

# GOD AND HIS WORD NEVER CHANGE!!!

## - PART 2

In this second part of our discussion concerning “God and His Word Never Change” we will be concentrating on God’s Word – the written Word of God, and how it has never changed. An important truth to begin with is, what I believe is one of the basic fundamental truths of our faith which is, “Jesus Christ, the Word of God Incarnate.”

This statement would seem to be a basic fundamental truth concerning our faith. However, this simple little statement has become the basis for much division within the Body of Christ these days. Although it may seem like a very simple statement in which it says exactly what it says, there has been, and continues to be, many different understandings of it and its place in the discussion concerning the written Word and Jesus, who is the Word of God who came in the flesh. Believe it or not, many teach that they are not the same. As always, a good place to start our discussion is scripture itself.

One of the first scriptures that we all think of concerning “Jesus, the incarnate Word of God” is found in John 1:1-3, 14 – *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made...”*<sup>14</sup> *And the **Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”* These scriptures found in the Gospel of John are clear and straight to the point. John makes a four part declaration concerning the “Word” – The Word always was; the Word was God; the Word was with God and the Word became flesh.

First, John makes a very powerful declaration – from the beginning **the Word was** (it always existed). He then literally declares that the Word was **with God** (signifying a different “person” than God, the Father – referring to Jesus) and that the **Word (Jesus) was actually God**. Verse 14 ties it all together by stating that **the Word (Jesus, who is God) became flesh**. In respect to our discussion concerning the Word, John, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, distinctly states that the Word **was** and **is** Jesus, who **is** God come **in** the flesh – the Word incarnate. The amazing thing that we may overlook and fail to realize, but as this scripture clearly states, is that this Word **always was** - even before it was ever put into written form.

Paul in 2 Timothy 3:16 tells us, *“All scripture is given by **inspiration** of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness...”* 2Peter 1:20-21 echoes what Paul wrote to Timothy, *“But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, **but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.**”* Paul and Peter are both telling us that the “scriptures” were breathed into its writers by God through the Holy Spirit. What were the “scriptures” that Paul and Peter were referring to? They were referring to the Jewish scriptures. The Father first revealed Himself, Jesus and the Holy Spirit to this world through the written oracles (logos) “breathed into men” that would become the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings.

Jesus, when He came to this earth, was the perfect expression of the written Word of God - from Genesis to Revelation - even though the New Testament wasn't even written yet prior to His coming. God's plans and purposes for Jesus, as well as all of creation, were in existence before creation was created and God knew the “end of times” that are yet to come. Let's take a “Selah moment” to pause and think on that.

An example of this is found in, Revelation 13:8 as it tells us, *“And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.**”* This clearly tells us that Jesus, the Word of God, was ordained to be the spotless Lamb of God before God created the earth and before Adam and Eve sinned. Isaiah 46:10 echoes this fact as it tells us, *“**Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done**, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure...”* Wow!!! What an awesome, wise, all powerful, all knowing, all seeing, infinite and mighty God is our God.

Now many will try to explain and poke holes into this truth with “vain babblings of men trying to grasp the things of God” But I ask you, who can fathom the fact that God always was and always existed even before time existed? Go ahead. Wrap your head around that one!!! Again I ask you, how can any man with his finite mind grasp the truths of an infinite God who always was, is and always will be? God said this to Job as found in Job 38:4-6, *“Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof...”* Hmmmm....

Obviously, these were rhetorical questions by God? However, we need to ask ourselves these same questions, “Where were we when God created everything out of nothing?” Obviously, none of us were actually, physically there. However, I do believe that we were in God’s heart. From the beginning, everything was in God’s heart and thoughts. Everything, including you and I would come into being at the precise moment in which God had predestined and would then speak into existence. God formed and created all things that were in His heart through His Word (Jesus) as John 1:3 it tells us, *“All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.”*

Psalm 139:15-16 expounds on this further as it teaches that God knew and “fashioned” each of us even before we were in our mother’s womb. God knows the biographies of everyone even before we were born. His plan and purposes for us were always meant to be for our best. However, each of us has the free will to make choices and choose the direction of our lives. The simple fact is that God knew the decisions we would make before we ever came into being. That is the awesomeness of God. Tell me, how can finite minded man grasp the infinite things of God concerning this mind boggling truth?

Now that we can put in perspective the awesomeness of God we can continue on with our discussion concerning the unchanging Word of God. As alluded to earlier, one of the problems I believe we have is that when we say or use the term “Word of God” we have a tendency to think that the “Word” began when Moses, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, wrote what we have come to know as the Pentateuch, the Torah, the first five books of the Jewish scriptures. The truth of the matter is that the “Word” given to Moses had existed way before it ever was given to and written down by Moses. The Word is Jesus and Jesus is God and God always was. Therefore, the Word existed before creation was created. That is the awesomeness of God. God knew what was going to happen and take place before creation was created.

