

God Part 3 - Things That Are Impossible For God!

Yes, in a sense, God can do “all things.” However, that statement needs to be understood in proper context. The following is a brief look at things God cannot do outside of his perfect and holy attributes. To understand this better, I feel it is important to look at the argument of what God cannot do in light of “changeable characteristics” and “unchangeable attributes.” We must compare apples with apples and not apples with turnips (“oranges” is just too cliché).

Changeable (mutable) characteristics:

These involve behaviors, emotions and other characteristics that a person or thing can express differently from one moment to another. I may be happy today and sad tomorrow. However, I am still a bald old man no matter how much I may think otherwise.

Unchangeable (immutable) attributes:

These are qualities about a person or thing that well, cannot be changed. The color red cannot become blue. Red however can become filled with dirt and look messy when applied to the painting. However, it will never be blue. $2 + 2$ remains 4 no matter how politically incorrect it may become. Truth is not concerned with whom it convinces. Delusion does not make something so. Also, saying something repeatedly does to make it true unless it is true to begin with.

So, how does this apply to God?

I will not repeat things already mentioned in the study on **God Part 2 - His Character** (see www.awordoftruth.com for a look at that). The study goes into some of His attributes that we as human beings can adopt and practice and those that we cannot be or do because they are unique to Him alone. Today, we will focus on things (unchangeable attributes) that God cannot be or do.

True or False (explain your answer):

- God can lie to distort the truth in order to achieve a greater good. (Hebrews 6:18)
- God can show favoritism at times. (Acts 10:34)
- God can be a God of confusion or disorder. (1 Corinthians 14:33)
- God can be mocked without any consequences to the mocker. (Galatians 6:7)
- God can be unjust in some circumstances. (Hebrews 6:10)
- God can use temptation to catch our attention or teach us a lesson. (James 1:13)
- God can leave sin unpunished for non-Christians. (Romans 3:22-26; Revelation 20:11-15)
- God can be unforgiving if the sin is bad enough. (Daniel 9:9; 1John 1:9)
- God can accept me without Jesus since I am basically a good person. (Romans 3:23; 6:23))
- God can be unloving at times. (1 John 4:16)

Questions:

- 1) Some of us carry the lie that our sin is just too great for God to forgive us. What does the Bible teach in response to this? Honestly confess to God what those sins are and consider claiming the promise of 1John 1:9 to be set free!
- 2) How might you underestimate God when it comes to your problems? Might they be too great for Him to address? Explain your answer.
- 3) How has the truth of who God is and what He does been distorted by your earthly parents or by the inaccurate teachings of others? How did you finally learn the truth?
- 4) How can God see any of us as perfect and acceptable in spite of our sins?

Do you tell God how big your problem is? OR, do you tell the problem how big your God is?