

SERMON: HE'S STILL DOING IT

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

Introduction

Do you ever feel like the world is shifting and swirling so fast that it is different from one day to the next? It is simply a fact that we live in an age where everything seems to be changing right before our eyes. Someone said that technology develops so quickly that when you buy a device or order it online it is outdated when you take it out of the box. Not only is technology changing, but we are seeing society and culture change in numerous ways. Some of these changes are for the betterment of humankind, but many, according to our Christian standards, are detrimental to our wellbeing.

The recognition of change and whether to embrace, ignore, or reject it has been with humans since the beginning of time. The Greek philosopher, Heraclitus was engrossed with the study of change. He made a statement that seems so obvious to us today: "Everything is constantly changing." (Every beginning philosophy student likes to quote the phrase in the original Greek: *Panta Rhei*.) He was disagreeing with another philosopher, Parmenides, who said nothing really changes and what looks like change is really only an illusion. Some believe that Heraclitus went a bit too far when he said, "No man ever steps into the same river twice, for it is not the same river and he is not the same man."

You don't have to be a meteorologist to know when it is raining and you don't have to be a philosopher to know that things are changing. Change is even changing. It is accelerating. It is moving faster and faster. We all know that the pandemic accelerated some contemporary trends. Kingfish of the now anachronistic sitcom was on point when he said, "Andy, stop getting upset about all of this new stuff, because change is here to stay. It ain't going nowhere."

In our text Paul ends this letter like he did most of them with a series of bullet points. He tells the recipients to honor their leaders. Then he implies that leaders - no matter how spiritual or efficient - come and go, but Jesus remains and is unchanging. In the midst of our ever-changing world, it is good to remember that there is one thing that never changes – and that is Jesus Christ our Savior. He is still doing what He has always done.

Paul proclaimed that Jesus is the same yesterday and today and forever. This means that He will continue to be in the present what He was in the past and that we can

depend upon Him to be in the future what He has been in the past and what He is now. “He is still in the blessing business and He ain’t about to quit no time soon.” Let’s look at a few of the many good things Jesus is still doing. I am certain that you can think of many, many more.

Exposition

1. He Is Still Answering Prayers.

2. He Is Still Working Miracles.

3. He Still Loves Us With Unconditional And Inseparable Love.

Closing Thoughts

Here is a beautiful paradox. The unchanging Christ can change our lives and allow us to thrive in abundance forever. Let me say that again: The unchanging Christ can change our lives and allow us to thrive in abundance forever. If you have not accepted Him as your Lord and Savior, please do so right now. Give God Glory! Give God All The Glory.

Related Scripture

Malachi 3:6

End Note

There are questions about who penned the book of Hebrews. I believe it was Apostle Paul for many reasons. One reason is how he closed the book. Most of Paul’s epistles ended with a series of what we now call bullet points. These bullet points deal with a wide range of subjects. The book of Hebrews follows that pattern. Some scholars believe he used bullets points because he was running out of space on the document and had to condense the information and cram it in. (Paper/papyrus was very expensive at that time.) Others believe he suffered from Attention Deficit Disorder and his thoughts drifted. If that is the case, it proves that God can use each of us in spite of our struggles and challenges.

**Copyright © 2023 by James C. Ward
All Rights Reserved**