

Unpopular Bible Doctrines #15: The Immutability of God (Unchangeableness) vs. Open

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Unpopular Bible Doctrines

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Bible Text: Numbers 23:19; Hebrews 6:8-18

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Welcome, thank you for joining me today. I'm Larry Wessels, Director of Christian Answers and I want to thank you for tuning into our broadcast. In this particular series which we've been doing for quite a while now, this particular series and this episode is Unpopular Bible Doctrines #65. This is the final installment of this long series we've been doing on this particular subject. Unpopular Bible Doctrines. It was long ago when I first did the first video in this series and many years have passed, actually, since that one to this one and I'm happy to report that we're finally to the final episode and this is it.

As I get into this topic today, I want to call your attention to the fact that we have many free newsletters available. All you have to do is call or write. They are also online. Here is one of them. This is one I did on Mormonism. I talked about my trip to a Mormon temple in Dallas, but we have newsletters on all kinds of subjects and we have three websites and one of the websites is biblequery.org. We have two other websites: historycart.com and also muslimhope.com which deals with Islam exclusively, showing that it's a false religion. Anyway, biblequery.org has all our previous newsletters including this one posted online. So all you have to do is go to our website biblequery.org and once you're on the home page, click on the "Experience" box which should be up to the left and then just once you click on that, just scroll down a little bit and all our newsletters that we've ever done will be listed right there on all kinds of subjects so that's there for your review.

We also, I like to remind everyone of our YouTube channel, CanswersTV. That stands for Christian Answers TV since our ministry is Christian Answers of Austin, Texas/Christian Debater. So if you go to our YouTube channel, you'll find over 530 videos there and counting. We're always adding more. This will be one of them. So if you like to access all our previous videos that we have produced over the years going back close to 30 years now. We started filming in 1985 so quite a few videos there on all kinds of subjects. We have it organized into 19 playlists and you can check those different playlists to see what topic you might be interested in and we have produced a lot of videos on these topics. That's why they're in a playlist. For instance, Roman Catholicism, we have over 90 videos that we produce just on that topic and that includes many debates we've done also. Over 65 videos on Islam and so forth. So depending on what subject

you're interested in, our playlist should provide you with plenty of material, plenty of videos to research in case you have questions on a certain theological issue.

Alright, with that said, I'd also like to mention that I have produced a book. Here it is, my Unpopular Bible Doctrines book. This is it in its prebook form, you might say. This is already a lot of pages and there is going to be a lot more. I'm going to have this entire series transcribed and do like all the bigshot Christian authors do, take their transcribed material, turn it into an actual book, have it published and then it will be in book form. But for now, we have more in this Desktop Publisher form but hopefully once we get this finished and transcribed, we'll be able to put the book out there for the public.

Okay, what I would like to get into now is the fact that this is the final installment of our long series on Unpopular Bible Doctrines and I've saved the best for last. I've saved the most unpopular bible doctrine for the last and many of you are going, "How can there be an unpopular Bible doctrine that is more unpopular than all these other 64 unpopular Bible doctrines you've mentioned already? How can you have one that's even more unpopular than that?" Well, I think it can easily be done and hopefully I'll be able to prove it in this particular program today.

The unpopular Bible doctrine that I'd like to bring up here to finish this series is on the immutability of God. In other words, God does not change. This is the most unpopular Bible doctrine of all. Now, on the face of it, it doesn't really sound like it, in fact, on the face of it, it doesn't sound all that unpopular that God does not change. The immutability of God, it doesn't really sound that bad but once you start getting into the ramifications of what this doctrine is saying, you will then begin to realize how unpopular this doctrine really is to the world in general. The Bible basically says the Christian is up against the world, the flesh and the devil, and all three of these would definitely come against this doctrine of the immutability of God that God does not change.

Okay, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, one of the greatest preachers who ever lived and he preached back in the 19th century in London at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, but anyway he said, "Consider what thou owest to his immutability. Though thou hast changed a thousand times, he has not changed once. Though thou hast shifted thy intentions and thy will, yet he has not once swerved from his eternal purpose but still has held thee fast." Of course, that's from Charles Haddon Spurgeon's sermon given in 1855, January the 7th, to be exact, called "The Immutability of God."

