


LOVE
 Without Hypocrisy
 (in the book of Romans)

42 – OT vs NT ethics intro

THERE IS A POPULAR FALSE RELIGION
 THAT CLAIMS TO HAVE
 A GOD THAT IS SO-O-O-O POWERFUL
 THAT IT CAN DO ANYTHING ...

I WILL ACCEPT
ANYTHING YOU
 SAY ...



EVEN LIE,
 change its mind, and
 encourage its followers to do evil.

I'LL DO ANYTHING
 YOU COMMAND... ... EVEN LIE
 OR KILL.

WHEN YOU SAY THAT "EVIL" IS "GOOD,"
 THEN FOR ME, IT WILL BE "GOOD."



THEIR "HOLY" WRITINGS ARE
 FILLED WITH CONTRADICTIONS ...

GENUINE
CONTRADICTIONS

that even the most devoted
 followers admit are present.

AFTER ALL,
 MY GOD CAN
 DO AND SAY
ANYTHING!

GENUINE
CONTRADICTIONS

ORIGINAL:
 "The Christians are
 your FRIENDS...
 they agree with you...
 treat them well."

MOST RECENT:
 "The Christians are your
 ENEMIES...
 they disagree with you...
 kill them!"

WHEN HE CHANGES HIS
 MIND, WE SHOULD INGORE
 WHAT HE ORIGINALLY SAID
 AND FOLLOW HIS MOST
 RECENT STATEMENT.

>> IN CONTRAST <<

THE TRUE GOD HAS REVEALED HIMSELF
 IN THE BIBLE.

YOUR WORD,
 O LORD, IS ETERNAL
 AND UNCHANGING.

I WILL ACCEPT
ANYTHING YOU
 SAY.



He has given us his WORD, and his Word does NOT change.


ORIGINAL:
"Be kind to your enemies." *

MOST RECENT:
"Love your enemies." *

I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU COMMAND...

YOU ONLY COMMAND WHAT IS RIGHTEOUS.

* [Examples: Exodus 23:4-5; Proverbs 25:21; Luke 6:27-31.]




THE TRUE GOD CAN DO:

- ANYTHING that is consistent with his nature.
- NOTHING that contradicts his nature.

YOUR WAYS, O LORD, ARE HOLY AND RIGHTEOUS

THEREFORE...



THERE ARE THINGS HE CANNOT DO!

HE CANNOT LIE

...it is impossible for God to lie.
Hebrews 6:18b (NLT)

HE CANNOT TOLERATE WRONGDOING

Your eyes are too pure to look on evil, and You cannot tolerate wrongdoing.
Habakkuk 1:13a (HCSB)

HE WARNS US THAT HE OPPOSES EVIL.

HE WARNS US THAT EVIL IS NOT "GOOD."

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; ...
Isaiah 5:20 (NASB)

Why not say ... "Let us do evil that good may result"? Their condemnation is deserved.
Romans 3:8 (NIV)

HE WARNS US THAT PEOPLE WHO DO EVIL CANNOT BE IN HIS PRESENCE.

You are not a God who takes pleasure in evil; with you the wicked cannot dwell.
Psalm 5:4 (NIV)

WHAT A CONTRAST!

THE FALSE RELIGION'S GOD:	THE GOD OF THE BIBLE:
CHANGES HIS MIND	DOES NOT CHANGE
CONTRADICTIONS	NO CONTRADICTIONS
LIES	CANNOT LIE
ENCOURAGES EVIL	OPPOSES EVIL
[and so on ...]	

WHAT A CONTRAST!

MY GOD CAN DO ANYTHING, EVEN CONTRADICT HIMSELF.

MY GOD CAN DO ONLY WHAT IS CONSISTENT WITH HIS HOLY NATURE




"Doesn't the Bible say that God changes his mind?"

And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented* of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

Jonah 3:10 (KJV)

* [Modern translations may say that God "relented" or "reconsidered" what he had threatened to do.]

THE REAL ISSUE:

It's NOT THAT GOD CHANGED HIS MIND!

RATHER:

- PEOPLE changed their MINDS > and therefore <
- GOD changed his RESPONSE so that it was *appropriate for their change*.

BECAUSE HE DIDN'T

BECAUSE OF THIS...

