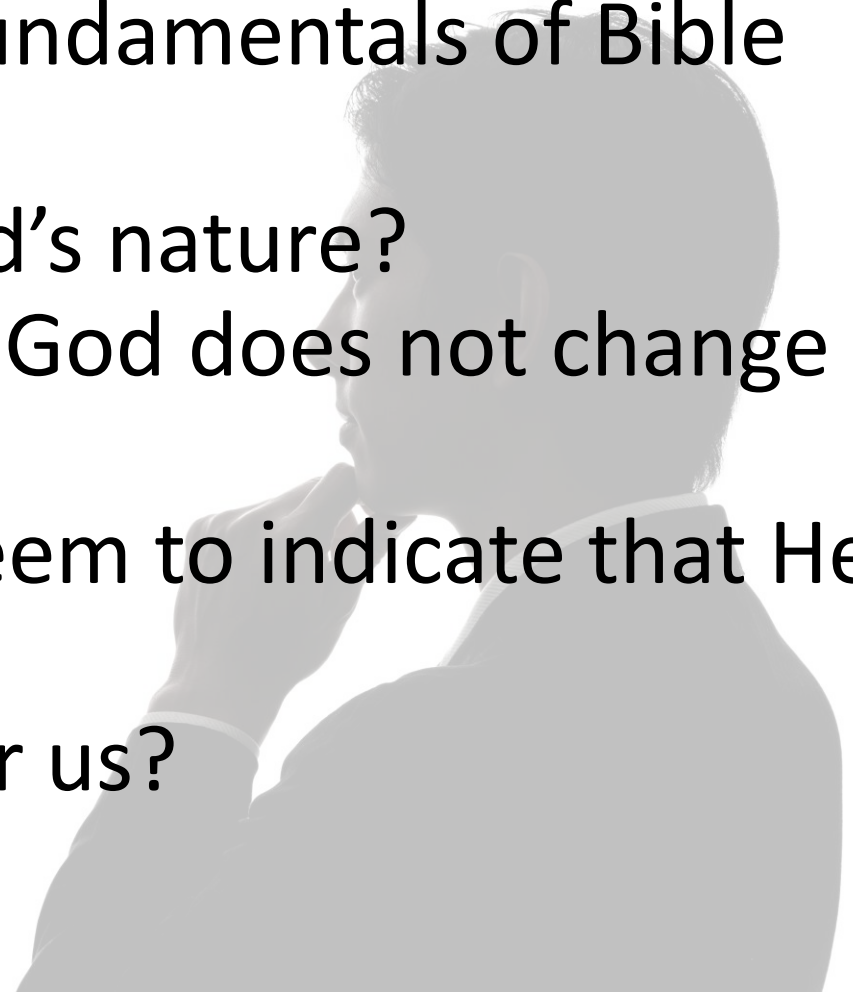
“In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, went to him and said to him, "Thus says the LORD: 'Set your house in order, for you shall die, and not live.'" Then he turned his face toward the wall, and prayed to the LORD, saying, "Remember now, O LORD, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what was good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly. And it happened, before Isaiah had gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "Return and tell Hezekiah the leader of My people, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father: "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the house of the LORD. "And I will add to your days fifteen years. I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for My own sake, and for the sake of My servant David.'"" Then Isaiah said, "Take a lump of figs." So they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered.”

Exodus 32:9-14 (NKJV)

"And the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people! "Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation." Then Moses pleaded with the LORD his God, and said: "LORD, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? "Why should the Egyptians speak, and say, 'He brought them out to harm them, to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from Your fierce wrath, and relent from this harm to Your people. "Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" So the LORD relented from the harm which He said He would do to His people."

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- We have to remember the fundamentals of Bible interpretation
- What do we know about God's nature?
- The Scriptures are clear that God does not change His mind
- What about passages that seem to indicate that He does?
- What are the implications for us?



Matthew 6:8 (NKJV)

“Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.”

Matthew 7:7 (NKJV)

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”

Hebrews 6:17-20 (NKJV)

“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. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

Numbers 23:19 (NKJV)

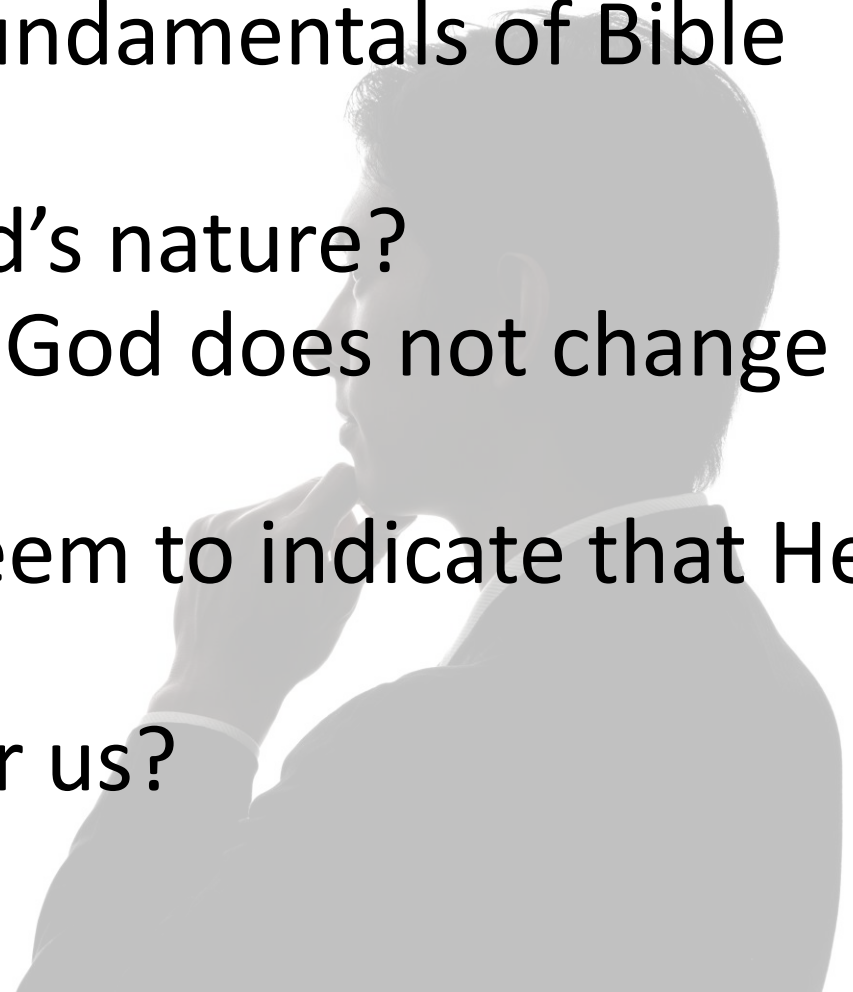
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