

8 Things God Cannot Do: Understanding the Power and Perfection of God

When people think about God, many assume that because He is all-powerful, He can do absolutely anything. People believe God can intervene in history, answer prayers, heal the sick, and accomplish things beyond natural explanation.

But did you know that there are actually some things God cannot do?

These limitations are not weaknesses. Rather, they reveal His perfection, holiness, and unchanging nature. God's inability to do certain things is precisely what makes Him trustworthy.

Here are eight things God cannot do according to Scripture.

1. God Cannot Lie

God cannot lie because lying would contradict His perfect nature. Falsehood is an imperfection, and God is absolutely perfect.

Because God never changes, He can never depart from His character.

Hebrews 13:8 *"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."*

Because God cannot lie, believers can have confidence in His promises.

Hebrews 7:25 *"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."*

Since God always speaks truth, His Word can be trusted completely.

2. God Cannot Fail

Throughout history, God has demonstrated His faithfulness by fulfilling His promises.

Scholars estimate that hundreds of Old Testament prophecies concerning Jesus Christ were fulfilled during His earthly ministry. Many of those prophecies were written centuries before His birth.

Isaiah 53 (Written Approximately 700 Years Before Christ)

Isaiah 53:5 *"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."*

Isaiah 53:10 *"Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin..."*

Isaiah 53:12 *"And he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors."*

Psalms 22 (Written Centuries Before Crucifixion)

Psalms 22:16 *"They pierced my hands and my feet."*

Psalms 22:18 *"They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture."*

Because God's Word has proven true in the past, believers can trust that every promise yet to be fulfilled will also come to pass.

God Himself declared that His Word will accomplish His purposes and will not return void.

God cannot fail.

3. God Cannot Change

God declares Himself to be eternal and unchanging.

Revelation 1:8 *"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."*

Hebrews 13:8 *"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."*

Because God does not change, neither do His:

- Character
- Holiness
- Truth
- Promises
- Purpose

In a world where culture constantly changes and truth is often redefined, believers can stand firmly upon God's unchanging Word and upon Jesus Christ, who is the Rock that never moves.

4. God Cannot Forsake Those Who Belong to Him

Because God cannot lie, fail, or change, believers can rest in His promises.

Isaiah 41:10 *"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God..."*

Romans 8:28 *"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God..."*

Proverbs 3:5-6 *"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding..."*

Psalms 145:14 *"The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down."*

Even when believers stumble, God's grace remains available.

1 John 1:9 *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

God does not abandon His people.

5. God Cannot Stop Loving You

Scripture plainly states:

"God is love."

Love is not merely something God does—it is part of who He is.

This is why God sent His only begotten Son into the world.

1 John 4:19 *"We love him, because he first loved us."*

Many ask, "If God is loving, why is there so much suffering in the world?"

The Bible teaches that humanity's rebellion and sin bring destruction and misery. God did not create evil desires within mankind. Instead, Christ came to save people from sin and reconcile them to God.

Proverbs 14:12 *"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."*

God's love is demonstrated in His desire to rescue humanity through Jesus Christ.

6. God Cannot Violate Human Free Will

God created mankind with the ability to choose.

Deuteronomy 30:19 *"I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life..."*

God desires willing obedience, not forced obedience.

John 7:17 *"If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine..."*

From the beginning, Adam and Eve were given a choice.

The same principle applies today. Every person must decide whether to accept God's offer of salvation or reject it.

God does not force anyone to follow Him.

7. God Cannot Tolerate Sin

Because God is perfectly holy and perfectly just, sin stands opposed to His nature.

God does not approve of sin, nor can He ignore it.

Yet in His mercy, He restrains immediate judgment to give people opportunity to repent.

The standard of God's holiness is perfection.

Unfortunately, mankind cannot achieve perfection through human effort.

That is why Jesus Christ came into the world. He fulfilled the Law perfectly and offered Himself as the spotless sacrifice for sin.

1 Peter 1:19 *"But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."*

Through Christ, sinners can be reconciled to God.

8. God Cannot Be Unfair or Partial

God is no respecter of persons.

Earthly distinctions mean nothing before Him.

Rich or poor, Jew or Gentile, young or old, every person stands equally before God.

1 Samuel 16:7 *"For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."*

Proverbs 21:2 *"Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the Lord pondereth the hearts."*

Jeremiah 17:10 *"I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways."*

God judges righteously because He sees what man cannot see.

Final Thoughts

The things God cannot do are not weaknesses. They are expressions of His perfection.

Because God cannot lie, you can trust His promises.

Because God cannot fail, you can trust His plans.

Because God cannot change, you can rely on His truth.

Because God cannot stop loving you, there is hope.

And because Jesus Christ came to bear our sins and reconcile us to God, salvation remains available to all who come to Him by faith.

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." — Hebrews 13:8