

The God Who Never Changes.... And The Church That Has

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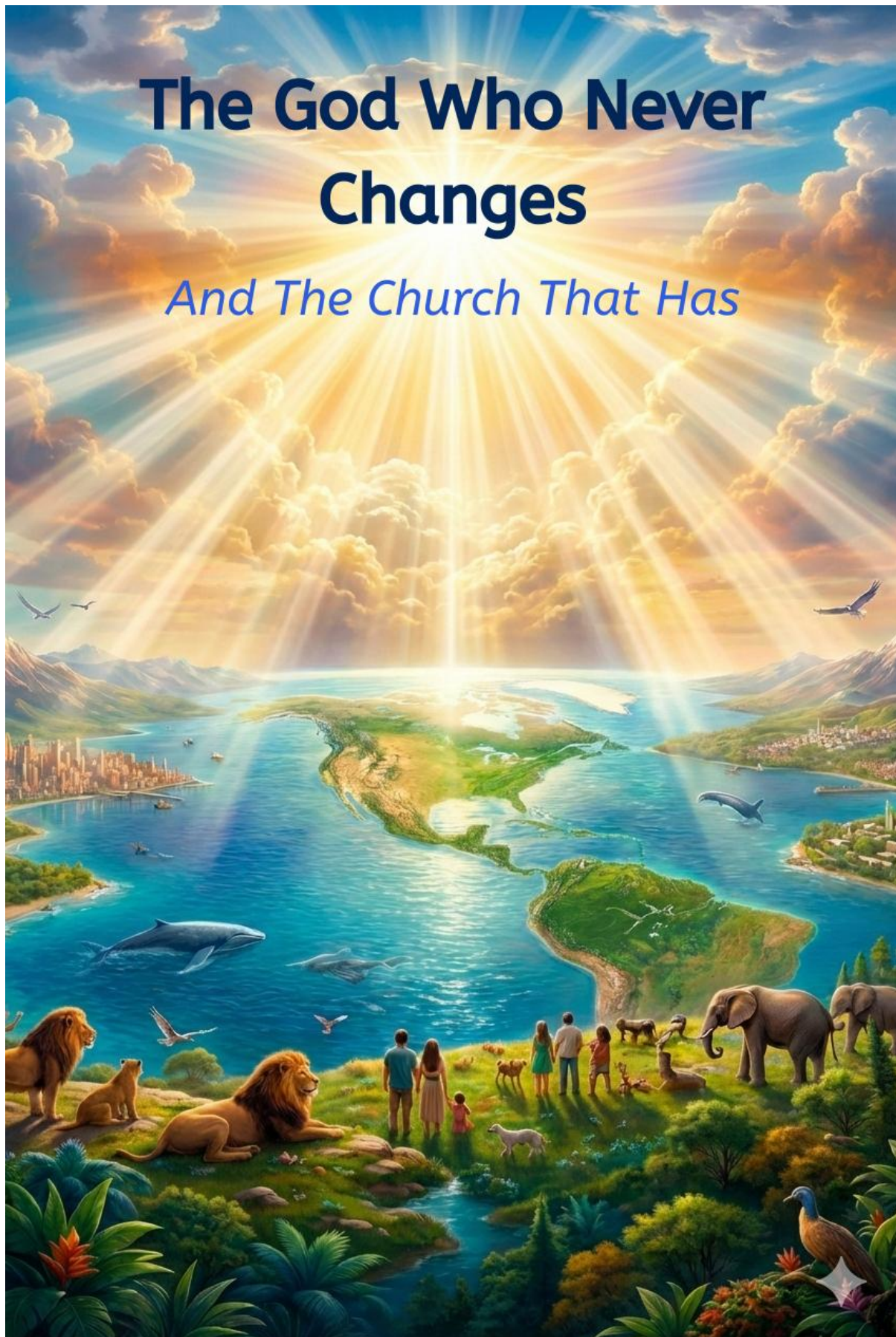
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THE GOD WHO NEVER CHANGES.... AND THE CHURCH THAT HAS

The God Who Never Changes

And The Church That Has



The God Who Never Changes — and the Church That Has

How a Timeless God Confronts a Changing Church

This E-Book is dedicated to:

Dr Stephen Phinney – [IOM America](#)

I carry the love and support of Dr Phinney with me every day. He has seen my highs and lows and still loves me. He is a blessing to me!