In Genesis 1:1 God states through Moses – *“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”* This clearly states that before there was anything else in all of creation, God was. God – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit – always were. That is very difficult for our finite minds to comprehend. I tried explaining this to my 7 year old granddaughter. I didn’t get very far with that. However, when it comes right down to it I am just like my seven year old granddaughter. The more I tried to explain it the more I found out I couldn’t. I could not truly wrap my head around it, myself. Finally, I just told her – it just is!!! That is what faith is!!!

*“In the beginning God created...”* This means that prior to God speaking forth creation, there was nothing, absolutely **nothing** before God spoke everything in to existence. That includes all the angels, all the heavens, the universe, all things upon the earth, every living creature - everything. What is the definition of “nothing?” Simple, it means - **“no thing.”** But can we really grasp what that means? Again, with our finite minds we could never truly grasp what “no thing” is. But God... I once heard a story of a man who told God that he could make a man out of dirt just like God did. So God told him, “Go ahead.” As the man started to gather dirt together, God interrupted him and said to the man, “Get your own dirt.” Hmmmm.....

God in His infinite power, wisdom and might created everything that was created out of nothing... but His Word. Psalm 33:6 tells us, *“By the **word of the LORD** were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.”* And again in Hebrews 6:3 tells us, *“Through faith we understand that the **worlds were framed by the word of God**, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.”*

Simply put, God's Word always was. As mentioned in Part 1 of our discussion, Hebrews 13:8 tells us that, "Jesus Christ" (the Messiah, Son of David, Son of God – added by this writer) is *"the same yesterday, today and forever."* Jesus is God so therefore we can say that God is the same yesterday, today and forever. Jesus is the Word therefore we can say that the Word of God is the same yesterday, today and forever. The "Word of God" consists of every word written found within our Bibles (logos). Jesus came to this earth as the Word of God come in the flesh. He was and is the embodiment (incarnation) of everything found in the scriptures, both the Jewish scriptures and the New Testament.

In Matthew 5:17, Jesus clearly states that He did not come to destroy or do away with the written Law/Word. If we say that Jesus did come to destroy or do away with the written Law/the Word, than we need to follow that train of thought through to its end which would mean that Jesus came to destroy Himself because He is the Word. Hmmm....

In Matthew 5:17, Jesus teaches that He did not come to destroy the Law but that He came to "fulfill" it. This is where some get confused and go in a "different" direction. So what did Jesus mean when He taught that He came to "fulfill" the Law? Let's take a look at that word "fulfill." It comes from the Greek word, *"pleroo."* It means – *to make complete in every particular, to render perfect; to cause to abound, to furnish or supply liberally; to carry through to the end, to accomplish, carry out, (some undertaking); to fill to the top: so that nothing shall be wanting to full measure, fill to the brim; to fulfill, i.e. to cause God's will (as made known in the law) to be obeyed as it should be, and God's promises (given through the prophets) to receive fulfillment; of matters of duty: to perform, execute.* Nowhere in that definition does it mention anything about doing away with anything or making anything obsolete. So, what was Jesus actually saying?

Jesus was teaching that He never came to destroy the Law, Gods Word, but that He came to fulfill it. Jesus was not "anti-Law" nor was He ever "under the Law" as some would have us believe. Jesus was God. He was never against anything of the Father and He was never limited, bound by or "under" anything. Jesus came to express and render the Law, God's Word, to its perfection. He obeyed and fulfilled to perfection every aspect of the Law/ the written Word. Jesus role modeled it to its fullest for every one of His disciples to follow His lead in living the lifestyle that the moral ordinances of the Law/the written Word expressed and taught. The Holy Spirit dwelled within Jesus and He was able to live out His life in moral excellence and total obedience. Now, with the Holy Spirit within, the believer can do the same.

The only aspects of the Law/the written Word that are no longer in affect are the sacrificial and ceremonial rituals as found in the Law/the Word. Jesus is called the once and for all "final sacrifice." (Read Hebrews 10:1-18) This means that there is no longer a need for sacrifices or rituals to try to bring us into relationship with the Father. Relationship with the Father only comes by and through the blood of the spotless Lamb of God, Jesus. This is the only aspect of the Law/ the Word that was deemed – final and satisfied.

