

Genesis Can You + I Get The Man To Change His Mind? ①

18:22-33

Religious position - No because God doesn't. He's not confused or double minded. He has clear vision into the future and changing one's mind is a characteristic of fallen humanity.

Wrong!

Calvinist position - Set forth by John Calvin during the Protestant Reformation. The essence + core of 5 point Calvinism is that all things that happen or will happen, have been pre-planned, pre-destined + decided in advance by God's sovereignty. Since God's sovereignty cannot be changed neither can God's purpose. Since His sovereignty is ^{an} immutable characteristic of God, so must be the plans of God that are the outgrowth or result of His immutable sovereignty. Wrong! Mostly right, but still wrong. This position doesn't take into account several Biblical accounts and teachings that display to us instances where God not only changes His mind, but gives man a conditional incentive, to get man to take the first step on how to accomplish this.

Reluctant Biblical position - As a rule God does not change His mind too often. But God does change His mind as an incentive. Often in order to exact change, He invites us to provoke Him to change. This is an invitation that should both honor us and encourage us.

Genesis 18:22-33.

Examples: Genesis 6:7, Exodus 32:14, 1 Samuel 15:11, Psalm 106:45, Hosea 11:8, Jonah 3:9, Joel 2:13. (All O.T. examples)

Usually God changes or reluctant our purposes + evil. Why? Since He has no evil, He must use Satan or collaborate with Satan to bring about evil, since Satan is its author. God

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despiser doing any kind of spiritual business with the devil, ~~so~~ but uses him if & when necessary. God is not enthusiastic to use the devil, unless he has to.

Close - N.T. application. Mark 10:46-52. ~~Mark 10:46-52~~ Matt: 15:21-28.

We can through faith & repentance change God's mind. There are our 2 main tools to get the job done. Isa. 1:18. Reasoning with God often allows God to relent, when He chooses to do so.