Keith Radcliffe – [Freedom in Christ Substack](#)

Keith is the first to open my eyes to the illegitimacy of the institutionalised church authority structures. He has been a wonderful prayer warrior for me, guiding me through some dark days while keeping me focused on my mission.

Tudor Alexander – [Dance of Life Podcast](#)

Tudor entered my life exactly when Yahweh ordained it. His meticulous attention to historical detail helped me confess my incorrect dispensational eschatology and move on to see the glory of Yahweh in perfectly fulfilled prophecy.

BUT MOST OF ALL:

This E-Book is dedicated to all the readers who feel uneasy in their church routine. You see people on the treadmill of church life, but you do not see spiritual growth in them. You see yourself on the same treadmill, with a yearning inside for more of Jesus and less of you. You feel the Holy Spirit's urge for greater transformation within.

This E-Book is for you!

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Reader Invitation

A Journey Back to the God Who Never Changes

You now possess a book that is not meant to be skimmed. It is meant to be entered.

Not because the ideas are complicated, but because the God behind them is weighty, beautiful, unchanging, and worthy of your full attention.

This is an invitation to slow down.

To breathe.

To listen.

To let Scripture speak without interruption.

To let the God who declares the end from the beginning reintroduce Himself to you.

You may find that some of what you read challenges assumptions you've carried for years.

You may feel the ground shift beneath your feet as the Exodus becomes:

More than a story....

...as the resurrection becomes more than a symbol,

... as the Laodicean church becomes more than a warning.

But if you stay with it, you will discover something deeper than theological debate.

You will discover the God who never changes — and the freedom that comes from resting in Him.

This book is not about winning arguments. It is about recovering awe.

Recovering humility, recovering dependence, recovering the gospel that:

Rescues, not negotiates....

Redeems, not invites....

Transfers, not suggests....

THE GOD WHO NEVER CHANGES... AND THE CHURCH THAT HAS

It is about rediscovering the God who brought His people out of Egypt, who raised His Son from the dead, and who still calls His church to return to Him today.

So come with an open heart. Come with a willing mind. Come ready to see the God of Scripture as He truly is — unchanging, sovereign, timeless, and breathtakingly faithful.

The journey begins now. And the God who never changes is already waiting for you.

Introduction

If you want to understand what has gone wrong in the modern church, you don't start with denominations, movements, or controversies.

You start with Yahweh Himself.

Because everything downstream — our worship, our theology, our discipleship, our confidence, our drift — flows from what we believe about the One who stands at the centre of it all.

And the first thing Scripture tells us about Yahweh is that He is powerful, loving, and wise:

Exodus 34:5-7 LSB *Then Yahweh descended in the cloud and stood there with him, and He called upon the name of Yahweh. (6) Then Yahweh passed by in front of him and called out, "Yahweh, Yahweh God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; (7) who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression, and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations."*

The clanger for our modern church comes later (we must wait until the final prophet speaks, and the timing is perfect as usual), a Laodicean church that is lukewarm to the core, the church that shapes Yahweh to their culture:

Malachi 3:6 LSB *"For I, Yahweh, do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed."*

That is the bedrock....

The anchor....

The immovable centre of reality.

God does not change....

He does not evolve....

THE GOD WHO NEVER CHANGES.... AND THE CHURCH THAT HAS

He does not adapt....

He does not adjust....

He does not react....

He does not wait to see what happens next.

He is who He is; eternally, perfectly, unshakably.

And when you pair that with Isaiah 46:9–10, the picture becomes even clearer:

Isaiah 46:9-10 LSB “Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, (10) Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, ‘My counsel will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure’,

God is not simply unchanging — **He is outside of time as we know it.**

He sees the end and the beginning simultaneously.

He does not predict the future — He *declares* it.

He does not respond to history — He *authors* it.

He does not hope you will heed His calling – He knows whether you do or not.

LET THAT SINK IN FOR A MOMENT! As the Psalmists say, “SELAH!”

Now you know what the “elect”, the “foreknown”, means.

This is the God of Scripture....

This is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob....

This is the God who parted the Red Sea....

This is the God who raised Jesus from the dead....

This is the God who speaks in Revelation 3.

And this is the God the modern church has quietly, unintentionally drifted away from. Not because we stopped believing in Him, but because we started believing in **ourselves**.

