

Changeless

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Change is something that has been addressed by many over the history of the world. The idea that change is the only certainty in life is often attributed to the Greek philosopher Heraclitus. One of the fragments of his writings that remains is, "Everything changes and nothing remains still; and you cannot step twice into the same stream".

"Death and taxes" is a phrase commonly referencing a famous quotation written by American statesman Benjamin Franklin.

God is unchangeable not only in His essence and attributes, but also in His will toward us. He does not grow older, does not lose of His attributes, is not swayed by whim or humor, but He is always the same. Men are fickle, change their minds, and cannot be depended on. What a sad thing if we never knew how to take God. But with Him there is "no variableness, neither shadow of turning as written about in James 1:17: **Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.** He is and always will be what He has revealed himself to be in the Bible, and we need not fear that He has since changed His mind, or will do so inn the future. (Annotated Catechism – Edward Koehler)

Christ's changelessness is of incredible comfort to us his dear children. It means that he will always be ready to forgive us our sins. It means that he will always love us. It means that he will always be with us no matter where we are. It means that he will always take care of our earthly needs. It means that he will honor that faith he worked in our hearts and take us to heaven when we die. It means that in him we have all that we need for this life for the world to come.

Everything that we deal with in this world is constantly, though imperceptibly, changing. Times, people, circumstances and conditions constantly change. And we soon learn that people are fickle. They change quickly. But not so with Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday – before he came into the world, before his passion, before his ascension – and today, in heaven. The thought of the triumph of faith leads to the thought of Him in whom faith triumphs. He is unchangeable, and therefore the victory of the believers is at all times assured.

Prayer: Change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changes not, abide with me. Amen. (LSB 878 Hymn Abide With Me – stanza 4)