The facts clearly state that the Word we have in written form – from Genesis to Revelation – never has and never will change. It is said that within the Jewish scriptures there are found 613 commandments in the Torah. Many believers tell us that those commandments kept the Jewish people and now today, believers who embrace those moral commandments, in bondage to "the Law." What many of us fail to realize is that between all the writers of the New Testament – this includes, John, Peter, James, Jude and yes, even Paul – there are way more than 613 "behavioral commands" that implore believers to follow.

For example, the New Testament writers exhort the believer to "mortify the deeds of the flesh;" they exhort us to "put on the new man" and "put off the old man and its ways;" they exhort us to keep away from those things that would "easily beset us;" etc. They may not say, "thou shalt" or "thou shalt not..." but the intent is the same. Why - because God and His Word are the same yesterday, today and forever. They never change. God's Word brings order to an otherwise "lawless" world lost in sin and degradation.

To go even further Psalm 138:2 declares the importance that God, Himself places upon His written Word, “... **for you have magnified Your word above all your name.**” Wow!! Why does God magnify His written Word above His Name? A name is only as good as the word of the person behind that name. A person is esteemed and looked upon well by others when that person’s word is good. So it is with God. He is the one and only true God because he never changes and His Word is the same yesterday, today and forever.

In part one of this essay, we discussed a philosophy called, “antinomianism.” This philosophy, known in Biblical times as “Gnosticism,” began infiltrating the Body of Christ. Jude 4 has this to say concerning those who were teaching this and deceiving others to follow after its ways, “*For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.*”

As mentioned, today this philosophy has come to be known as “antinomianism.” Whatever you may decide to call it, the fact is that it is spreading like wildfire throughout the Body of Christ in these last days. I believe it is a direct attack against God and the Word of God. When I say the Word of God, I am referring to both, the entirety of scripture from Genesis to Revelation, as well as Jesus who is the Living Word of God, for there is no difference. They are the same.

In these end times, the enemy will do everything to try to cause, if possible, even the very elect to fall away. This is just another tool in his arsenal. However, it is a powerful tool that comes directly against truth. It is called “apostasy” – the abandonment and defection from what is truth. Proverbs 5:3-8 is so valuable to the believer in these times, “*For the lips of a strange woman drop as a honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell. Lest thou shouldest ponder the path of life, her ways are moveable, that thou canst not know them. Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my mouth. Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house...*”

Notice, it says that the enemy’s words are as sharp as a “two edged sword.” But praise God, Hebrews 4:12 tells us that God’s Word is **sharper** as it states, “*For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and **sharper than any two edged sword**, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*” As believers, we must heed the words that Jesus taught His disciples both at that time and for us today as found in John 8:32, “*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*”

Below are a few other scriptures concerning God’s word and that it never changed or will change. No way is this an exhaustive list on this topic.

Isaiah 40:8 – “*The grass withers, the flower fades, but the **word of our God will stand forever.***”

Psalm 102:25-27 – “*Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, but **you are the same**, and your years have no end.*”

Psalm 119:89 – “***Forever**, O Lord, **your word is firmly fixed** in the heavens.*”

Psalm 33:11 – “*The counsel of the Lord stands **forever**, the plans of his heart to all generations.*”

Isaiah 40:8 – “*The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the **word of our God stands forever.***”

1 Peter 1:23 – “*For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the **living and enduring word of God.***”

As promised in Part 1, here are a few more “God forbids” from the apostle Paul concerning the Law/Word.

Romans 7:13 – *“Was then that which is good made death unto me? **God forbid.** But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.”* Paul is referring to the Jewish scriptures and declares that they are not “death” to Him but rather they are “good.” The Jewish scriptures reveal what sin is. It reveals to us what we need to stay away from for sin brings death. Therefore, the scriptures are needful and good as they teach us what sin is.

Galatians 2:17 – *“But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? **God forbid.**”* This is clearly stating that Jesus was never the minister of sin. Therefore, every word He spoke was life. His words, as well as the Jewish scriptures, were never meant to be disregarded after His resurrection.

I would like to share one more point with you as we conclude our discussion. In Jude’s letter to the Body of Christ in which he was expressing and sounding the alarm against false teachings and “apostasy” entering the Body of Christ, he uses nine examples from the Jewish scriptures of “apostasy” that tried to make its way into the hearts, lives and worship of God’s people – the Jews. Jude believes that these examples and accounts found within the Jewish scriptures are valuable to the believer, the born again child of God for their battle in “contending for the faith.” If these Jewish scriptures were to be done away with and no longer around for us to read and learn from then why would Jude be using them as examples to warn and alert the Body of Christ concerning the “apostasy” that was within the Body of Christ? Hmm...

The answer is that God and His Word **never change!!!**