The Laodicean Mirror

When Jesus speaks to the church in Laodicea, He is not guessing about the future. He is not forecasting a trend. He is not offering a warning that may or may not come true.

He is speaking from outside of time — describing a church age He sees as clearly as the Exodus or the resurrection.

And what does He see?

A church that says:

“I am rich”

“I have prospered”

“I need nothing”

But is labelled by Revelation 3 as:

Poor....

Blind....

Naked....

Lukewarm.

Revelation 3:15-17 LSB ‘I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were cold or hot. (16) ‘So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. (17) ‘Because you say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,” and you do not know that you are wretched and pitiable and poor and blind and naked.

It’s a church that thinks it sees clearly but is spiritually blind. A church that thinks it is clothed in righteousness but is spiritually exposed. A church that thinks it is strong but is spiritually fragile.

And here's the uncomfortable truth:

The Laodicean church is not a future possibility — it is our present reality.

Not because we are morally worse than previous generations. Not because we are less sincere. Not because we are less devoted.

But because we have embraced a gospel that centres on **human will** instead of **God's sovereignty**.

A gospel that says:

“You choose God.”

instead of:

“God rescues you.”

A gospel that says:

“Your decision saves you.”

instead of:

“Your Redeemer saves you.”

A gospel that says:

“You are spiritually free.”

instead of:

“You were enslaved — and God brought you out.”

This is the root of our lukewarmness. This is the heart of our drift. This is the quiet engine behind the Laodicean condition.

Why This Matters

This introduction is not about attacking people....

It's about recovering the God who never changes.

Because if God is immutable and timeless, then:

- He cannot preach a gospel that depends on a human will that always changes.
- He cannot build a church on a foundation of human autonomy.
- He cannot be surprised by the Laodicean condition.
- He cannot be thwarted by human decision.
- He cannot be reduced to a God who waits for us.

The modern church has drifted — not because we stopped believing in God, but because we started believing in a version of Him that looks more like us.

This E-Book is an invitation to return.

To the God who brought Israel out of Egypt....

To the God who raised Jesus from the dead....

To the God who declares the end from the beginning....

To the God who knocks on the door of a lukewarm church — not because He is powerless, but because He is merciful.

To the God who never changes.

Scripture References

Hebrews 13:7-9 LSB Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith. (8) Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (9) Do not be carried away by varied and strange teachings; for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, through which those who were so occupied were not benefited.

Exodus 3:6-8 LSB He said also, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Then Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. (7) And Yahweh said, "I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and I have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sufferings. (8) "So I have come

down to deliver them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Amorite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite.

Colossians 1:12-14 LSB *giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. (13) Who rescued us from the authority of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of the Son of His love, (14) in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*

Chapter 1 - The Exodus: The Pattern We Forgot

If you want to understand salvation, you don't start with the Reformation. You start with the Exodus.

Because the Exodus is not just a story — it is the **template** God uses to explain redemption. Israel was not in Egypt weighing options. They were not spiritually neutral. They were not free to choose Yahweh whenever they wanted.

They were **owned**....

Enslaved....

Powerless....

Stuck under a master they could not escape.

And God did not stand outside Egypt saying, "I've done My part — now you decide."

He came down....

He confronted the false master....

He broke the chains....

He brought His people out by sheer divine initiative.

That is salvation....

That is redemption....

That is the gospel.

And that is the pattern the New Testament uses to describe what Jesus accomplished.

The resurrection is our Red Sea.

The cross is our Passover lamb.

The empty tomb is the moment Pharaoh's power was shattered.

We didn't choose our way out: we were brought out.

We didn't negotiate our release: we were redeemed.

We didn't free ourselves: we were rescued.

This is the gospel the apostles preached....

This is the gospel the early church lived....

This is the gospel that changes everything.

