

SERIES: Pursuing Spiritual Fitness SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD Tuesday, July 4, 2023 Scripture: Isaiah 6:3 / Leviticus 19:2 / Malachi 3:6 / Hebrews 13:8 / James 1:17 TITLE: God Is Holy and Unchangeable

"The new normal." If you're like me, you don't want to hear that phrase ever again. Why do we feel that way? Because it means change. Most of us don't like change. Change is uncomfortable. Change is often necessary. But for sure, change is inevitable...or is it?

In a world of constant and rapid change, I desire something...no, someone who is unchanging, but unchangeably *good*.

Who is that person? God.

This week, we're asking the questions: Who is God? What is God like? Well, there are two very comforting attributes of God we need to recognize: God is unchangeable and holy. Isaiah 6:3 declares,

"Holy, holy is the LORD of Heaven's Armies! The whole earth is filled with his glory!"

In Leviticus 19:2 God says,

"You must be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy."

Today, we won't talk about holiness very much. You may say, "holy moly," or we hear a variation of that in movies. But holy is an important term. It means set apart – perfect. It's something we have a hard time grasping because we live in a broken, imperfect world.

But in a world of brokenness, there is God who is unbroken, morally perfect, worthy alone of our praise. A very simple way of expressing this is, "God is good." Because He is holy – unlike any other in His perfection, He can be trusted.

This excites me because I am disappointed by my car when it breaks down, my house when the ceiling leaks, my wife when she forgets, or my kids when they disobey.

And what's amazing is God's holiness will never end. That's because God does not change. He is the same today as He was yesterday as he will be forever in the future. In Malachi 3:6 God declared,

"I am the LORD, and I do not change."

Jesus was described in Hebrews 13:8 as,

"...the same yesterday, today, and forever."

James declared in James 1:17 that,

Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow.

I need this truth. The world may change. The world is changing. Politicians come and go. Jobs are stable and then disappear. Family is there until they're not. Churches gather, and then they split. Stocks fall, and then they rise. Health lasts for a season, but all seasons change.

If you hate change and don't like the new normal, cling to God. God is holy, and He will never change. Here's my challenge for you today: Focus on God. Cling to God through His Word.

When my children were young, we would go for walks, but sometimes they became scared in the dark. They crawled in my arms and held tightly to my neck. They would pull away and look at me in the face, and I'd say, focus on me. Nothing out there can harm you. I am here, and I am not going anywhere.

So today, focus on the truth that God is perfect. He will never disappoint you through failure. He will never leave you. And He will never change.

Who is God? What is God like? God is holy and unchanging.

Today, share in the comments below how you're struggling with change and how God's character will help you through it.

I look forward to chatting with you soon.