As we get into this doctrine, the immutability of God means that God is unchanging. More specifically, God is unchanging in his character, will and covenant promises. God's immutability is that perfection of God by which he does not change in his being, perfections, purposes or promises. The Westminster Shorter Catechism says, "God is a spirit whose being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth are infinite, eternal and unchangeable." Those things do not change. A number of Scriptures that attest to this idea, for example, Numbers 23:19; 1 Samuel 15:29; Psalm 102:26; Malachi 3:16; 2 Timothy 2:13; Hebrews 6:17-18; James 1:17.

Does God change his mind? On several occasions, the Scriptures speak of God repenting or changing his mind. See Genesis 6:5-6; Exodus 32:14; Jonah 3:10; 2 Samuel 24:16. Do such texts undermine our confidence in the immutability of God? Most certainly not. First, we must clarify what immutability means. Immutability applies to the nature of God. He is always God. He is always infinitely powerful. Never will God fail to accomplish his will due to a change in his power to accomplish his purposes.

Second, God is immutable with regard to his character or attributes. God is immutable in his attributes. Whatever the attributes of God were before the universe was called into existence, they are precisely the same now and will remain so forever. Necessarily so, for they are the very perfections, the essential qualities of his being. Semper diem, always the same, is written across every one of them. His power is unabated. His wisdom undiminished. His holiness unsullied. The attributes of God can no more change than deity can cease to be. His veracity is immutable for his word is forever settled in heaven, Psalm 119:89. His love is eternal, "I have loved thee with an everlasting love," Jeremiah 31:3. "And having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end," John 13:1. "His mercy ceases not for it is everlasting," Psalm 100:5. Of course, I'm quoting there from the excellent Christian author, Arthur W. Pink, "Gleanings in the Godhead," from Moody Press in Chicago, 1975, pages 35-36.

Next, I'd like to talk about the divine immutability of God and this is basically coming from an article written by John MacArthur, another excellent Bible teacher.

"The Bible repeatedly and unapologetically underscores the fact that God does not change. In fact, He cannot change because He cannot improve on absolute perfection or decline in His eternally fixed nature. His person does not change: 'For I the LORD do not change' (Mal 3:6). His plans do not change: 'The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations' (Ps 33:11). His purpose does not change: 'So when God desired to show more convincingly...the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath' (Heb 6:17). God does not change His mind: 'The Glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man that he should have regret' (1 Sam 15:29); or His words: 'The Holy One of Israel...does not call back his words' (Isa 31:1-2); or His calling: 'The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable' (Rom 11:29; Heb 13:8; James 1:17). There are absolutely no changes in God, no variations, and no surprises (Ps 102:27).

"God does not increase or decrease. He does not improve or decline. He does not change due to some altered circumstances - there are no unforeseen emergencies to the One who is eternally all-knowing. His eternal purposes stand forever because He stands forever (Psa 33:11). He does not react, He only acts - and He does so however He pleases (Psa 115:3).

"From a human perspective, of course, God sometimes appears to change His plans or His actions based on what people do. But this is not so from God's viewpoint. Because He knows and always has known the future perfectly, having planned it according to His unalterable decree. He always acts in the way that He planned to act from eternity past. While men do not know how God will act, and are sometimes astonished as they see His sovereign plans unfold, God is never surprised. He continues to work as He always has, according to His eternal purpose and good pleasure (Psa 33:10-12; Isaa 48:14; Dana 4:35, Col 1:19-20)

"With respect to mankind, God predetermined to redeem a people for His own glory. Nothing can thwart that plan (John 10:29; Rom 8:38-39). Perfect knowledge, perfect uninfluenced freedom, and perfect limitless power to accomplish all He perfectly willed – absolute holiness and moral perfection binding Him to be truthful and faithful to His word – mean that what God set out to do before time began, He is doing and will complete after time is gone.

"God cannot change, His word cannot change, and His purpose cannot change. His truth is the same because He is the truth (Psa 119:160; John 17:17; Titus 1:2; Heb 6:18). In contrast to the so-called openness of God theology, which claims that God does not know the future and therefore must adapt His circumstances as they unfold, the Bible presents God as the all-knowing Sovereign of all events, past, present, and future. In the words of Isaiah 46:9B-10, '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 not yet done, saying, "My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all My purpose.'"