And this is the gospel Satan has worked tirelessly to counterfeit.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Exodus 1:8-14 LSB *And a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. (9) And he said to his people, "Behold, the people of the sons of Israel are more and mightier than we. (10) "Come, let us deal wisely with them, lest they multiply and it be in the event of war, that they also join themselves to those who hate us and fight against us and go up from the land." (11) So they appointed taskmasters over them to afflict them with hard labours. And they built for Pharaoh storage cities, Pithom and Raamses. (12) But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and the more they spread out, so that they were in dread of the sons of Israel. (13) So the Egyptians brutally compelled the sons of Israel to slave labor; (14) and they made their lives bitter with hard slave labor in mortar and bricks and in all kinds of slave labor in the field, all their slave labor which they brutally compelled them to do.*

Exodus 2:23-25 LSB *Now it happened in the course of those many days that the king of Egypt died. And the sons of Israel sighed because of the slavery, and they cried out; and their cry for help because of their slavery rose up to God. (24) So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. (25) And God saw the sons of Israel, and God knew them.*

Exodus 3:7-10 LSB *And Yahweh said, "I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and I have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their*

sufferings. (8) "So I have come down to deliver them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Amorite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite. (9) "So now, behold, the cry of the sons of Israel has come to Me; and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians are oppressing them. (10) "So now, come and I will send you to Pharaoh, and so you shall bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt."

Exodus 6:6 LSB *"Say, therefore, to the sons of Israel, 'I am Yahweh, and I will bring you out from under the hard labors of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their slavery. I will also redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.*

Exodus 12

Exodus 14

1 Corinthians 5:7 LSB *Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, also was sacrificed.*

1 Corinthians 10:1-4 LSB *For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea; (2) and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; (3) and all ate the same spiritual food; (4) and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them, and the rock was Christ.*

Chapter 2 - The Human Will: Owned, Not Free

One of the most surprising truths in Scripture is how consistently the Bible describes the human will—not as free, but as **enslaved**.

Jesus says:

John 8:34 LSB *Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.*

Paul says:

Romans 6:17-18 LSB *But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you obeyed from the heart that pattern of teaching to which you were given over, (18) and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.*

There is no middle category.

No neutral zone.

No autonomous will floating between two masters.

The will is always owned.

This is why Jesus says:

John 6:44 LSB *“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.*

The Father doesn't persuade the will.

He frees it.

He doesn't wait for the will.

He resurrects it.

He doesn't respond to the will.

He recreates it.

This is why salvation is described as:

- being born again
- being made alive
- being transferred
- being redeemed
- being delivered

These are not decision words.

These are rescue words.

The modern church has forgotten this.

And because we forgot the slavery, we misunderstood the rescue.

Scripture References

Romans 6:16-22 LSB *Do you not know that when you go on presenting yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? (17) But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you obeyed from the heart that pattern of teaching to which you were given over, (18) and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. (19) I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, leading to further lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification. (20) For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. (21) Therefore what benefit were you then having from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. (22) But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you have your benefit, leading to sanctification, and the end, eternal life.*

Ephesians 2:1-5 LSB *And you were dead in your transgressions and sins, (2) in which you formerly walked according to the*

course of this world, according to the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience, (3) among whom we all also formerly conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. (4) But God, being rich in mercy because of His great love with which He loved us, (5) even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

Romans 8:7-8 LSB *because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God, for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, (8) and those who are in the flesh are not able to please God.*

Colossians 1:13 LSB *Who rescued us from the authority of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of the Son of His love,*

Chapter 3 - Satan's Strategy: Counterfeit, Don't Replace

Satan rarely opposes God with obvious lies. He works through imitation.

He doesn't deny Scripture—he twists it.

He doesn't deny grace—he dilutes it.

He doesn't deny salvation—he redefines it.

And one of his most effective counterfeits is the idea that the human will is free to choose between darkness and light.

It sounds compassionate.

It feels intuitive.

It uses Bible verses.

It appeals to our sense of fairness.

But it is the opposite of the Exodus.

The opposite of Jesus' teaching.

The opposite of the gospel.

The counterfeit gospel says:

“You are free to choose God.”

The true gospel says:

“You were enslaved—and God rescued you.”

The counterfeit gospel says:

“God has done His part—now you must do yours.”

The true gospel says:

“God has done everything—now you live as His.”

The counterfeit gospel says:

“Your will is the deciding factor.”

The true gospel says:

“God's mercy is the deciding factor.”

This counterfeit has shaped the modern church more than we realise.

