

Some Things NEVER Change

- *Hebrews 13:8*

- We live in a world where there is constant change. From the economy to technology to fads to politicians, things are constantly changing all around us.
 - Surroundings
 - Gas Prices
 - Computers
 - Stock Market
 - Laws
 - People
 - Fans
 - Health
 - Relationships
 - Politicians
- In a world where there is so much change, it can often times be discouraging to us and also limits us as to what we can put our trust in.
- Hebrews 13:8 – “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”
 - I am so thankful that we have a Savior that we as Christians can truly sink our complete trust and faith in. He will NEVER change.
 - The same Savior Who died for our sins is the same Friend who sticks closer than a brother today, and He is the same Coming King Who will rapture us from this old place of torment one day where we will live with Him forever and worship Him in Heaven, AMEN!
- As we look at the Scriptures, not only will Jesus NEVER change, we also find some other things that we can trust will NEVER change.

1) God's Word

a) It is Complete.

- i) Psalm 119:160 – “Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.”
- ii) Psalm 119:89 – “For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.”
 - (1) We have a lot of religions in the world today, even some so called Christian churches who will take what they want from the Bible & leave the part they don't agree with out. Regardless of what they like or don't like, it doesn't change the Word of God.
 - (2) Some believe that it is important to add their own doctrine or beliefs to the Bible, but God does not need our opinion, His Word IS complete.

b) It is Eternal.

- i) Isaiah 40:8 – “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.”
 - (1) Voltaire, the famous French philosopher, was a profound atheist. He wrote a number of papers condemning the Bible. He once made a very bold statement: “One hundred years from today the Bible will be a forgotten book.”
 - (2) Voltaire died in 1778 & very few today know of him, yet the Word of God continues to stand firm.
- ii) I Peter 1:25a – “But the word of the Lord endureth for ever.”
- iii) Matthew 24:35 – “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”
 - (1) Just b/c they come out with another translation does not mean that the Bible has changed, it just means men's interpretation has changed. God's Word will never change!

- (2) Some feel that the times have changed and the Bible is much too hard to live by today. They say, "It was written hundreds of years ago. We just don't live in the same type of world."
- (3) To that I will say this. Though the times surely has changed, one thing that has not changed is God's Word.
 - (a) If the Bible says it was sin 100 years ago, it is still sin today.
 - (b) If God commanded His people to live holy & separated lives back then, the same command is for us today.
 - (c) The same Satan that Peter talks about that is out to destroy us in the NT era is the Satan that continues to seek to destroy us today.
- (4) God's Word will NEVER change!
- iv) You want something you can depend on? You want something that you can rely on? You need something you can put your trust in? You can rely on the Word of God b/c it is complete and eternal & it will never fail you.

2) God's View of Sin

a) It is STILL WRONG!

- i) The leaders, pop stars & celebrities of today have convinced us that things are really not black & white like they use to be.
 - (1) There's too much "gray" in our society today.
- ii) We live in a society that is aiming to become politically correct & in essence they have proven to be scripturally wrong in many cases.
 - (1) We can no longer call a person who drinks alcohol a drunkard anymore b/c we don't want to offend him.
 - (a) We send him to AA so that we can change his habits, when what he needs to do is accept Christ and change his heart.
 - (2) We can no longer call a person who desires relationships with the same sex a homosexual anymore, instead now they should have the freedom to choose.
 - (3) We cant even call a person a liar for telling lies or call pornography a sin b/c that would be judging them.
- iii) Well my friend, let me tell you this morning, I am a young, old-fashioned preacher OK. I am narrow-minded at times (you can blame that on Preacher Earl), but I believe if God called it sin way back then, IT IS STILL SIN TODAY!
 - (1) If God says we are to abstain from things in our life in His Word, then we ought to do it today as well.
 - (2) If you are addicted to alcohol in your life, we love you & we will do our best to help you, but you need to get your heart right, repent from your sins & turn to God.
 - (3) If you are a homosexual, God still calls it sin and you need to turn from today.
 - (4) If drugs are controlling your life today, the Bible commands us that there shall be no other god before Him. What you are doing is sin.
 - (5) If you lie, if you cheat, if you steal, if you lust, if you don't obey your parents, the Bible still says even today that it is SIN!

iv) What I am getting at is it is not God's view of sin that has changed, . . .

b) It is our view that has changed.

