

Humans Are Designed For Change

Everything, including human beings, in the physical creation is changing.

In total contrast, all that is in the spiritual realm does **not** change.

Malachi 3:6 [NIV] *“I the Lord do not change ...”*

Hebrews 13:8 [NIV] *“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.”*

We should be grateful for this as we then know what God has promised He will fulfil for He does not lie. [**Titus 1:2**]

The angelic beings after a period of testing made a commitment and are now faithful to that decision.

Satan can never change back to Lucifer [**Isaiah 14:12**] the angels that followed him in rebellion against God will always be demons. [**Revelation 12:9**]

Luke 20:34-36 [NIV] *“Jesus replied, ‘The people of this age marry and are given in marriage. But those who are considered worthy of taking part in that age and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage, and they can no longer die; for they are like the angels. They are God’s children, since they are children of the resurrection.’”*

All who are worthy to be part of first resurrection will **not** die for they will have a spirit body like the angels.

Also their character will be fixed **not** able to change back to the rebellious human beings they were before conversion.

1 Corinthians 15:50-54 [King James] *“Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.”*

This is the goal that every human being will be offered, an immortal body and a character in that new body that will never change.

The Greek word translated “*incorruptible*” is “*aphthartōs*” meaning the essence of continuance, that is not changing.

Romans 3:23 [NIV] *“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”*

Every human being has sinned and cut themselves off from the mercy of God. [**Isaiah 59:2**]

Isaiah 1:18-20 [NIV] *“‘Come now, let us reason together,’ says the LORD. ‘Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land; but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword.’ For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”*

God desires to have a dialogue with us on how we are going to overcome this desire to sin and live a sin-free life that He can seal to exist for eternity.

This new life must be patterned on that of His Son, Jesus Christ, who is also the Son of Man and the exact character of God the Father. [**Colossians 1:5; Hebrews 1:3**]

1 John 3:5 [NIV] *“But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin.”*

Jesus Christ was without sin. [**2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15; 1 Peter 2:21-22**]

1 John 2:1-2 [NIV] *“My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defence, Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.”*

Our goal is to be sin-free but also to lose the very desire to sin.

1 John 3:9-10 [NIV] *“No-one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God’s seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.”*

The key to this change that must take place is love, a Godly love.

The Greek word translated “love” is “*agapé*” which describes a spontaneous love irrespective of the rights or response of the recipient, a sacrificial love that puts aside personal desires when extending that love to others.

Such a love is impossible for a human being to generate, it has to be the result of the active presence of the Holy Spirit in a person for such love is one of the “*fruits*” of the Holy Spirit. [**Galatians 5:22-23**]

The Christian message of salvation is about the intention of the Creator God to alter a person.

1 Corinthians 15:50 [NIV] *“I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.”*

Flesh and blood, that is an unchanged human being who is still in the grip of rebellious sin **cannot** enter into the Kingdom, created family of a Holy, righteous God.

So the true Christian message is **not** one of restoration to an original state before sin but a new birth and the remoulding of the human mind that is so prone to sin.

Romans 12:1 [NIV] *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship.”*

This process of change can only start when a human being surrenders their whole life to the Creator God. Their body, mind and human spirit, the Greek word translated “*body*” is “*sōma*” meaning whole life experience.

John 3:3, 6 [NIV] *“In reply Jesus declared, ‘I tell you the truth, no-one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.’” ... “Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.”*

This is why Jesus Christ tells us that we have to be “*born again of the Holy Spirit.*” Only the Holy Spirit working actively within us can make this change for it is a change that takes place in the mind and human spirit. [**Job 32:8**]

Romans 12:2 [NIV] *“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

The Holy Spirit re-educates our mind, and builds within our human spirit new desires of selfless love [“*agapé*” love].

Ephesians 2:10 [NIV] *“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*

God is creating in us a new spirit that desires to do good works, works of love towards God and other human beings.

Isaiah 64:8 [NIV] *“Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.”*

The same idea of God moulding out basic human existence, [clay – we are created out of dust] a vessel that He can use to fulfil His will.

Romans 9:20-21 [NIV] *“But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? ‘Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, “Why did you make me like this?”’ Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?”*

We do **not** choose how God will use what He has created in us, He has total sovereignty over our future role in His created family.

Job 14:14-15 [NIV] *“If a man dies, will he live again? All the days of my hard service I will wait for my renewal to come. You will call and I will answer you; you will long for the creature your hands have made.”*

God is looking forward to greeting the remoulded human being into His newly-created family.

Philippians 2:12-15 [NIV] *“Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed, not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence, continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe”*

We have our part in the remoulding of our mind and human spirit. We have to “*work out*” in the form of loving acts towards God and other human beings, using what God has “*worked in*” us by the implanting of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

All this activity within our human lives, that are able to change, is God fulfilling His original purpose for humanity.

Genesis 1:26-27 [King James] *“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”*

God created men and women in His “*image*,” Hebrew means the recognisable shadow of the real thing, but **not** in His “*likeness*,” the Hebrew indicates character.

This character building demands time and intimate association with the One whose character we are to copy.

God is fashioning a divine “*likeness*” in the human “*image*” of Himself.

God desires children whom He can love and who will love Him.

Beings who are filled with the “*agapé*” love that is the foundation of His character. [**1 John 4:8, 16**]

Such love **cannot** be created or forced, it can **only** be developed in an atmosphere of free choice.

We choose our eternal future, yield our total lives to the Creator God and allow Him to mould us into His very character or ignore this offer and remain the unrepentant sinners whose life will end in eternal death. [**Romans 6:23**]