- There is *no actual contradiction* in what the true God does and says.
- God's actions remain *consistent and unchanging*.

IF GOD DIDN'T CHANGE HIS RESPONSE

(WHEN PEOPLE CHANGED THEIR MINDS)

HE WOULD BE DOING SOMETHING EVIL:

- **REWARDING** people who chose to become EVIL.
- **PUNISHING** people who had repented of their sin and become RIGHTEOUS.

IF GOD DID THIS...

HE WOULD BE CONTRADICTING HIS OWN NATURE!

EXAMPLE:

SHOW ME AN EXAMPLE!

[In this example, we will see:

- God's unchanging PURPOSE...
- God's changing RESPONSE, when people change.

HERE GOES!

GOD'S UNCHANGING PURPOSE:

"I WILL PUNISH EVIL AND BLESS RIGHTEOUSNESS."

GOD'S UNCHANGING PURPOSE:

"I WILL PUNISH EVIL AND BLESS RIGHTEOUSNESS."

EXAMPLE #1 – NINEVEH, IN JONAH'S DAY

- Nineveh' condition: A wicked city.
- God's response to their condition: "I will destroy the city."
- Nineveh's change: "We repent."
- God's response to their change: "I will not destroy the city."

GOD'S UNCHANGING PURPOSE NEVER CHANGED!

GOD'S UNCHANGING PURPOSE:

"I WILL PUNISH EVIL AND BLESS RIGHTEOUSNESS."

EXAMPLE #2 – NINEVEH... 100 YEARS LATER

- Nineveh' condition: Once again, a wicked city.
- God's response to their condition: "I will destroy the city."
- Nineveh's response: (No change.)
- God's response: "I will destroy the city."

GOD'S UNCHANGING PURPOSE NEVER CHANGED!

THIS IS TOTALLY UNLIKE FALSE RELIGIONS, WHERE THE CONTRADICTIONS ARE GENUINE

The Christians are your friends! **VS.** The Christians are your enemies!

If you follow my rules and die for me, I'll let you into heaven! **VS.** But if I want to, I can change my mind and send you to hell.

"Question ..."

WHY HAVE WE BROUGHT UP THIS ISSUE??

"Answer ..."

THERE ARE MANY FALSE TEACHERS AND CONFUSED PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH, WHO HAVE CLAIMED...

CLAIMS OF FALSE TEACHERS AND CONFUSED PEOPLE

- God changes his mind – like in the false religions. >> And therefore ... <<
- There are genuine contradictions in the Bible – especially between Old and New Testaments.

>> SOME GO SO FAR AS TO CLAIM ... <<

- The Old and New Testaments describe two different gods!

AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT SOME CLAIM:

THE OLD TESTAMENT IS ABOUT:	THE NEW TESTAMENT IS ABOUT:
WRATH	LOVE
JUDGMENT	MERCY
WORKS	FAITH
LAW	GRACE
OBEDIENCE	FREEDOM
[and so on ...]	

- ✓ They often claim: The New Testament **cancel**s the teachings of the Old Testament.
- ✓ They ignore this fact: BOTH Testaments contain all of these concepts! (They also distort the concepts.)

OUR NEXT VERSE IN ROMANS BEGINS WITH A COMMAND THAT MANY CLAIM

↓

- ✓ Contradicts and cancels Old Testament commands (as well as some New Testament commands).

Do not repay anyone evil for evil.
Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody.

Romans 12:17 (NIV)

THE ISSUE:

Does this verse in Romans cancel the Bible's commands that require justice?

Do not repay anyone evil for evil.
Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody.

Romans 12:17 (NIV)

- ✓ Our goal is to properly understand the verse and do what it requires of us.

Your Mission...

Scripture speaks well of people who are willing to examine the Bible and make sure that what they believe is accurate.

These people were more receptive ... They were very willing to receive the message, and every day they carefully examined the Scriptures to see if those things were so.