The changing god of man-made new theologies. There is something out there called "process theology." The first one is process theology which is a theology of becoming, as they say. This movement, particularly prominent in the late 1960s and early 1970s, according to David L. Smith in this book, "A Handbook of Contemporary Theology," says that, "Some have claimed that process thinking extends back to the Greek philosopher, Heraclitus of 500 BC." Smith goes on to say, "The advent of Darwinian evolution followed by Einstein's Theory of Relativity led to the belief in biology, physics, chemistry, psychology and social sciences that all creation is in a state of dynamic flux, each part in relation to the others."

Linked with this is the antichrist theology of the New Age. Among many foundational New Age beliefs, there are two that stand out. Most people relate the New Age Movement to Monism, all is one and one is all or pantheism, pan meaning all, theos meaning God, therefore denoting all is God and God is all. But there is another belief that is quite popular today and very similar to the New Age, pantheistic world and life view. This belief is known as panentheism. Panentheism is the belief that God is in the world

the way a soul or mind is in the body. Pantheism is the belief that God is in the world and the world is in God. The immediate problem with this, of course, is that since individuals in the world are in the process of change that God has identified either with the world or in the world, then God is in the process of change.

I have gone through all this malarkey just to let you know the background of where this idea about God changing and does change and is part of the world or not part of the world or whatever comes from and it's not from the Bible, that's for sure.

Okay, let's take a look here. With links to the New Age and Eastern meditation such as Zen Buddhism, there are many difficulties with process theology, especially it's rejection of the activity of the supernatural in a created realm. In this regard, process theology is a product of enlightenment liberalism. Now, of course, liberalism is just these theologians and other unbelievers, basically they're just reprobate unbelievers. They don't believe the Bible. They want to turn to anything besides what the Bible teaches and so they come up with all this kind of junk that I'm describing right now to escape the immutability of God which is this unpopular Bible doctrine that I'm discussing right now.

Out of such rejection comes this low view of the Bible. Scripture becomes one of many religious collections of myths and traditions. As one might expect, the same rejection of the supernatural produces a low view of the person of Jesus Christ. Process theologians deny the divinity of Christ, preferring to say that God was in Christ as he is in every human being, although Jesus was more God conscious than others. This is far removed from the Bible which proclaims that Christ is God. See John 1:1; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 1:8. See the deity of Christ being proclaimed in the Scripture which is denied by these people who say that God changes and isn't what the Bible describes.

Okay, finally, the Panentheistic god of process is not the God of the Bible. The God of the Bible is eternal. The process god is temporal. The God of the Bible created the universe from nothing. The god of process merely cooperates with an already existent creation.

Another popular denial of God's immutability is called creation spirituality made popular by medieval mystic Catholicism and promoted today by a Roman Dominican priest named Matthew Fox. Without going into a lot of detail, suffice it to say that creation spirituality seeks to argue that God does change. The Bible, however, says there is no new thing under the sun, Ecclesiastes 1:9. This could adequately summarize Fox's creation spirituality, Fox with his panentheistic changing god is merely rehashing New Age theology with his creation emphasis. Despite his use of Catholic and Episcopalian credentials and terminology, his doctrine is neither. His so-called mystical Christianity becomes nothing more than mythical Christianity.

Does the Lord change or not? Malachi 3:6, God does not change. "For I, the LORD, do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed." When God says that he does not change, he is speaking about his nature and character but this does not mean that he cannot change how he works with people throughout history. When we see God

changing his mind, we are seeing it from a human perspective. Since God knows all things from all eternity, he has always known the ultimate plan that he would carry out, even a plan to "change his mind." As we have seen in Jonah's account at Nineveh, Jonah 3:10, they repented and God relented from the destruction that was to come upon the inhabitants. Of course, God knew this would happen and instituted the warning to them in order to bring about their repentance. There is no mystery here.

Now, another problem here we get with these people that want to say that God doesn't change or he's into all this process theology or creation spirituality or he changes his mind and all this nonsense I've been bringing up just so I could answer these arguments ahead of time, another argument they bring up is, "Well, the God of the Old Testament is not the same as the God of the New Testament," that these are two different Gods. In fact, there has been serious religions that have sprung up throughout the centuries arguing that very point, that the God of the Old Testament is a mean, nasty God and the God of the New Testament is a God of love and he's a different kind of God. Nothing could be further from the truth. The Bible, Old Testament and New Testament, written by one Holy Spirit through all these prophets over a 1,500 year period, over 40 different prophets, it's talking about the one and only true God. The unchangeable God. The God who does not change. Old Testament/New Testament, it's the same God. No matter what kind of arguments these people throw at you, the Bible knows nothing other than that God does not change. He's the one immutable God who has existed from all eternity and will exist through all eternity. So to think God changes in any way is ridiculous.

