

THE PORTRAIT OF GOD: 2004 National Conference Message #12

Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow: The Immutability of God Dr. R.C. Sproul

The Bible tells us that God is unchanging in His being, perfections, purposes, and promises. In this session, R.C. Sproul explains what God's attribute of immutability does and does not mean, and reminds us why this doctrine is vital to the Christian faith.

Scripture Reading to Begin 2 Timothy 4:6-16

Immutable means not changing. He is what He is Always and forever.

Not Immobility, unmoved, and unchanging. Not one without inertia. Not what we mean by Immutable.

God is active... over the water, cares for His people... over the nations.

Includes these: Refers to God's Changeless Being. In evolutionary philosophy everything is subject to change. Not so with God. Not becoming... but perfect Being... and doesn't change. Sounds fundamental... but many speak of God as changing or becoming.

Story of George Gerstner stopping song. RC almost did it earlier in conference. We sang: "Amazing love, how can it be that thou my God should die for me." Did God die or did the Mediator die? If God died, all existence would cease to be.

How fix the song? "My Lord should die for me." "Tis mystery all, that Immortal dies." Then not immortal. Nonsense. We can distinguish but not separate. Avoid Nestorian Error of separation of the two natures of Christ.

The Chenotic Heresy... based on a wrong understanding of Philippians 2:7 "made himself of no reputation." Christ didn't lay aside his deity.

Doesn't God change His Mind? Some point to some of the laws God gave to His people certain rules that were changed in New Testament. Distinguish between ceremonial laws and Moral... which are for all time. Speaks as we think. Prayer?

At Paul's trial, everyone abandoned him... Demus, Timothy... just Luke. BUT the Lord stood with me. Because He is the same Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.

He is The Mighty Fortress who stays and abides with His people. Forever, and ever and ever and ever. Only right response is Alleluia.

We fail, we forget, we become weak... but God in Christ is forever the same!

Amen