Scripture References

Genesis 3:1-5 LSB *Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which Yahweh God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?" (2) And the woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; (3) but from the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God said, 'You shall not eat from it, and you shall not touch it, lest you die.'" (4) And the serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die! (5) "For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

2 Corinthians 11:3-4 LSB *But I fear that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be corrupted from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ. (4) For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we did not preach, or you receive a different spirit which you did not receive, or a different gospel which you did not accept, you bear this beautifully.*

2 Corinthians 11:14 LSB *And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.*

Galatians 1:6-10 LSB *I marvel that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ for a different gospel, (7) which is really not another, only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. (8) But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should proclaim to you a gospel contrary to the gospel we have proclaimed to you, let him be accursed! (9) As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is proclaiming to you a gospel contrary to what you received, let him be accursed! (10) For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a slave of Christ.*

John 15:16 LSB *“You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would abide, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.*

Romans 3:10-12 LSB *as it is written, “THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE; (11) THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD; (12) ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME WORTHLESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE.”*

Chapter 4 - How the Reformers Recovered Grace—and How the Drift Returned

The Reformers recovered the gospel of grace with courage and clarity. They stood against corruption, superstition, and works-based righteousness. They reclaimed Scripture as the final authority. They re-centred salvation on Christ alone.

But after the Reformation, a new debate emerged—not about whether salvation was by grace, but about **how** grace works.

Some Reformers held tightly to monergism—God alone saves. Others softened the edges, trying to make room for human responsibility.

And slowly, subtly, the drift began.

Not because the Reformers were wrong. But because every generation is tempted to make salvation feel more “fair,” more “balanced,” more “reasonable.”

The seeds of synergism—God and man cooperating—began to sprout again.

And Satan, the master counterfeiter, was more than happy to water them.

Scripture References

Revelation 3:1-6 LSB *“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: This is what He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars, says: ‘I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. (2) ‘Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of My God. (3) ‘So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent. Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you. (4) ‘But you have a few names in Sardis who have not defiled their garments, and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. (5) ‘He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments, and I will never erase his name from the book of life,*

and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. (6) 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

Ephesians 2:4-10 LSB *But God, being rich in mercy because of His great love with which He loved us, (5) even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved— (6) and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, (7) so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. (8) For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; (9) not of works, so that no one may boast. (10) For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.*

Romans 9:10-18 LSB *And not only this, but there was Rebekah also, when she had conceived twins by one man, our father Isaac; (11) for though the twins were not yet born and had not done anything good or bad, so that the purpose of God according to His choice would stand, not because of works but because of Him who calls, (12) it was said to her, "THE OLDER SHALL SERVE THE YOUNGER." (13) Just as it is written, "JACOB I LOVED, BUT ESAU I HATED." (14) What shall we say then? Is there any unrighteousness with God? May it never be! (15) For He says to Moses, "I WILL HAVE MERCY ON WHOM I HAVE MERCY, AND I WILL HAVE COMPASSION ON WHOM I HAVE COMPASSION." (16) So then it does not depend on the one who wills or the one who runs, but on God who has mercy. (17) For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "FOR THIS VERY PURPOSE I RAISED YOU UP, IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE MY POWER IN YOU, AND IN ORDER THAT MY NAME MIGHT BE PROCLAIMED THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE EARTH." (18) So then He has mercy on whom He desires, and He hardens whom He desires.*

Titus 3:4-6 LSB *But when the kindness and affection of God our Savior appeared, (5) He saved us, not by works which we did in righteousness, but according to His mercy, through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, (6) whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,*

Acts 20:26-32 LSB *“Therefore, I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all. (27) “For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God. (28) “Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. (29) “I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; (30) and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. (31) “Therefore be watchful, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears. (32) “And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who have been sanctified.*

Chapter 5 - The Jesuit–Arminian Connection (Historical)

During the Counter-Reformation, a Jesuit theologian, Luis de Molina, developed a system called **Molinism** — a way of defending human freedom while still affirming God’s foreknowledge.

Molinism taught:

- conditional election
- resistible grace
- universal atonement
- salvation dependent on human response

These ideas were crafted specifically to counter the Reformers’ emphasis on God’s sovereignty.

And here’s the key:

Arminianism emerged in the same intellectual environment and used many of the same categories.

Arminius was not a Jesuit....

Arminianism is not Catholic....

But the theological overlap is undeniable.

Both systems:

- elevate human will
- soften divine sovereignty
- make election conditional
- make grace resistible
- make salvation cooperative

The Synod of Dort recognised this immediately. They saw that Arminian arguments resembled Jesuit reasoning — not because of conspiracy, but

because both were reacting against the same thing: **the God who declares the end from the beginning.**

The immutable God....

The timeless God....

The God of the Exodus....

The God of the resurrection....

The God of Revelation 3.