So let's go on in some more points about this. Seen from a logical viewpoint, there are reasons why it is impossible for God to change. First, if anything changes, it must do so in some chronological order. There must be a point in time where before the change and a point in time after the change, therefore for change to take place, it must happen within the constraints of time. However, God is eternal and exists outside the constraints of time and the Scripture references for that are in Psalm 33:11; Psalm 41:13; Psalm 90:2-4; John 17:5; 2 Timothy 1:9.

When someone changes his or her mind, it is often because new information has come to light that was not previously known or the circumstances have changed that require a different kind of attitude or action. Because God is omniscient, he cannot learn something new that he did not already know so when the Bible speaks of God changing his mind, it must be understood that the circumstance or situation has changed, not God. So when in Exodus 32:14 or 1 Samuel 15:11-29 talk about God changing his mind, it is simply describing a change of dispensation or outward dealings towards man. Numbers 23:19, it is clear, "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should change his mind. Does He speak and then not act? Does He promise and not fulfill?" No, God does not change his mind. These verses affirm the doctrine of God's immutability. He is unchanging and unchangeable.

Now, let's get into this doctrine even moreso in more detail on why it's critical for the viewers out there, if you're going to be a true Bible believer, to believe that God does not change, that he is immutable, because if you don't believe that, then you might as well

throw out the Bible because the Bible is teaching the immutability of God all over the place and then there are ramifications if you deny that. As we've already seen from some of these other theologies I've already reviewed that if you throw out the fact that God does not change, that means God could turn into anything. He could be an angel one day and a devil the next. There is no consistency. You can't trust something like that that changes on a dime. You just can't. So I'll give you the reasons why it is very important to believe that God does not change and why this is so unpopular with all these people out here whether they be Hindus or Muslims or Sikhs or Sufis or Buddhists or whatever they happen to be. They've got to deny this doctrine so they can change God into something else other than what he has revealed in Scripture.

Alright, let's take a look at some of this information. 1. God changes not in his essence. The substance of mortal things is ever changing. All creatures change. Man, especially as to his body, is always undergoing change. The fabric of which this world is made is ever passing by and changing but God is perpetually the same. He is not composed of any substance or material but is spirit. Pure, essential and ethereal spirit and therefore he is immutable. He remains everlastingly the same. He is the great I Am, the great unchangeable. When Christ in past years gird himself with mortal clay, the essence of his divinity was not changed. Flesh did not become God, nor did God become flesh by a real actual change of nature; the two were united in hypostatical union, but the Godhead was still the same. It was the same when he was a babe in the manger, as it was when he stretched the curtains of heaven; it was the same God that hung upon the cross, and whose blood flowed down. The self-same God that holds the world upon his everlasting shoulders, and bears in his hands the keys of death and hell. He never has been changed in his essence, not even by his incarnation; he remains everlastingly, eternally, the one unchanging God with whom there is no variableness, neither the shadow of a change.

2. He changes not in his attributes. Is God powerful? Was he the mighty God when he spoke the world into existence? Was he the omnipotent one? Yes, he was powerful then and the strength of his soul stands the same forever. Was he wise when he constituted this mighty globe, the earth? When he laid the foundations of the universe? He is unchanged in his wisdom, he knows as much now as ever, neither more nor less; he has the same consummate skill, and the same infinite forecastings. He is unchanged, blessed be his name, in his justice. just and holy was he in the past; just and holy is he now. He is unchanged in his truth; he has promised, and he brings it to pass; he has said it, and it shall be done. He varies not in the goodness, and generosity, and benevolence of his nature. And blessed be his dear name. He is unchanged in his love. When he first wrote the covenant, how full his heart was with affection to his people. He knew that his Son must die to ratify the articles of that agreement. Take any one attribute of God, and I will write *semper idem* on it (always the same). I, Jehovah, change not, saith the Lord.

3. God changes not in his plans. God changes not his plans. Why should he? He is Almighty and therefore can perform his pleasure. Why should he? He is all wise and therefore cannot have planned wrongly. Why should he? He is the everlasting God and therefore cannot die before his plan is accomplished. Why should he change? It will be

pointless for God to change in any way whatsoever since he is already perfect. If you're perfect, why do you need to change anything?

