

## SEVEN THINGS GOD CAN'T DO

- ✓ At first, that title sounds wrong, doesn't it? (Maybe even a little blasphemous.) "Pastor Ron! Are you *really* saying there's something that God can't do?" That's exactly what I'm saying.
- ✓ Let me explain. From a *power* standpoint, yes, God can do anything. But, from a *moral* standpoint, there are all *kinds* of things He can't do. Let me give you seven.

### 1. God Can't Lie

Numbers 23:19 – "God is *not a man, that he should lie ...*"

Titus 1:2 – "... God *cannot lie ...*"

Hebrews 6:18 (Amp.) – "... it is *impossible for God to lie ...*"

- ✓ God doesn't just *choose* to not lie. He literally *can't* lie! (The writer of Hebrews said it even stronger. He said it's *impossible* for God to lie. Let that word sink in. "Impossible".) Doesn't that give you confidence? God doesn't just *speak* the truth; He *is* the Truth (Jn. 14:6)! Because He \*IS\* the truth, everything He *says* is true.

1 Timothy 1:15 (Wuest) – "*Trustworthy is the Word, and worthy of unqualified acceptance.*"

- ✓ Unqualified acceptance! That means you never have to question anything that God said. All His words are dependable, and you can base your life on them. (That's what David did.)

Psalms 119:128 – "*Therefore I esteem all your guiding principles concerning everything, to be right.*"

- ✓ That gives us a tremendous advantage in life! We don't have to learn by trial and error. We can start out with the right answer! While the world stumbles around in the dark, we can walk on a sure path.

### 2. God Can't Change

Malachi 3:6 – "*For I am the Lord, I change not ...*"

- ✓ God doesn't evolve, improve or decline. He's the "one thing" in your life that will always be constant. Your *friends* can change. Your *mate* can change! Your job can change. Feelings change. But God never changes. He's your "North Star" when life seems unstable. He's your anchor in the storm.
- ✓ You'll never find Him in a "bad mood", and He'll never change His mind about you. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. God can't change.

### 3. God Can't Abandon You

- ✓ We all know Hebrews 13:5. ("I will never leave you, nor forsake you".) But did you ever read it in the Amplified Bible?

Hebrews 13:5 – "... for God Himself has said, I will not in any way fail you, nor give you up, nor leave you without support. *I will not, I will not, I will not in any degree leave you helpless, nor forsake you, nor let you down, or relax My hold on you!* [Assuredly not!]."

- ✓ It actually reads that way in the Greek. "I will not, I will not, I will not". Clearly God wants us to know that He's committed to us. He's always there, whether you *feel* like it or not. He's not leaving.

### 4. God Can't Be Unfaithful

2 Timothy 2:13 – "*If we are unfaithful, he stays faithful because he cannot be untrue to himself.*"

- ✓ *Our unfaithfulness doesn't cancel Jesus' faithfulness.* Peter proved that! Three times, he denied the Lord. Yet, after the resurrection, the angel told the women, "Go tell his disciples, *especially Peter* that He'll meet them in Galilee." (Mark 16:7)

- ✓ Peter got a special invitation. (I'm glad He did that! If I was Peter, I'd have thought, "That doesn't apply to me. I've gone too far!") Jesus wanted Peter to know he was still welcome. Peter hadn't been faithful; but Jesus still was. He can't deny Himself.
- ✓ Another person that proved Jesus' faithfulness is John the Baptist. When John was thrown into prison, his faith failed almost completely.

Matt. 11:2 – "... (John) sent two of his disciples. They said to Jesus, 'John the Baptist wants to know this: **Are you the Messiah** we've been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?'"

- ✓ What a question! John was the one who first recognized Jesus and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world". Now he's saying, "Are you really the Messiah, or should we keep looking for someone else?" (He'd been totally shaken.)
- ✓ How did Jesus respond? He sent John's disciples back with a message.

Matt. 11:4-5 – "Jesus answered, Go and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the gospel preached to them."

- ✓ Then, when John's disciples left, Jesus turned to address the crowd. Now, what would you expect Him to say? ("Man, John really blew it! I'm not sure he's even saved at this point"? No!) He starts to brag on him!

v. 11 – "I tell you the truth: Of all the people ever born, no one is greater than John the Baptist"

- ✓ That's pretty high praise for a guy in a faith crisis. When John was shaken, Jesus didn't turn His back on him. He remained true to Himself. (Jesus doesn't give up on us either, when we fail.)

- ✓ Maybe you feel like your life is a mess, this morning. Maybe you're wondering if God is ready to give up you. Trust me, He's not.

Matthew 12:20 (KJV) – "A bruised reed shall he not break, and a smoking flax (wick) shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory."

- ✓ That might take a bit of explanation. "A bruised reed shall he not break". The picture here is of a reed that's been bent in the middle. It's not strong enough to stand up straight. It's just kind of hanging there. (Maybe that's how you feel.) This is saying, Jesus won't come along and just break it off.
- ✓ "And a smoking wick shall He not quench." Maybe the fire's gone out in your life. All that's left is a smouldering wick. He's not going to put out the little bit that's left. He's going to get you on fire again. Another translation said, "He will be gentle and kind to those who are spiritually weak, battered, fragile, and are ready to give up." (Int.)
- ✓ What about the last part of the verse? (The "judgment unto victory" part?) The same translation says, "He will work to heal and restore them to strong faith and vitality until His goodness overcomes evil." That's the God we serve! He'll never give up on you.

## 5. God Can't Be Fooled

Gal. 6:7 (CEV) – "God cannot be fooled." (KJV – "mocked")

- ✓ **On one hand, that's a warning.** I used to tell the students, "You might be able to pull the wool over your parents' eyes. (Or your girlfriend's, or even your pastor's.) But you can't fool God. He knows exactly where you're at.
- ✓ **On the other hand, it's a comfort.** He's seen every time you've been mistreated. Or lied about. Or taken advantage of. Jesus knows the real story. When you've been mistreated, He's your defense, and one day, He'll set everything right.

## 6. God Can't Stop Loving You

Jeremiah 31:3 — “I have loved you with **an everlasting love.**”

- ✓ Here's a revelation for you: An *everlasting* love is a love that lasts forever. God's not going to run out of love for you. How do I know that? His love for you isn't *based* on you. It's based on Himself – on His own character. He's chosen to love you, and He's not going to stop.

Isaiah 54:10 – “For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but **my kindness shall not depart from you,** neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, says the Lord that has mercy on you.”

- ✓ How much does God love you?

John 17:23 (Int, CEV) - “I live in them and you live in me, so they can be brought into perfect unity with us. As a result of that unity, the people of this world will have to realize that you sent me and that **you love my followers as much as you love me.**”

- ✓ The world will realize it? I don't think the *Church* has realized it yet!

## 7. God Can't Save Apart from Jesus

John 14:6 – “Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

Acts 4:12 – “... there is no other name under heaven. given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

### Final Thought

- ✓ Everything in this world can change, fail, break, die, or walk away. But God can't. Because He *can't*, you can build your life on Him with absolute confidence.”