

IMPACT

I **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own under-
standing; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.
Proverbs 3:5-6

Passage: Psalm 61:1-4 “Hear my cry, O God; Attend to my prayer. From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my heart is overwhelmed; *Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.* For You have been a shelter for me, A strong tower from the enemy. I will abide in Your tabernacle forever; I will trust in the shelter of Your wings. Selah”

Malachi 3:6 “For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.”
Hebrews 13:8 “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”

Quote: “God cannot change for the better, for He is perfect; and being perfect, He cannot change for the worse.” A.W. Pink

God is *unchanging in His Person*. In all of His glorious and perfect essence, He has always been and will always be Himself! The Psalmist wrote, “Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will change them, And they will be changed. **But You are the same**, And Your years will have no end.”¹ God is the one unchangeable and perfect Source and Sovereign of all that exists. “God is perpetually the same: subject to no change in His being, attributes, or determinations. Therefore *God is compared to a rock which remains immovable* when the entire ocean surrounding it is continually in a fluctuating state.... Because God has no beginning and no ending, He can know no change. He is everlastingly ‘the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.’”²

God is immutable in keeping His promises. “God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”³ God pledged, “My covenant I will not break, Nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips.”⁴ The writer of Hebrews wrote, “Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the *immutability of His counsel*, confirmed it by an oath, that by two

*immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.”*⁵

God is unchanging in His plans and purposes. He said, “Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, *declaring the end from the beginning*, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, ‘*My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure....*’ Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it.”⁶ God ordains the means as well as the ends of His will! If ever there were words that could have altered the eternal plan of God, they would have been, “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.” God’s answer was an angel who strengthened Christ. Speaking to the Jews, Paul said, “Him, being delivered *by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God*, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.”⁷ Like Jesus, Christians can rest in

God is Unchanging!

Who God is even when His providence for us is daunting. With Asaph we can declare, “My flesh and my heart fail: *but God is the strength (lit. the rock) of my heart, and my portion forever.*”⁸ Amen!

Hear my cry of desperation; Give attendance to my plea. Desolate, adrift and sinking—Great Sustainer, rescue me! With my heart o'erwhelmed and fainting ‘midst the swelling tides of life, *lead me to the Rock of refuge that looms high above all strife.* Thou has kept Thy hedge about me. Unseen walls of love and grace shelter me from harm and heartache as I seek my Sov'reign's face. In Thy tabernacle dwelling, ever trusting 'neath Thy wings, I would lift my vows in rev'rence with the anthems angels sing. Priceless gift Thou hast provided—heritage of holy fear. In thy presence e'er abiding, help me daily persevere. I will praise Thy name forever for the *grace of life twice giv'n*. Safe, content—I'll gladly serve Thee 'till Thou bidst me home to Heav'n.

1 Ps.102:25-27 2 A.W. Pink; James 1:17 3 Numbers 23:19 4 Ps.89:34
5 Hebrews 6:17-18 6 Isaiah 46:9-11 7 Acts 2:23-24 8 Ps.73:26