4. God is unchanging in his promises. Now, when you look at the Bible, Old Testament/New Testament, what is the New Testament other than a fulfillment of the Old Testament? And when you look at the Old Testament, there are 456 Old Testament prophecies about the coming of the Messiah in the Old Testament prophets. Some of them were written 1,500 years before Jesus actually came on the scene, prophecies about where this Messiah is going to be born, in Bethlehem. That was prophesied that he's going to suffer and die. If you read Psalm 22, there are Messianic prophecies there about how he's going to die. Isaiah 53, almost the whole chapter is about the Messiah. Anyway, you get 456 prophecies by the different prophets talking about this coming Messiah.

Now, if he is everything he says he is in the Scripture and he's all powerful and he's all knowing and he knows the future as well as the past and everything in between and he purposes things and he plans everything out, then naturally if you purpose something to happen, he's going to make it happen and that's because he doesn't change. He keeps his word. He tells the truth and so when you look at the New Testament which shows that Jesus fulfilled all these 456 Old Testament prophecies in the Old Testament, well, how did that happen? By accident? No, God made it happen. He brought it to pass and Peter himself said in Acts 2, I think it was around verse 23, "You by wicked hands have crucified him, but by the foreknowledge and ordination of God, this has taken place."

God has made these things happen. He performs what he promises and he brings things to pass as his word says so he wouldn't be a changing God doing this type of activity so the Bible itself, through Messianic prophecy and, in fact, you know, there are not just 456 Messianic prophecies in the Bible, per se. I mean, yeah, that pertain to the Messiah but there are almost 2,000 fulfilled prophecies on all kinds of subjects including those 456 so you've got a lot more prophecies in the Old Testament besides those 456 pertaining to Christ and the Messiah.

So anyway, this shows the eternal nature of God, that he is immutable, that he doesn't change because he makes all this stuff come to pass and he makes it happen. A changing, malleable, Jello God that is sort of like Silly Putty and you can make him anything you want wouldn't do something like this. So it's ridiculous even to contemplate a God other than what the Bible describes, in fact if you really think about it, if there is a God at all, he would have to be exactly as the Bible describes it.

Now, point 5 is something you should really be concerned about and this is what makes it really, really an unpopular Bible doctrine and why I think it's one of the most or the most unpopular Bible doctrine of all these unpopular Bible doctrines we've been going through in this series. This point 5 proves the point in the fact that God is unchanging in his threatenings and his warnings. Did you get that? Now, there are a lot of promises about the love of God that Christ has come to save his people and all those things we're so familiar with that everybody in the world, even at football games, knows John 3:16 which says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever

should believe in him should not perish but have eternal life." Of course, people never read on a few verses further along and see the verses that are saying, "He that believeth not shall be damned." That's not good news. That's actually a threat from God, talking about damnation and the wrath of God. We get all these kinds of threatenings from God throughout the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Now, let's get into this more deeply. Every threatening of God as well as every promise shall be fulfilled. He that believeth not shall be damned. That is a divine decree and a statute that can never change. Be as good as you please, be as moral as you can, be as honest as you will, walk as uprightly as you may, there stands the unchangeable threatening: "He that believeth not shall be damned." It says, "He that believeth not." Here is the stone of stumbling, and the rock of offence; but you cannot alter it. You must believe or be damned, saith the Bible; and mark, that threat of God is as unchangeable as God himself. And when a thousand years of hell's torments shall have passed away, you shall look on high, and see written in burning letters of fire, "He that believeth not shall be damned." "But, Lord, I am damned." Nevertheless it says "shall be" still. And when a million ages have rolled away, and you are exhausted by your pains and agonies, you shall turn up your eye and still read "Shall be damned," unchanged, unaltered. And when you shall have thought that eternity must have spun out its last thread that every particle of that which we call eternity, must have run out, you shall still see it written up there, "Shall be damned." Woe unto the watchman that warns not the ungodly! God is unchanging in his threatenings. Beware, O sinner, for "it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

6. God is unchanging in the objects of his love. Not only his love but in the objects of it. The objects of everlasting love never change. "Those whom God hath called, he will justify. Whom he has justified, he will sanctify. And whom he sanctifies, he will glorify," Romans 8.

