

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY



LAST TIME

- Omnipresence
 - Is Spatial or Not?
 - Present Everywhere
- Intro Immutability

IMMUTABILITY

- God cannot change
- A foundational important attribute

IMMUTABILITY: SCRIPTURAL DATA

- Unchangeable in His existence
- Unchanging in His character
- Unchangeable in His faithfulness
- Unchangeable in His wisdom

but you are the same, and your years have no end.

PSALM 102:27

ESV

“For I the Lord do not change; therefore you,
O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

MALACHI 3:6

ESV

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

JAMES 1:17

ESV

Forever, O Lord, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

PSALM 119:89-90

ESV

So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

HEBREWS 6:17-18

ESV

The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the
plans of his heart to all generations.

PSALM 33:11

ESV

SYSTEMATIC SUMMARY

- Two Views
 - Traditional View
 - Revised View

TRADITIONAL VIEW

- Neo-Platonic
- Completely Immovable
- Unmoved Mover
 - We change not because of anything God does but due to us being moved with admiration

TRADITIONAL VIEW

- Problem
 - God is not static
 - God is active with people and events

TYPICAL TRADITIONAL ARGUMENT

- God is the most perfect being
- Nothing could be done to improve Him
- Therefore any change would make Him less than perfect
 - Problems?

REVISED VIEW

- God's life does not change
- God's character does not change
- God's truth does not change
- God's ways do not change
- God's purposes do not change
- God's Son does not change

LIFE

- God has to exist
- Part of his aseity
- Neither matures nor regresses
- Does not increase or decrease in perfection

CHARACTER

- Unchangeable in mercy, love, faithfulness, justice, etc.
- Constant

TRUTH

- God's Word cannot change
- Doesn't mean he can't have different covenants with different people

WAYS

- Consistent in dealing with humanity
- Punishes sin
- Bestows grace

PURPOSES

- God's plans do not change
- God's plans are from eternity past
- God's knows eternity forward
- His purposes are perfect

SON

➤ Same yesterday, today, and forever

APPLICATION

- First, God is the source of stability in our life
- Secondly, God is always receptive
- Third, we are secure in our relationship with God

SOURCE OF STABILITY

- God is our rock
- Eternal permanence and stability

The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and
the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

PSALM 18:2

ESV

For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

PSALM 62:5-7

ESV

RECEPTIVE

- God isn't moody
- God can't be compromised
- You don't come to God on your terms- you come to God on his terms

SECURE

- If we deny him, he will deny us
- If we are faithless, he is still faithful

“For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, ‘How shall we return?’

MALACHI 3:6-7

ESV

The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful— for he cannot deny himself.

2 TIMOTHY 2:11-13

ESV

RECAP

- Infinite Attributes:
 - Self-existence
 - Necessary
 - Eternal
 - Omnipresent
 - Immutable

RECAP

The highest science, the loftiest speculation, the mightiest philosophy which a person can ever engage the attention of a child of God is the name, the nature, the person, the work, the doings, and the existence of the great God whom he calls his Father.

Charles Spurgeon

JANUARY 13TH

➤ Read:

➤ Defenders 2-3- 11: Doctrine of God, pg. 77-83
(Personal: Incorporeality)

QUESTIONS?