- i) We have tried to comfort our conscious by saying, "But look at all of the good things I do." Friend you are still a sinner.
- ii) We have tried to soothe our soul over the sins in our life with our tithing statement or our church attendance or our good deeds.
- iii) No longer is living a separated life (which is exactly what God calls us to do) our goal, now we are content just to live a life "better than most".
 - (1) We compare ourselves with other sinners instead of with a Holy God.

(2) Instead of living so close to the world that our closest friends don't even know we go to church, why don't we start living a holy life, "acceptable unto God" instead of the world?

(a) Romans 12:1 – "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."

iv) What are we teaching our children? Is it more important that they are accepted by the friends or that they live a life acceptable unto God?

(1) They will not just automatically choose to live for God. We as parents must lead in the way that they should go.

(a) Proverbs 22:6 – "Train up a child in the way he should go:"

(2) Do you know what our kids and teenagers need? They need some Moms & Dads, Grandmas & Grandpas, SS Teachers & church members to invest some time into their lives and teach them the ways of God.

(3) If we don't spend some time with them, there is a world of sinful people just waiting to influence them, and they will.

3) The Consequences of Sin

a) Bondage

i) Sin unchecked and unconfessed in your life will eventually enslave you as well.

(1) John 8:34 – "Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin."

ii) Of course when you talk to a person about habitual sin in their life, they always respond with "I can control it."

(1) Can the slave choose to live his own life and do as he desires? No, he must do what the master commands.

(2) Can the prisoner come and go as he pleases? No b/c he has sacrificed his freedom though the wrong he has done.

iii) So are we when we continue to play with sin in our lives, instead of us controlling it, we soon become controlled ourselves.

b) Blinding

i) Once who have been bound by sin for so long, you begin to be blinded to the things of God:

(1) His love

(2) Forgiveness

(3) Holy living

(4) Blessings of God

(5) Freedom

ii) And then you become blinded even of your own sins:

(1) John 3:19 – "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."

iii) It is our nature to sin, not to do good, and for that reason we strive to justify our sins when we fall.

(1) My sins are not that bad.

(2) We believe just b/c others do not know that God does not know.

(3) We don't really believe that God will judge us as long as we do more good than bad.

(4) It's my life, I deserve to do what I want to do.

(a) First of all, its not your life. God has given this life to you.

(b) And second of all, you may do whatever you want to do, but the Bible says there is something else that will NEVER change . . .

c) Penalty

- i) For those that never call upon Christ, for those who though they have heard the Gospel message time and time again and have continued to reject Him, you will be judged.
- ii) For those that laugh and say that God loves them too much to send them to Hell, you will be judged.
- iii) For the one who had rather live for himself, indulge in the sins of this world and reject the gift of God, you will be judged.

(1) Galatians 6:7 – “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

(a) We live in our sin, ignore God, don’t come to church, don’t try to learn more about Him, we don’t give Him the time of day . . . and then we find ourselves in trouble. Then we want people to pray for us.

(b) Folks don’t care anything about God until they get caught or get into trouble, and then they ask for prayer or call on God. Why? Too many times they just want God to bail them out.

(2) Ecclesiastes 11:9 – “Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.”

- iv) Well I will tell you this my friend, you can ignore the warnings of God upon your conscious, you can laugh and believe that you will get away with it, you can even fool your own self into believing that you can do enough good to get to Heaven on your own, but without the blood of Christ to cover your sins, there will be penalty to pay and that penalty is eternity in Hell.

4) God’s Pardon For Sin (God’s Love For You)

a) Jesus was born to die for you and me

- i) This is where we save the good part for last. The best news for a person sitting here this morning who does not know Christ as their Savior is that they don’t have to stay in bondage in their sins any longer, AMEN!
- ii) Jesus came to this earth to die for every single person.
- iii) He came to die so that we might live!

b) There’s just one way

- i) Don’t be confused into the teachings of others by believing that you can do enough to save yourselves.

(1) You must remember, we are the ones in bondage, we are the slaves.

(2) Who is it that can free the slave?

(a) Not the slave.

(b) Not the family member of a slave.

(c) Not even your good behavior and your good deeds as a slave.

(3) It is ONLY the Bondsman who can free the slave.

(a) Jesus became our Bondsmen, our Savior, our Redeemer when He gave of His life on the cross of Calvary and took our sins upon Himself.

(b) He did that for you and for me b/c He loved us.

(c) It is ONLY THROUGH HIM that we can see Heaven and have eternal life.

(i) John 14:6 – “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

(d) That fact has NEVER changed and WILL NEVER change. He is the ONLY way.