**God Without Limits**

Talk 5: Unchanging

**Introduction**

1. **God**
2. *God’s character never changes*

25 In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth,

 and the heavens are the work of your hands.

26 They will perish, but you remain;

 they will all wear out like a garment.

 Like clothing you will change them

 and they will be discarded.

27 But you remain the same,

 and your years will never end. (Psalm 102:25-27, NIV 2011)

“I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. (Malachi 3:6, NIV 2011)

James 1:16  Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. 17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. 18 He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created. (NIV 2011)

4  Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails. (1 Corinthians 13:4-7, NIV 2011)

1. *God’s word never changes*

19 God is not human, that he should lie,

 not a human being, that he should change his mind.

 Does he speak and then not act?

 Does he promise and not fulfil? (Numbers 23:19, NIV 2011)

10 As the rain and the snow

 come down from heaven,

 and do not return to it

 without watering the earth

 and making it bud and flourish,

 so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,

11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth:

 It will not return to me empty,

 but will accomplish what I desire

 and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:10-11, NIV 2011)

*“We know that he will never reconsider a single promise or go back on even one word he has spoken, so we can build our entire lives on his word and trust him completely.” Nick Tucker, 12 Things God Can’t Do, p61*

1 Samuel 15 – does God change his mind?

1. **Us**
2. *Our character changes*

*“How could I know how much she would change over 25 years? How could I know how much I would change? My wife has lived with at least five different men since we were wed—and each of the five has been me.” [“Controlling the Unpredictable—The Power of Promising” [Christianity Today 27:2 (January 21, 1983)]*

1. *Our words change*
2. *Our character changes!*

Romans 12:1   Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. (NIV 2011)

2 Corinthians 4:16  Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. (NIV 2011)

Colossians 1:9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. (NIV 2011)

1 Corinthians 6:9 Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. (NIV 2011)

**Conclusion**