Now, for some proofs of God's immutability, his unchanging nature and essence. 1. The very existence and being of God implies immutability. There is a God. This God rules and governs all things. This God fashioned the world. He upholds and maintains it. What kind of being must he be to create and rule the universe, implies unchangeableness.

So if you've got all this, it just cries out that God knows what he's doing. You know, we look up to all these scientists because they're supposed to be so smart and they've got their clipboards and their white suits and they wear black rimmed glasses and all this stuff and we think, "Oh, college professor, he must know a whole lot. He's really smart." Well, think about it, what about God? If he made all this, he's got to be smarter than anybody so you'd be foolish not to think of God in any other fashion other than if he's ruling this universe and he made it and he knows how everything operates and he created the creatures and put them all together and all the working parts within them, well, that implies that God knows what he's doing. So that proves his immutability and why change that?

2. God's perfection. God is a perfect being. If he is a perfect being, he cannot change. If God is perfect, he must be the same for change would imply imperfection now or imperfection then. God cannot change.

3. God's infinity. God is the infinite one. God's infinity which puts change out of the question because God is an infinite being. God cannot become finite in his essence when he is already infinite. I mean, if you're already infinite, you don't need to go back to being finite. Infinity is already there. The fact of his being an infinite being at once squashes the thought of his being a changeable being. Infinity has written on its very brow the word "immutability."

4. Look at the past and I kind of referenced to this before and this kind of ties in with biblical prophecy and everything else I've already mentioned but look at the past. This proves God's immutability, God's unchangeableness. History itself and I happen to like history and I've been a student of history all my life and you can study the history of the Bible, the history of the world, get encyclopedias, the past proves God's immutability. When we look at biblical history, for instance, you can take Moses and Egypt. You can't take the Exodus. You can read the first five books of the Bible. God leads Moses out of Egypt; the ten plagues on Egypt; Pharaoh's army is destroyed in the sea, all these types of things. You look at how God is interacting with King David and the nation of Israel, bringing events about. Being active in David's battles, as a matter of fact, even helping David as he did with Joshua when they entered the land to begin with, to destroy the enemies. God was active in that. You look at King Nebuchadnezzar who was a pagan Babylonian king. God actually used him to bring judgment down on the nation of Israel. He was in control of that history. There is a prophecy in the Bible about King Cyrus coming along and sending orders to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. That's just another one of those 2,000 prophecies I mentioned before. You've got the Messianic prophecies which I already mentioned before. You've got the book of Revelation in the New Testament and other prophecies, particularly talking about the future of things not yet occurring but will occur just like all these other fulfilled prophecies that at the time they were given had not yet happened but now have happened and the past proves that to us, well, we also see that the future is prophesied in the Bible. Places like the book of Revelation in the New Testament. Peter talks about in the last days scoffers will come, that's in 2 Peter 3, and so forth. So you have these places mentioned in history and also future events which since God has a batting average of 1,000, he hasn't missed one yet, we can pretty much depend on him and his unchangeable nature to fulfill what he has yet to bring about in future prophecies that are still coming, particularly the second coming of Jesus Christ which is prophesied throughout the Scripture that he will be coming back to bring judgment on this world and the wicked. That's as true and certain as the very promises and nature of God himself because God does not change.

Okay, with that most unpopular doctrine set and basically what that does is it now proves all the other unpopular doctrines we've gone through in this series are absolutely true, certain and unchanging and so with that said, I'd like to review all those. Since this is the final episode in this series, I thought it would be good to just review all 65 of the

Unpopular Bible Doctrines that we've gone through in this series. Alright, we'll start the review right now.

1. God is jealous. Exodus 20:5. Now, there are other ones, but for the sake of brevity, I'm not going to review them all. What you need to do is go back and watch all the shows you might have missed and then you'll get a complete review of all the Bible verses in an analysis from show to show to show to show, hours and hours of shows. So, 1. God is jealous. Exodus 20:5.

2. God is not the Father of everyone. Creator, yes. Father, no. John 8:41-44.

3. God does not love everyone. Deuteronomy 7:6-8; Hosea 9:15.

4. God has an anger and a fury. Isaiah 63:3 and following.

Unpopular Bible Doctrine #5: Hell is real. Turn or burn. Matthew 13:49-50 and many others.

6. Predestination and the sovereignty of God. Ephesians 1:4 and following, particularly up through verse 11.

7. God sends evil spirits to men. 1 Samuel 16:14-16 and also verse 23.

8. Jesus spoke in parables so people would not repent or be forgiven. That's a hard pill to swallow. That's Mark 4:11-12.

