

THE UNCHANGING GOD (Mal. 3:6)

Summary

SUMMARY

Introduction

- I. The Certainty of the Scriptures
 - A. The inspiration of Scripture: The Old Testament in Hebrew (which was the native language of the people of God of old), and the New Testament in Greek (which at the time of the writing of it was most generally known to the nations), being immediately inspired by God, and by his singular care and providence kept pure in all ages, are therefore authentic; so as in all controversies of religion, the church is finally to appeal to them. (2LCF 1.8)
 - B. The Unchangeableness of God applied: How do we know that these written words will never become false? The unchangeableness (immutability) of God. The words of the Author never change in their accuracy or efficacy because the Author Himself never changes.
- II. The Effectiveness of Christ's Work
 - A. The Person of Christ: That Christ is both God and Man is vitally important for our redemption. Apart from being the unchangeable God, a Mediator between God and man could be neither worthy nor able to accomplish the work of redemption.
 - B. The work of Christ: 2LCF 8.3 reads, "The Lord Jesus, in his human nature thus united to the divine, in the person of the Son, was sanctified and anointed with the Holy Spirit above measure, having in Him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge; in whom it pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell, to the end that being holy, harmless, undefiled, and full of grace and truth, he might be thoroughly furnished to execute the office of mediator and surety..." As Mediator, Christ sufficiently stands between God and man as a reconciling bridge. He does this through the perfect life He lived, that He might fulfill all righteousness on our behalf. As Surety, Christ sufficiently pledges Himself as a propitiation for our sins. As propitiation, He offers Himself up as a pleasing Sacrifice before God on our behalf.
 - C. The Unchangeableness of God applied: The unchangeableness of God ensures the efficacy and endurance of the work of Christ in two ways... In the incarnation and in the endurance of the work of Christ for us. Do you see how comforting the high and lofty doctrine of the unchangeableness of God is? You are secure in Christ because God willed it to be so, and His will shall never change.
- III. The Assurance of Believers
 - A. The doctrine of assurance: Assurance is grounded in Christ, the God-Man. Christianity is different from any of the world's religions in that Christians can be

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sure that they are children of God, not because they are sufficiently righteous in themselves, but because Christ is sufficiently righteous on their behalf. But why can we as Christians have assurance? It comes back down to the unchangeableness of God.

- B. The unchangeableness of God applied: Because God never changes, His will never changes. Because His will never changes, the effectiveness of Christ's work never changes. Because the effectiveness of Christ's work never changes, we may rightly have confidence and certitude in our salvation, in the stability of the covenant of grace, and in our possession of everlasting life. (Heb. 6:17-18)

Conclusion