



The Immutability of Grace

Focus Our right-standing before God that comes by grace through faith will never change because it's based on Jesus' righteousness, which never changes.

Open Where or when do you feel most secure? Why?

Read Hebrews 6:13–20 describes how God came to Abraham to create a covenant of blessing with him. This covenant wasn't based on Abraham's deeds, but on God's eternal promise and unchangeable nature and extends to all of Abraham's heirs.

As Christians, we are the heirs of Abraham and are therefore subject to the covenant that God created with him. But Hebrews 6:17 says that God wants to show us *even more* that the foundation of His promise towards us is immutable—incapable of change, uncontestable, unchallengeable, absolute. We can live in the confidence that the manner in which God relates to each of us will never, ever change.

Talk 1. What is the difference between a covenant and a contract? Why is it especially important to understand the difference between the two in this context?

God's grace is based upon two immutable, unchangeable truths: 1) that Jesus is our High Priest forever; and, 2) He is our Mediator of the New Covenant forever. Hebrews 6:19 says these truths are "*as an anchor of the soul.*"

2. What was the role of a priest in the Old Testament?
3. According to Hebrews 10:11–12, what is different about Jesus' priesthood?
4. Read Hebrews 9:11–15 aloud in a few different translations. Hebrews says Jesus is the Mediator of "*a better covenant*." In what way(s) is it better? What distinguishes it from the old covenant?
5. What are "dead works" (referred to in verse 14)?
6. How are these two truths an *anchor of the soul*? What does that mean to you?

Live

1. Reflecting just to yourself, consider the following:
 - Jesus, as your High Priest, has washed away all your prior and future sins.
 - Your position before God is forever ensured by His perfect sacrifice.
 - This covenant, based on God's promise and Jesus' sacrifice (not your works), will *never* change.

On a piece of paper or in a notebook, write a response to the Lord. You could write a letter of thanks and praise, write down a few words that come to mind, write a prayer of commitment, create a poem, etc.

Pray

Thank the Lord for His covenant with you, based not on your works but on Jesus' sacrifice. Thank Him for always extending His goodness to you, even though you've never deserved it. Ask Him to show you if you are in any way trying to earn His love or acceptance.