9. God is holy. Revelation 4:8.

10. Jesus was rude and judgmental. Matthew 23, just read the whole chapter.

11. Christians are to rebuke and correct people when they are in error. Titus 1:9.

12. Jesus is the only way to heaven. Acts 4:10-12.

Unpopular Bible Doctrine #13: Jesus is God Almighty. John 20:28.

Unpopular Bible Doctrine #14: There is only one true religion, the Christian faith. Galatians 1:6-9.

15. God's word, the Bible, is the truth. Psalm 138:2.

16. Many people who really claim to be real and sincere Christians will not go to heaven or ever go to heaven. These people actually think their works are going to save them. Matthew 7:13-15 and also verses 21-23.

17. God loves judgment. Isaiah 61:8.

18. Some people will never receive forgiveness from God. Matthew 12:31-32.
19. God hates religious doctrine that contradicts his word. Revelation 2:6.
20. God is actually serious about what he has revealed by his prophets and his Son, Jesus Christ, and is not to be doubted. Luke 4:4.
21. The wickedness of man. Ecclesiastes 7:20.
22. God gives people up to sin and wickedness. Romans 1:24-32 will really give you an eye full there.
- Unpopular Bible Doctrine #23: God does not hear the prayers of unrepentant sinners. Psalm 66:18.
24. God must grant men repentance because they cannot do it themselves. 2 Timothy 2:24-26.
25. Men have a false faith in the true God. James 2:19.
26. Having a holy fear of God is unpopular. In the Bible "love God" 88 times. "Trust God" 91 times. "Fear God" 278 times. Deuteronomy 10:12.
27. God interferes in the affairs of men. Acts 2:23-24. I mentioned that earlier in the show.
28. Old Testament animal sacrifices are unpopular. Animal rights activists would picket against God. Leviticus 5:8.
- Unpopular Bible Doctrine #29: God sends curses on people. Revelation 16:8-11.
- Unpopular Bible Doctrine #30: God hardens people's hearts so they will not believe what is true or right. This includes allowing false religions to be established. Joshua 11:20.
- Unpopular Bible Doctrine #31: God is to be loved more than that of family, loved ones or anything else. Luke 14: 26-35.
32. God is a God of war. Joshua 5:13-15.
33. Military service is acceptable with God. Hebrews 7:1.
34. God is displeased with the proud and those of high self-esteem. James 4:6.
35. God helps pagan rulers when it serves his purposes. Daniel 5:18.

Unpopular Bible Doctrine #36: Psychology, man-made philosophy, worldly wisdom are contrary to God's ways and laws. Jeremiah 17:9-10.

37. Astrology, witchcraft and other occult arts are condemned by God. Isaiah 47:12-15.

Unpopular Bible Doctrine #38: God's doctrine of sin is condemned by unrepentant sinners. Stating the obvious. 1 John 3:4.

39. God does not condone or ordain the placement of women pastors in the Christian church. 1 Corinthians 14:34-35.

40. God calls down terrible judgments, disasters and destruction that many people say goes too far. Deuteronomy 3:6.

41. God mocks and insults false religion in a politically incorrect way. Deuteronomy 7:25-26.

42. God's logic is unpopular. God gives absolute truth when simple men want relative truth instead. Isaiah 55:8-11.

43. Homosexuality, lesbian and bestiality are condemned by God. Deuteronomy 22:5.

44. God commands people to study his word. 2 Timothy 2:15.

45. Making judgments about people based on God's word is commanded by God. Matthew 7:15-20.

46. The man who never hears of the Christian Gospel or hears about Jesus is still condemned by God to the lake of fire for all eternity. Romans 1:18-32.

47. God makes people blind, deaf, deformed, etc. for his purposes. John 9:1-3.

Unpopular Bible Doctrine #48: Jesus declares that he did not come to bring peace but a sword. Matthew 10:34.

49. God can and does kill people on the spot. Leviticus 10:1-2.

50. God has and will shut the door on people who cry out to him for mercy. Matthew 25:10-13.

51. Imprecatory Psalms, biblical prayers that accuse the wicked, call for the destruction of evildoers and a rejoicing in God's judgment against the wicked are popular with God but not with men. Psalm 94:1-4 and verse 23.