Acts 17:11 (ISV)

★ FOLLOW THEIR EXAMPLE! ★

Credits (1)

SCRIPTURE

- Scriptures marked "NLT" – Scripture quoted from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright ©1996. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, Illinois 60189. All rights reserved. (www.newlivingtranslation.com)
- Scriptures marked "NIV" – Scripture quoted from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved. (www.zondervanbibles.com)
- Scriptures marked "NASB" – Scriptures quoted from the New American Standard Bible®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)
- Scriptures marked "HCSB" – Scripture quotations marked HCSB are taken from the Holman Christian Standard Bible®, Copyright © 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2009 by Holman Bible Publishers. Used by permission, Holman Christian Standard Bible®, Holman CSB®, and HCSB® are federally registered trademarks of Holman Bible Publishers.
- Scriptures marked "ISV" – Scripture taken from the Holy Bible: International Standard Version®, Copyright © 1996-forever by The ISV Foundation. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED INTERNATIONALLY. Used by permission. (<https://www.isv.org/bible/>)
- Scriptures marked "KJV" – King James Version (public domain).

Credits (2)

PICTURES (original sources; modifications may have been made)

- Person bowing to ground – By Karl Baedeker [Public domain (book published in 1885)]; via Internet Archive; [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:MCHAMMEDAN_POSTURES_OF_PRAYER_%281885%29_-_TIMEA.jpg](https://archive.org/details/egyptand00karl/p_148_(cropped); also available via Wikimedia Commons; <a href=) (cropped)
- Kneeling person silhouette – By GDJ [Public domain], via openclipart.org; <https://openclipart.org/detail/252637/man-kneeling-in-prayer-minus-ground-silhouette>
- Presentation – Dennis Hinks © 2017.
- DISCLAIMER: The use of a picture does not imply that the author of that picture agrees with the views of this presentation. Some might agree; some might not.

Your Mission...

Embracing *all* of Scripture

False teachers and confused people often treat the Old and New Testaments as "opposites," claiming that the Old Testament promotes concepts such as wrath and judgment, and the New Testament promotes concepts such as mercy and grace. *In reality, both Testaments acknowledge both groups of concepts.*

CONCEPTS THAT SOME PEOPLE CLAIM BELONG TO THE OLD TESTAMENT. (THEY ARE ALSO IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.)

- God's wrath/anger: Psalm 90: 9, 11; Romans 1:18; 2:5.
- Judgment: by God - Psalm 9:7-8; Revelation 19:11; by people - Leviticus 19:15; 1 Corinthians 5:3; 6:1-5.
- The need for works: Psalm 37:3; Ephesians 2:10.
- Law: Joshua 1:8; Matthew 5:17; Romans 3:31.
- Obedience: 1 Samuel 15:22; Romans 1:5.
- Fear of God: Ecclesiastes 12:13; 2 Corinthians 5:11; 1 Peter 2:17.

CONCEPTS THAT SOME PEOPLE CLAIM BELONG TO THE NEW TESTAMENT. (THEY ARE ALSO IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.)

- Love for God: Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew 22:37.
- Love for people: by God - Psalm 136; Romans 5:8; by people - Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 22:39.

- Mercy: by God - Isaiah 55:7; Romans 12:1; by people - Hosea 6:6; Matthew 5:7; Jude 1:22.
- Faith/trust: Psalm 37:3; Galatians 3:26.
- Grace/kindness/favor from God: Proverbs 3:34; 1 Corinthians 1:3; James 4:6.
- Freedom: Isaiah 58:6; 61:1; Galatians 5:1.

YES, THERE ARE DIFFERENCES:

THEY REPRESENT TWO DIFFERENT COVENANTS

- Jesus brought to us a *new* covenant, which even the Old Testament prophets said would come - Jeremiah 31:31; Luke 22:20; 1 Corinthians 11:25; Hebrews 8:8; 12:24.
- The Old Covenant had a greater (though not exclusive) focus on external regulations that restrained sin; the New Covenant embeds these regulations in the heart - Hebrews 10:16.
- The Old Covenant ceremonial regulations (such as the animal sacrifices) are not part of the New Covenant. However, the New Covenant has its own special regulations (such as baptism and communion, and a greater emphasis on prayer).
- The Old Covenant *looked forward* to what Jesus would do, often through symbolism; the New Covenant *looks back* to what Jesus has done.
- The Old Testament had a greater (though not exclusive) focus on *groups* (such as nations and government); whereas the New Testament has a greater (though not exclusive) focus on *individuals*.
- Because most of the Jews rejected Jesus, the offer of salvation has been given to the non-Jews - Acts 13:44-48; 28:28; Romans 11:11.