

# CHANGED INTO THE IMAGE OF AN UNCHANGEABLE GOD

(2 Cor 3:18 KJV) But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

(1 John 3:2 KJV) Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

(Jer 13:23 KJV) Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.

## I. THINGS ARE EVER CHANGING.

- A. *Everything is constantly changing. Begin changing day you were born.*
- B. *Information becomes almost outdated by the time it is released.*
- C. *Hairstyles; clothing styles; lifestyles are constantly changing.*
- D. *By the time you learn how to do something, you have to learn it a different way.*
- E. *Most pronounced changes in shortest period of time in history.*
  - 1. In one lifetime, man goes from farming with mules to going to the moon.
  - 2. Proliferation of modern inventions.
- F. *The computer age.*
  - 1. The age of the superhighway of information.
  - 2. The Magellan system of geographical location.

## II. MAN SEEKS THE UNCHANGEABLE; THE UNMOVEABLE.

## III. THINGS THAT REMAIN CONSTANT.

- A. *God.*
  - 1. (Mal 3:6 KJV) For I am the LORD, I change not...
  - 2. (Heb 13:8 KJV) Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.
- B. *The Word of God.*
  - 1. (Mat 24:35 KJV) Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.
  - 2. (Psa 119:89 KJV) For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.
- C. *Principles of God's Word.*
  - 1. His word is forever settled in heaven.
  - 2. Law of Seedtime and Harvest.
    - a. (Gen 8:22 KJV) While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.
    - b. (2 Cor 9:6 KJV) But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.
    - c. (Gal 6:7 KJV) Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for

whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

- D. ***God's love for us.***
- E. ***God's Plan and Purpose.***
- F. ***Man.*** (Customs and cultures differ, but man is still the same).
  - 1. The basic nature of man.
  - 2. Man's needs.
    - a. Food, shelter, clothing.
    - b. To be loved; respected; appreciated.
    - c. Need for a savior.

#### IV. THE MAJOR CHANGES WE NEED.

- A. ***The rebirth.***
  - 1. We are new creatures.(2 Cor 5:17 KJV) Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
  - 2. The things we once loved we now hate.
- B. ***Changed into His likeness.***
  - 1. Changed into same image. (2 Cor 3:18 KJV) But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.
  - 2. Conformed into His image.(Rom 8:29 KJV) For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
  - 3. When we see Him, we shall be like Him.(1 John 3:2 KJV) Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.
- C. ***The Final Change.*** (1 Cor 15:51 KJV) Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, We shall be changed. (1 Cor 15:52 KJV) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

#### V. HINDRANCES TO CHANGE.

- A. ***Power of the flesh.***
  - 1. (Rom 7:19 KJV) For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.
  - 2. (Rom 7:24 KJV) O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?
- B. ***We enjoy our misery.***
- C. ***Change demands responsibility.***
  - 1. Change can be painful.

2. We would to God we were still in Egypt.

VI. DISSATISFACTION GREATEST MOTIVATION FOR CHANGE.

- A. *I don't like myself, but I'm going to do something about it.*
- B. *I'm tired of my circumstances.*
  1. Tired of being defeated.
  2. Tired of being broke.
  3. Tired of being sick.

VII. WE CANNOT CHANGE OURSELVES.

- A. *Can a leopard change his spots?* (Jer 13:23 KJV) Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.
- B. *Change must be inward.*
- C. *Man cannot change the world.*
- D. *We make the choice--God makes the changes.*

VIII. THE PROCESS OF CHANGE.

- A. *Deeds - acting.* We're looking for change of behavior.
- B. *Words - speaking.*
  1. Changed behavior comes from changed talk.
  2. (Prov 15:4 KJV) A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.
  3. (Prov 18:21 KJV) Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.
  4. (1 Pet 3:10 KJV) For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:
- C. *Thoughts--thinking.*
  1. Changed speaking comes from changed thinking.
  2. As a man thinketh in his heart so is he.
  3. Be ye transformed (or changed) by the renewing of your mind.
  4. (Phil 4:8 KJV) Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

IX. BISHOP HUSKINS.

- A. Most people do not like change, but that does not diminish the need for change. We must change our attitudes and our actions. We must change our structure and our form. We must change our confession. We often confess, "I would never do that." Don't count on it. Change is here to stay!
- B. Many have decided not to move beyond their current borders of safety and comfort, but I tell you, it is an appointed time. Change is in the air. Change is a

process. Change takes time. Change demands your cooperation. The winds of change are blowing all over creation. Do not be afraid, yield to the winds of change.

- C. Each one will face different changes, depending on where you are in the process. Each change will produce challenges. Each challenge will produce courage. Courage will produce more change. The only thing that is here to stay is constant change.

X. WE WILL TO CHANGE.

A. ***We can not change ourselves, but we will to change.***

- 1. Not changed by will power.
- 2. We make the choice; God makes the changes.

B. ***The power of choice.***

C. ***I will arise and go to my father.***

- 1. Choice was made to go into world--paid the consequences.
- 2. Choice was made to return to father.
- 3. Power of asking.