The God who does not wait for human permission to save.

Scripture References

Ephesians 1:3-11 LSB *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, (4) just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him in love, (5) by predestining us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, (6) to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He graciously bestowed on us in the Beloved. (7) In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our transgressions, according to the riches of His grace (8) which He caused to abound to us in all wisdom and insight, (9) making known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Him (10) for an administration of the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth in Him. (11) In Him, we also have been made an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,*

2 Timothy 1:6-11 LSB *For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. (7) For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and self-discipline. (8) Therefore do not be*

ashamed of either the witness about our Lord or me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, (9) who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, (10) but now has been manifested by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, (11) for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.

Chapter 6 - The Laodicean Church: When Self-Reliance Becomes a Theology

The Laodicean church is not lukewarm because it is immoral.

It is lukewarm because it is **self-reliant**.

“I am rich.”

“I have prospered.”

“I need nothing.”

This is the psychology of a gospel that centres on human will.

A gospel that says:

“I chose God.”

A gospel that says:

“I made the right decision.”

A gospel that says:

“My will is the decisive factor.”

This is why the modern church feels spiritually thin.

This is why worship feels shallow.

This is why discipleship feels optional.

This is why prayer feels unnecessary.

This is why holiness feels negotiable.

A man-centred gospel produces a man-centred church.

And a man-centred church becomes Laodicean.

Scripture References

Revelation 3:14-22 LSB “And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: This is what the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says: (15) ‘I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were cold or hot. (16) ‘So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. (17) ‘Because you say, “I am rich, and have become

wealthy, and have need of nothing,” and you do not know that you are wretched and pitiable and poor and blind and naked. (18) I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not be manifested; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. (19) ‘Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline. Therefore be zealous and repent. (20) ‘Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me. (21) ‘He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. (22) ‘He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’”

Deuteronomy 8:10-14 LSB *“And so you will eat and be satisfied, and you shall bless Yahweh your God for the good land which He has given you. (11) “Beware lest you forget Yahweh your God by not keeping His commandments and His judgments and His statutes which I am commanding you today; (12) lest you eat and are satisfied and build good houses and live in them, (13) and your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, (14) and your heart becomes lifted up and you forget Yahweh your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.*

2 Timothy 3:1-5 LSB *But know this, that in the last days difficult times will come. (2) For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, (3) unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, without gentleness, without love for good, (4) treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, (5) holding to a form of godliness, but having denied its power. Keep away from such men as these.*

Chapter 7 - The Resurrection: The Once-for-All Transfer of Ownership

The resurrection is not just proof that Jesus is alive.
It is the moment the ownership of humanity changed hands.

Just as the Red Sea broke Pharaoh's power, the empty tomb broke sin's power.
Just as Israel didn't walk out of Egypt by choice, we don't walk out of death by decision.

We are redeemed.
We are transferred.
We are made alive.
We are brought out.

The resurrection is the moment the counterfeit gospel collapses.

Because if the human will be truly free, the resurrection wouldn't need to be a rescue.

It would just be an invitation.

But Scripture never talks that way.

The resurrection is not God saying,
"Here's a new option—choose wisely."

The resurrection is God saying,
"The old master is defeated. You are Mine now."

Scripture References

Romans 6:1-10 LSB *What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? (2) May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? (3) Or do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? (4) Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. (5) For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, (6) knowing this, that our old man*

was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; (7) for he who has died has been justified from sin. (8) Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, (9) knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. (10) For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all, but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

Colossians 2:9-15 LSB *For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells bodily, (10) and in Him you have been filled, who is the head over all rule and authority; (11) in whom you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh, in the circumcision of Christ, (12) having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. (13) And you being dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive with Him, having graciously forgiven us all our transgressions. (14) Having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us which was hostile to us, He also has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. (15) Having disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them in Him.*

1 Peter 1:3-5 LSB *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (4) to obtain an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and unfading, having been kept in heaven for you, (5) who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

Chapter 8 - Returning to the God Who Never Changes

The solution to the modern church's drift is not:

- better programs
- better music
- better branding
- better preaching
- better strategies

It is a return to the God who never changes.

The God of the Exodus.

The God of Isaiah 46.

The God of John 6.

The God of Romans 9.

The God of Revelation 3.

The God who rescues slaves.

The God who redeems the helpless.

The God who declares the end from the beginning.

