

GOD IS EMOTIONAL

Even though God is unchanging (immutable) in His attributes, He retains the power, ability, and willingness to make changes in Himself. The Eternal Son of God had only the divine nature before the incarnation. After the incarnation, Jesus has two natures. The nature of man in its purest form, and the divine nature of God. This change within God Himself is a tremendous change and the Bible says that Jesus will retain His two natures and His physical human glorified body forever. God took great measures to ensure that His eternal plan and purpose for His creation will be fulfilled. God's purpose and plans are unchanging. It is certain that God's unchanging plans for the new creation in Christ will be eternally fulfilled. The classical definition of God's immutability does not agree with the Bible's description of God. The classical definition says "immutability means God does not change in any way". Neither does the classical definition of impassibility agree with the Bible's description of God. The classical definition of impassibility says God does not experience emotional change in any way.

Even though God cannot experience pain or self destructive acts, He did allow the incarnate physical body of Jesus to experience pain, sorrow, emotions, and physical death. God did not die, but the physical body of Jesus died for the purpose of condemning sin to the utmost and giving Jesus the right to remove sin and make new creations of those who respond to God in the proper Way. Romans 8:3

Even though God is unchanging, He still creates new things and will continue to create throughout eternity. It is true that the only thing we know of God creating at the present time are new creations in Christ. But we know that God does destroy at His discretion and for His eternal purpose. We know that God will eventually destroy all sin and death in the Lake of Fire. We know that God will eventually bring this creation to an end, and create a New Heaven and a New Earth. We know that God is now creating the New Jerusalem for the saints. Revelation 20-22 John 14

God made man in His image. Humanity experiences emotions. God having emotions toward His created beings does not necessarily require that God is damaged by His creation. God having emotions does not make God a sinner. The fruits of the Spirit are good and cause us to experience emotions. Anger is emotional just as love, joy, and sadness. God is unchangeably wise, loving, merciful, good, and gracious toward sinners, but angry toward sin. God's wrath is poured out upon sin in that Jesus gained the right, by His sinless physical death, to destroy sin, death, and all evil principalities and

powers. God does elicit emotions even before the incarnation of the Son of God. When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it (Jonah 3:10). God was grieved in His heart over the wickedness of men (Genesis 6:6). God does experience emotions and pleasure and sorrow from the actions of His created beings.

The classical definitions of God's immutability (totally unchanging) and impassibility (no emotion of pleasure or sorrow) do not agree with the Bible's description of God.

While our emotions can lead to sin, God's emotions are always righteous and come from His redemptive desire toward humanity. God's emotions are always perfect. God's passions are not changed by our actions. God's passion includes a strong enthusiasm and commitment to fulfilling His purposes for us. God's passion for the redeemed is not changed by our level of righteousness at the moment. Our security does not depend on our obedience but on God's unchanging love toward His children in Christ. God's passion is redemptive, and God's emotions are always redemptive in nature. The reason Jesus became incarnate, in human flesh, was to rescue us from and destroy the works of the Devil. Jesus gained the rights over sin and death removal by allowing sin to kill His human body which was sinless. Sin was condemned to eventual extermination when it killed Jesus. The court of heaven has declared Jesus worthy to remove all sin and death from creation. This victory was a complete surprise to Satan because he would not have killed the Son of God if he knew the results would be his downfall. "None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have killed the Son of God." 1 Corinthians 2:8 Satan is the prince of the power of the air.

God is passionate in His plan of redemption. Jesus allowed Himself to experience sorrow, pain, suffering, and physical death in order to rescue people from Satan's dominion. "Do you think that I have pleasure in seeing wicked people die? " says the Sovereign LORD. "Of course not! I want them to turn from their wicked ways and live." Ezekiel 18:23 God's good pleasure is in the work of Christ which brings about His offspring of righteousness. Isaiah 53:10 Jesus united His divine nature with all aspects of humanity including mind, body, soul, will, emotions, and passions. Jesus brings healing to all aspects of human nature for those who believe in Him. The shed blood of Jesus, condemning sin, makes this healing possible, and His life giving Spirit makes this a reality in the "new creation", the regenerated person. We are saved by His life. Romans 5:10 We are reconciled by His death, we are saved by His life.

