

The Unchangeable in the Ever-changing

Steve Berger March 27, 2016

Things are changing at a mind-numbing pace, in unbelievable ways!

- seeing **technology change** at **unprecedented speeds**
 - **Daniel 12:4**
In the end times many will run to and fro and knowledge will increase.
- seen some of the **largest banks and companies collapse** overnight
- seen **immoveable leaders assassinated and/or removed**, and **governments toppled** overnight
- seen **politicians change positions** too many times to count...
- seen **laws passed in Bible-belt cities that allow men & women** in the same bathrooms
- seen **largest cities rocked by terror**, brought to its **knees in an instant**
- **RESULT** — *of all this change and uncertainty... is everything **from nervousness** about what the future holds, to **outright fear** of what the future holds!*
- **DESIRE** — *of all this rapid change in life is a **safe, secure, stable** future for all!*

Truth of the matter...
I don't know exactly what the future holds
but I know Who holds the future!
He's loving and trustworthy,
He's Jesus!
He reigns over an unshakeable Kingdom!
He's Unchangeable!!!

- **Hebrews 13:8**
Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Five things that are un-changing in an ever-changing world...

God still loves sinners

- **HOPE!** *no matter who you are or what you've done!*
- from demon-possessed prostitutes to angry religious zealots... from the broken, abused and sinful masses to rich and powerful rulers... from the thirsty, unsatisfied and searching to the numb, disillusioned and hopeless... **Jesus loves you!**
- **“whoever”** — one of the greatest words in the Bible — **couldn't be more inclusive**

- **John 3:16**

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

- **Romans 10:13**

For **“WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED.”**

God hasn't changed, He still loves sinners!
Whoever you are, you are loved!

God still hates sin

- **TRUTH — NOT POPULAR, BUT TRUE AND NECESSARY!**

- **Psalm 45:7**

You love righteousness and hate iniquity.

First — must understand something about sin...
all have sinned, all missed mark!

- **Romans 3:23, 6:23**

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God... the wages of sin is death...

- His **love** for us **doesn't condone or affirm** our sin, His **love saves** us and **empowers** us to be **free from sin's slavery** — so **eternal separation, and eternal, spiritual death don't destroy us**.

- one of the most **deceptive lies** being told today is that **God's love allows me to stay in my sin**... No, God loves you too much to let you stay in sins' disastrous consequences.

God hasn't changed,
He still hates sin
because it causes separation and death!

- **2 Peter 3:9**

...not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

God still commands all men to repent

- **UNCHANGING TRUTH — REPENT AND CHANGE DIRECTION!**

- Paul preached to a crowd and culture in Athens that was always wanting to hear and say something new, always changing, abundance of idols, even one **“to the unknown god”**

- **Acts 17:30-31**

Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.

God hasn't changed,
He still commands all men to repent because judgment is real,
and we'll all give an account of what we've decided about the risen Savior Jesus!

Jesus' first message —

- **Mark 1: 5**
“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

God still saves sinners

- **HOPE — FOR YOU TODAY, RIGHT NOW!**
- **1 Timothy 1:15**
This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.
- **2 Corinthians 5:21**
For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

**Jesus did for us what we could never do for ourselves,
pay the price for our sins,
so we could be saved from eternal death and separation!**

- *Being saved isn't just a future heavenly reward, it's power to live a new life right here on earth, filled with God's hope, joy, peace and power!*
- **Romans 15:13**
Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**God hasn't changed,
He still saves sinners and
fills them with hope, joy, peace, and power now
— and heaven later!**

God still gives you the choice

- **HOW — you respond** to the love of God and His offer of salvation, forgiveness of sin, and eternal life — **it is your choice!**
- **Joel 3:14**
Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision!
- remember “whoever”— multitudes of “whoever” are in the valley of decision today!
- **Who is this Jesus, and what do I do with Him?**
- **Matthew 10:32-33**
“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.”
- **Revelation 22:17**
Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

**God hasn't changed,
He still gives you the choice,
will you choose Him?**

Will you choose to...

- **repent, believe** Mark 1:15
 - **receive** John 1:12
 - **confess** Matthew 10:32-33
 - **be born again** John 3:3,7
- you must be born again to enter the Kingdom!

**Choose Jesus today-
whoever comes to Him,
He will never cast out
John 6:37**

Discussion Questions

1. For those who have been believers for some time, we have heard the “plan of salvation” many times. Was there something in today’s sermon what brought a new insight or perspective?
2. Why is “whoever” one of the greatest words in the Bible?
3. Why is the fact that God still hates sin, an “inconvenient truth”?
4. Why is being saved more than just a future heavenly reward?
5. Thought: you can print this outline and use it as a basis for telling someone about Jesus and the plan of salvation.