The God who is not waiting for us—He is calling us back.

This book is not about winning an argument.

It is about recovering awe.

Recovering humility.

Recovering dependence.

Recovering the gospel.

Recovering the God who never changes.

Scripture References

Malachi 3:5-6 LSB *“Then I will draw near to you for judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers and against the adulterers and against those who swear falsely and against those who oppress the wage earner in his wages, the widow and the orphan, and those who turn aside the sojourner and do*

not fear Me,” says Yahweh of hosts. (6) “For I, Yahweh, do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.

James 1:16-18 LSB *Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. (17) Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow. (18) In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.*

Isaiah 55:6-9 LSB *Seek Yahweh while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near. (7) Let the wicked forsake his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to Yahweh, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. (8) “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” declares Yahweh. (9) “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.*

Joel 2:12-13 LSB *“Yet even now,” declares Yahweh, “Return to Me with all your heart And with fasting, weeping, and wailing; (13) And tear your heart and not your garments.” Now return to Yahweh your God, For He is gracious and compassionate, Slow to anger, abounding in lovingkindness, And relenting concerning evil.*

Conclusion

If you've walked with me through these chapters, you've probably felt the same tension I have felt for years: the modern church is overflowing with activity, creativity, sincerity, and passion — and yet something essential has quietly slipped through our fingers.

We have drifted from the God who never changes.

Not because we stopped believing in Him, but because we started believing in a version of Him shaped by our own assumptions, our own instincts, and our own desire for a gospel that feels more manageable, more democratic, more “fair.”

But the God of Scripture is not manageable.

He is not democratic.

He is not shaped by human intuition.

He is not waiting for our permission.

He is the God who declares the end from the beginning.

He is the God who stands outside of time.

He is the God who rescues slaves, not choosers.

He is the God who brings His people out with a mighty hand.

He is the God who raises the dead, not the undecided.

He is the God who knocks on the door of a lukewarm church — not because He is powerless, but because He is merciful.

And when you see Him as He truly is, everything else comes into focus.

The Exodus stops being a children's story and becomes the blueprint of salvation.

The resurrection stops being a symbol and becomes the moment the ownership of humanity changed forever.

The Laodicean church ceases to be a warning and becomes a mirror.

The modern gospel of free will stops sounding compassionate and starts sounding counterfeit.

The drift of the Western church stops being confusing and starts being predictable.

THE GOD WHO NEVER CHANGES... AND THE CHURCH THAT HAS

Because when you remove the immutability of God,
... when you forget His timelessness,
... when you soften His sovereignty,
... when you elevate human will,
... when you turn salvation into a cooperative effort,
... you inevitably end up with a church that is confident and lukewarm toward God.

A church that says, "I am rich."

A church that says, "I need nothing."

A church that does not realise it is poor, blind, and naked.

A church that has changed.

But the God who calls to that church has not changed.

He still redeems.

He still rescues.

He still confronts false masters.

He still breaks chains.

He still brings His people out.

He still raises the dead.

He still speaks from outside of time.

He still declares the end from the beginning.

He still knocks.

He still loves.

He still saves.

And He is calling His church — this church, our church — to return.

Not to a system.

Not to a denomination.

Not to a theological camp.

Not to a movement.

But to Himself.

To the God who never changes.

To the God who is not shaped by us.

To the God who is not waiting on us.

To the God who is not surprised by us.
To the God who is not dependent on us.
To the God who is not threatened by our drift.
To the God who is not diminished by our confusion.

To the God who is still the same God who brought Israel out of Egypt,
who raised Jesus from the dead, and who stands at the door of the Laodicean
church and knocks.

This book has not been about winning an argument.
It has been about recovering awe.
Recovering humility.
Recovering dependence.
Recovering the gospel.
Recovering the God who never changes.

And if the church will return to Him —

... not the God of our assumptions,
... not the God of our preferences,
... not the God of our cultural expectations,
... but the God who is...

THEN the lukewarmness will melt,
... the self-reliance will crumble,
... the counterfeit will lose its power,
**... and the people of God will once again burn with the fire of the One who
redeemed them.**

Because the God who never changes is still changing His people.

And He is calling us home.