52. God said he is revealed as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, historically known as the Trinity. 2 Corinthians 13:14.

Unpopular Bible Doctrine #53: God promises his people a furnace of affliction, namely suffering in this life. Isaiah 48:10.

54. Jesus does not pray for everyone. John 17:9 and 12.

Unpopular Bible Doctrine #55: God commands his people to defend the Christian faith against the false teachings of false prophets. Jude 3.

56. God intentionally performs miracles for people he knows will not believe or repent and he does not perform miracles for people he knows will believe and repent if they saw them. Luke 10:12-16.

Unpopular Bible Doctrine #57: Now, this is going to affect a lot of people here. This will affect, from what I've seen in the work place, this will affect a lot of people. Lazy and slothful people are condemned by God. Proverbs 15:19.

58. There is no sex or marriage in heaven. Matthew 22:23-32.

59. The Jews killed Christ, technically speaking, also the Romans. Luke 23:24-56 and we see, of course, Matthew 27:20 says, "But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus."

60. Jesus had a low view of hypocritical religionists and often described their faith in the hands of God at the end. John 8:44-47.

61. God creates some people as vessels of wrath made to be destroyed. Jude 1: 4.

62. The fact that Jesus cursed a defenseless fig tree is condemned by many. Mark 11:12-14 and also verses 20-21.

63. Demon possession is taught as a fact throughout Scripture. Matthew 4:24.

Unpopular Bible Doctrine #64: People do not really want to honestly examine themselves whether they are truly saved by biblical standards. One of the references to that is in 2 Corinthians 13:5-8.

Unpopular Bible Doctrine #65: The immutability of God or the fact that God does not change.

So with these 65 Unpopular Bible Doctrines we clearly see the true nature of the God of the Bible. The God that most people are believing in has nothing to do with most of these doctrines that we've described throughout this series. The God that people are believing is some alien, made up God that is not the biblical God and one reason I did this series is so people could see what the real God of the Bible is really like so you can know who he is, what he is and what he has done. I think a lot of people and a lot of atheists who have

watched this series have sincerely told it like it is, they hate this God. They hate the God of the Bible for the very reasons we brought up in these unpopular Bible doctrines. They don't like that God. They don't like what God does. They don't like the way God does things and they hate him for it and so they're atheists. Then you've got all these other false religions. It's the same thing, they don't like the way God has revealed himself in the pages of Scripture.

And if you're one of those people out there that claim to be a Christian and you claim to believe the Bible, then you're stuck with these unpopular Bible doctrines, otherwise you're going to have to throw out the Bible and just make up your own religion like so many people have and I would severely warn you against that. The eternal consequences will not be what you would hope for. Your best hope is in the Lord Jesus Christ as revealed in the Scripture. You have all those Messianic prophecies in the Old Testament prophesying his coming. He did exactly that. All the promises of God are true and amen. Jesus has shed his blood on the cross to save us from our sins. We're all wicked sinners and there is no way out from the justice and wrath of God except through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and his shed blood on the cross on behalf of the atonement of our sins.

So I would urge you today to not delay but believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Come to him for your salvation. Believe on the God of the Scripture. That's where you'll find the true message from the living God. You're not going to find it in all these changeable, malleable, Silly Putty gods and goddesses that are out there. Trust in the one true and living God who has given us his word through his prophets and has testified to the validity of this down through the centuries.

With that, I would like to say, Jesus said it best in John 14:6 when he said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man comes to the Father except through me." Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. The true and living Lord Jesus Christ according to the Scriptures. Not all these fake Jesuses as Saint Paul warned you about in 2 Corinthians 11:4. He said there are other Jesuses out there. In Galatians 1:6-9 he says there are other Gospels and all these other guys are false, fakes and false prophets so believe on the true and living Jesus Christ of the Scripture because Jesus himself said, "No man lives by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth from the mouth of God."

Thank you for being with me today. I'm Larry Wessels, Director of Christian Answers. I want to urge you all to check out our YouTube channel, it's CanswersTV. It's short for Christian Answers television. We have over 530 videos posted there at the time of this recording and you'll find all the rest of our Unpopular Bible Doctrines listed there on one of our 19 playlists and, of course, all our other videos on all kinds of topics as well.

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page and there you will find all our different newsletters on all kinds of subjects right there at your fingertips.

So thank you again for joining us. Join us again next time. I'm Larry Wessels, your host, and may the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

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