

# God Does Not Change – Malachi 3:6

**The book of Malachi forms a bridge between the Old Testament and the New Testament.**

**Malachi 3:6** [New King James] *“For I am the LORD, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.”*

This is **not** a scripture that can be taken out of context, as some people do, linked with **Hebrews 13:8**, to avoid change in their lives, continuing to hold on to an incomplete understanding of the Word of God, the Christian Bible.

**This scripture will help us to understand why God allows suffering and injustice to continue in the world today.**

The question is asked in **Malachi 2:17**, *“where is the God of justice?”*

Many ask the question today and are not given an answer by those in authority.

**God has a plan for all humanity and He has never changed that perfect plan.**

**Genesis 1:26-27** [New King James] *“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”*

**This scripture shows that God’s plan for all humanity has two parts.**

**“Image”** the Hebrew word is *“tselem”* meaning resemblance, shadow, outward form. We see this in every human being physically.

**“Likeness”** a completely different Hebrew word *“demûwth”* meaning manner, attributes, character.

**As we know the creation of character takes time spent in the presence of the person whose character we wish to reflect.**

God has given each human He has created in His *“image”* a short period of time in which to develop this character, and also freedom to choose **not** to develop His character.

**God’s character is based on love, [1 John 4:8, 16].**

**Galatians 5:22-25** [New King James] *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”*

**Love is one of the “fruits” or characteristics of God that can only be formed in us as a result of the intimate indwelling of the Holy Spirit, who is God.**

The Greek word used in the above scripture is *“agapé”* a spontaneous love irrespective of the *“rights”* or response of the recipient, [**Romans 5:8**] a sacrificial love [**John 3:16-17**] that puts aside personal desires, [**Philippians 2:5-8**] to love the object of that love.

**This plan of God has a set timescale “therefore you are not consumed O sons of Jacob” in spite of their rebellion, [Malachi 3:7-12].**

**God knows exactly what He is doing, He is totally in charge of everything that happens or He allows to happen to further His plan for humanity.**

**What God set out to do before He created human beings will be fulfilled in His time.**

**Malachi 3:1-5** [New King James] *“Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,” says the LORD of hosts. ‘But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire and like launderers’ soap. He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasant to the LORD, as in the days of old, as in former years. And I will come near you for judgment; I will be a swift witness against sorcerers, against adulterers, against perjurers, against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans, and against those who turn away an alien, because they do not fear Me,’ says the LORD of hosts.”*

**“My messenger,” in fact this refers to two messengers, John the Baptist to prepare the way for the second messenger, Jesus Christ, who came as a messenger from God the Father with details of the New Covenant that had been promised long before, [Jeremiah 31:31-34].**

**“Who will endure the day of His coming”** referring to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, [Matthew 24:21-22].

All will then learn to worship God in a way that will be acceptable to Him, **“that they may offer to the Lord an offering in righteousness.”**

God will then discontinue His *“hands off”* policy. **“I will come near to you for judgement”** [verse 5].

**The “hands off” policy that is still in operation is showing very vividly to all humanity that without God guiding them the end will be all pain, wars, death and destruction fuelled by hatred instead of love and compassion.**

God will then, under the rule of Jesus Christ, set things right among eventually all human beings and Himself.

The Hebrew word translated *“consumed”* is *“kâlâm”* meaning cease to exist, perish but also finished, complete and prepared, [Malachi 3:6].

Prepared for what?

A place in the Kingdom of God, that Jesus Christ preached at His First Coming, as a created child of God.

Also the gift of eternal life, [Romans 6:23] a time when we can have an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ and God the Father, [John 17:3].

But this is a relationship we can begin to enjoy now, [1 John 5:11] when we respond to and seek to obey the words of Jesus Christ, [John 6:66-68].

God has **not** given up on humanity, He has **not** turned His back on us, **for He has just started to bring about His glorious plan for our future as human beings to fruition.**

**2 Corinthians 5:17-21** [New King James] *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though*

*God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."*

**Note that every true Christian has a part in God reconciling eventually all humanity to Himself.**

This reconciliation to God is the main thrust of this website, seeking to help all who download and study the articles on it, to come to know God, worship Him in a way that is acceptable to Him, and submit their lives to the Holy Spirit who can help them to develop the "*fruits*" of the Holy Spirit and become beings who are living in His "*likeness*."

This is the message behind **Malachi 3:6**.