Scripture Verses

Psalms 51:1-12 LSB For the choir director. A Psalm of David.
When Nathan the prophet came to him, after he had gone in to
Bathsheba. Be gracious to me, O God, according to Your
lovingkindness; According to the abundance of Your compassion
blot out my transgressions. (2) Wash me thoroughly from my

iniquity And cleanse me from my sin. (3) For I know my transgressions, And my sin is ever before me. (4) Against You, You only, I have sinned And done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak And pure when You judge. (5) Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. (6) Behold, You delight in truth in the innermost being, And in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom. (7) Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. (8) Make me to hear joy and gladness, Let the bones which You have crushed rejoice. (9) Hide Your face from my sins And blot out all my iniquities. (10) Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. (11) Do not cast me away from Your presence And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. (12) Restore to me the joy of Your salvation And sustain me with a willing spirit.

Hebrews 12:28-29 LSB *Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe; (29) for OUR GOD IS A CONSUMING FIRE.*

Revelation 2:4-7 LSB *'But I have this against you, that you have left your first love. (5) 'Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first. But if not, I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place, unless you repent. (6) 'Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. (7) 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.'*

A Pastoral Prayer for Returning to the God Who Never Changes

Heavenly Father, I am in awe of your creation. I worship your Holy Name.
You are the God who declares the end from the beginning.
You are the God who never changes,
whose purposes stand,
whose mercy endures,
whose voice still calls to Your people.

I confess that I have drifted.
I have trusted my own strength,
my own wisdom,
my own will.
I believed I was rich when I was poor,
strong when I was weak,
free when I was enslaved.

But You have not changed.
You are still the God who rescues slaves.
You are still the God who brings Your people out.
You are still the God who breaks chains,
who confronts false masters,
who redeems with outstretched arm.

Open my eyes to see You as You truly are.
Open my ears to hear Your voice again.
Open my heart to receive the truth I cannot generate on my own.

Bring me back to awe.
Back to dependence.
Back to humility.
Back to the gospel.
Back to the God who never changes.

May the resurrection of Jesus be my Red Sea—
The moment I see that the old master lost his claim on Calvary
And the new Master has taken me as His own.

THE GOD WHO NEVER CHANGES.... AND THE CHURCH THAT HAS

Make me a person who burns with the fire of the One who redeemed me.
Make me a person who reflects Your unchanging glory in a world that changes every day.

I ask this in the name of the Lamb who was slain yet lives inside me today and forevermore. In the Name of Jesus, I pray:

Amen.

Reflection Guide

These questions are designed to help you internalise the message—not as information, but as transformation.

1. Where have I unknowingly embraced a man-centred gospel?

Think about the assumptions you've carried for years.

Where did they come from?

Do they match the God of Scripture?

2. Do I see myself more as a chooser or as someone who was rescued?

How does that shape your worship?

Your humility?

Your confidence?

3. In what ways have I lived like a Laodicean lifestyle—self-reliant, self-assured, spiritually lukewarm?

Where has comfort replaced dependence?

Where has self-confidence replaced awe?

4. How does the Exodus reshape my understanding of salvation?

What does it mean that God brought you out?

Not with your permission, but with His power?

5. What does the resurrection mean for my identity today?

Do you see it as an invitation...

... or as the moment your ownership changed forever?

6. What would it look like for me to return to the God who never changes?

What needs to be surrendered?

What needs to be unlearned?

What needs to be rediscovered?

A Call to Action

Where the Journey Goes from Here

If this book has stirred something in you— a discomfort, a longing, a hunger, a sense that the gospel is bigger and deeper than you realised—then that stirring is not accidental.

It is the voice of God who never changes, calling His people back to Himself.

This is not the end of a book. It is the beginning of a return.

A return to the God of the Exodus.

A return to the God of Isaiah 46.

A return to the God of John 6.

A return to the God of Revelation 3.

A return to the God who rescues, redeems, and restores.

Here are simple steps to continue the journey:

STEP 1 – [Register for the Single Eye in the Gospel of John course for FREE.](#)

The link above takes you to the FAQ page for The Single Eye pilgrimage. You will find registration links on that page.

STEP 2 - Immerse yourself in the monthlong journey to a new heart.

Rewrite your story through the lens of redemption, not decision.

Through the lens of rescue, not autonomy.

STEP 3 - Re-enter the community with humility and courage

Share what God is showing you. Invite others into the journey. Become a voice of clarity in a lukewarm age.

THE GOD WHO NEVER CHANGES.... AND THE CHURCH THAT HAS

The God Who Never Changes

And The Church That Has

