

the unchangeable in a changing world

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. heb 13:8

changes often enters our life suddenly, unexpected. when that happens it can be overwhelming, confusing, even terrifying. we can go to bed at night to one reality and wake up to a completely different life. change can make us feel lost and abandoned, like we've been tossed overboard in the midst of a storm. we're left reeling, trying to grab a hold of anything we can find that's strong and stable. we're tempted to run from change, as though we could ever escape it.

it's then we must be confident there is One thing that never changes - Jesus Christ. as we all encounter major changes in our individual lives, and as the world around us continues to change, we need to anchor our trust in Him. we need somewhere to stand when we wake up to news that a loved one has passed away, or our job is in jeopardy, or the last candidate we would want was elected into office. the truth is, there is one thing that never changes, the one thing that stays the same: our unchanging God.

the bible tells us that God never changes. "for I the Lord do not change; therefore you, o children of Jacob, are not consumed." mal 3:6 there is no transition, inconsistency, or change in our God. the same God who spun this massive blue marble into space is the same One who met moses on mount sinai. the same God who forgave david for his adultery is the one who crushed his own Son when Christ became sin at the cross for us.

"therefore consider the goodness and severity of God."  
rom 11:22

yesterday, today, and forever he is the God who is  
"gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in  
steadfast love. the Lord is good to all, and his mercy  
is over all that he has made." psa 145:8-9 but there  
is a "fullness" of sin and God may then release His  
hold upon you.

because God never changes, his Word never changes. all  
that He has said about Himself remains true forever.  
everything He has told us about why and how the world  
came to be, about what's wrong with the world, and  
about what He has done to save the world will never  
change. no matter what anyone may say. no matter how  
society seeks to change the laws of nature. no matter  
who denies or defies God's word, it remains firmly  
fixed. "forever, o Lord, your Word is settled in  
heaven." psa 119:89 "heaven and earth will pass away,  
but my words will by no means pass away." matt 24:35

and because His Word never changes, His promises for us  
who believe remain true. we will endure to inherit the  
promise.

"for i am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels  
nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor  
powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all  
creation, will be able to separate us from the love of  
God in Christ Jesus our Lord." rom 8:38-39

"and i am sure of this, that he who began a good work  
in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus

Christ." phil 1:6

"fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." isa 41:10

His Word is our rock and anchor. the unchanging nature of God and his unchangeable Word are real things on which we can stake our life. it is a rock big enough and strong enough for us to build upon, and an anchor big enough and strong enough to hold our souls in the midst of life's waves and storms.

because of these truths, when everything in life seems flipped upside down, we can say with the psalmist, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling." psa 46:1-3

things will continue to change – in the world around us and in our lives. some of those changes will feel like a tiny ripple, and others feel like a twenty-foot wave. but no matter what changes we face, we need not fear. we need not hide. we need not despair. our rock and anchor is our unchanging God, whose character and promises remain fixed forever. now that's something to build on!