

THAT WHICH DOES NOT CHANGE *Billy Bland*

TEXT:

“For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed” (Malachi 3:6).

INTRODUCTION:

- 1) We live in a world of change.
 - (1) Think how things have changed in the past 100 years.
 - (2) Automobiles, travel, space ships, etc
- 2) Some changes are good (benefit to man).
 - (1) Improvements in medicine
 - (2) Technology: Communication, etc (Gospel spread through such means).
- 3) Some things do not change & should not,
 - (1) “My son, fear thou the LORD and the king: and meddle not with them that are given to change:” (Proverbs 24:21).
 - (2) Penicillin fights infection.
 - (3) Oxygen, food, always needed.
 - (4) In a world of change, we need assurance of stability (reliability).

I. GOD DOES NOT CHANGE

- 1) “For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed” (Malachi 3:6).
- 2) “...for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee” (Hebrews 13:5) (eternal).
- 3) God will always be God. Can rely on God.
 - (1) “Jehovah is my shepherd; I shall not want” (Psalm 23:1).
 - (2) “Be ye free from the love of money; content with such things as ye have: for himself hath said, I will in no wise fail thee, neither will I in any wise forsake thee. So that with good courage we say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear: What shall man do unto me?” (Hebrews 13:5-6).
 - (3) “Pure religion and undefiled before our God and Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world” (James 1:27).

II. GOD'S WORD DOES NOT CHANGE

- 1) “For the word of Jehovah is right; And all his work is done in faithfulness” (Psalm 33:4); (will always be right).

2) Not saying hasn't been change in law.

(1) "For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law" (Hebrews 7:12).

(2) But will always be right.

3) Man tries to alter it - won't work.

(1) "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matthew 24:35).

(2) "Seeing ye have purified your souls in your obedience to the truth unto unfeigned love of the brethren, love one another from the heart fervently: having been begotten again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, through the word of God, which liveth and abideth" (1Peter 1:22-23).

(3) "The sum of thy word is truth; And every one of thy righteous ordinances endureth for ever" (Psalm 119:160).

III. MAN'S NEED FOR THE WORD OF GOD DOESN'T CHANGE

l) Just as man physically will always need certain things, so does his soul. (food)

(1) "But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4).

(2) "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6).

(3) "How sweet are thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!" (Psalm 119:103).

IV. SIN HASN'T CHANGED

l) Sin is transgression of God's law.

(1) "Every one that doeth sin doeth also lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness"

(2) "Every one that doeth sin doeth also lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness" (1Jn 3:4).

(3) "for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God;"(Romans 3:23).

(4) "For the wages of sin is death; but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

(5) "He said therefore again unto them, I go away, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sin: whither I go, ye cannot come" (John 8:21).

3) Avenue of sin.

(1) "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him" (1John 3:15).

(2) Mainly has problems with these three sins.

3) May be more ways Satan enters than these three ways - but still avenue of sin.

(1) "Be subject therefore unto God; but resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

(2) "Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve" (Matthew 4:10).

V. THE DEVIL HASN'T CHANGED.

1) "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father it is your will to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and standeth not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father thereof" (John 8:44).

2) Still is man's adversary.

(1) "Be sober, be watchful: your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour," (1Peter 5:8).

(2) "that no advantage may be gained over us by Satan: for we are not ignorant of his devices" (2Corinthians 2:11).

VI. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST HAS NOT CHANGED.

1) The one in the Bible!

2) Man wants to change the church.

3) Church has same Head (Jesus Christ). "and he put all things in subjection under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all" (Ephesians 1:22-23).

4) Still the pillar and ground of the truth. "but if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how men ought to behave themselves in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" (1Timothy 3:15).

5) Still only one way to get into Christ's church. "For in one Spirit were we all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether bond or free; and were all made to drink of one Spirit" (1Corinthians 12:13).

CONCLUSION:

1) These have not changed. (repeat points)

2) Man's need of the gospel hasn't changed.

(1) "For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Romans 1:16).

(2) "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned" (Mark 16:15-16).

(3) "and to you that are afflicted rest with us, at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with the angels of his power in flaming fire, rendering vengeance to them that know not God, and to them that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus: who shall suffer punishment, even eternal destruction from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his might," (2Thessalonians 1:7-9).

3) The only remedy for sin is the Gospel.

