



January 1, 2012  
Pastor June Barrow

**Love God.  
Love each other.  
Serve the world.**

## **“God’s Character Is Unchanging”**

### **Exodus 3:13-15**

*Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?” God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’ “This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.”*

### **Exodus 34:5-8**

*Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.” Moses bowed to the ground at once and worshiped.*

# Sermon Notes

## God's Character Is Unchanging

### **James 1:17**

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

### **Psalms 33:11**

But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

### **Isaiah 40:6-8**

All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.

### **Hebrews 13:8**

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

### **Philippians 1:3, 6**

I thank my God every time I remember you. ...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

## **God's Character and Our Prayers**

“You and I may take hold at anytime upon the justice, mercy, faithfulness, wisdom, longsuffering, or tenderness of God, and we shall find every attribute of the Most High to be, as it were, a great battering ram with which we may open the gates of heaven.” -Charles Spurgeon

### **Genesis 18:25**

Abraham prayed: “Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

### **Habakkuk 1:13**

Habakkuk prayed: “Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; You cannot tolerate wrong. Why then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves?”

### **Psalms 25:6-7**

David prayed: “Remember, O Lord, Your great mercy and love, for they are from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to Your love remember me, for You are good, O Lord.”

Hold on to the character of God. Consider His justice, His mercy and compassion, His wisdom and perfection, His faithfulness and endurance, His strength and might, His purity and holiness, His tenderness and kindness. Consider His unchanging character, His faithfulness in promise keeping, and His eternal decrees. The Lord will have His way and His way is perfect and good.

## **A Morning Prayer**

*I will awaken the dawn. I will praise you, O Lord. -Psalm 108:2-3*

Awake, my soul, and with the sun thy daily stage of duty run;  
Shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise, to pay thy morning sacrifice.

By influence of the Light divine let thy own light to others shine.  
Reflect all Heaven's propitious ways in ardent love, and cheerful praise.

Lord, I my vows to Thee renew; disperse my sins as morning dew.  
Guard my first springs of thought and will, and with Thyself my spirit fill.

Direct, control, suggest, this day, all I design, or do, or say,  
That all my powers, with all their might, in Thy sole glory may unite.

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures  
here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy  
Ghost.

## **An Evening Prayer**

*At night His song is with me... -Psalm 42:8*

Glory to thee, my God, this night, for all the blessings of the light;  
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings, under the shadow of thy wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son, the sins that I this day have done;  
That with the world, myself, and thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

O may my soul on thee repose, and with sweet sleep mine eyelids  
close; Sleep that may me more vig'rous make, to serve my God, when I  
awake.

When in the night I sleepless lie, my soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;  
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest, no powers of darkness me molest.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, praise him, all creatures  
here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy  
Ghost.

***These two prayers were written by Thomas Ken, a British pastor,  
in 1670. The last verse is the Doxology which congregations world  
-wide have sung ever since.***