

Unchangeable

"(v.7) Appreciate your pastoral leaders who gave you the Word of God. Take a good look at the way they live, and let their faithfulness instruct you, as well as their truthfulness. There should be a consistency that runs through us all.

(v.8) For Jesus doesn't change—yesterday, today, tomorrow, he's always totally himself."

(v.9) Don't be lured away from him by the latest speculations about him. The grace of Christ is the only good ground for life. Products named after Christ don't seem to do much for those who buy them."

Hebrews 13:7-9

The Message

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD-APPOINTED LEADERSHIP

1-Appreciate our pastoral leaders!

REASONS:

- ❖ They teach God's Word.
- ❖ Their way of life is clear and good.
- ❖ They are individuals of faith.
- ❖ There is a consistency of truth in them.

***Point*→ We all need to strive for consistency in our lives.**

Change is a part of life.

Our clothes, magazines, music, movies, habits, words, cars, homes, books, speech patterns, communication tools, schools, income.

We age, raise children, have grandchildren, bury parents, change jobs.

All things are in process and all things are relative to their place in time.

However, if all is process, if nothing abides, we could never even know that there is change. Indeed, change itself is not possible without some constancy. The record of Christian thought shows that men's beliefs about Jesus Christ change from age to age. Yet he does not change. Unlike leaders the people remember, those here yesterday and gone today, Jesus Christ is the leader who abides. He is God's Word to humanity.

Jesus Christ is the Same He is Unchangeable . . . immutable !

Jesus is the same yesterday = Christ's role in creation—Hebrews 1:2,10

Jesus is the same today = Today, Christ sits in his exalted status as Lord of the universe who intercedes for his people—
(Hebrews 1:3, 13, 7:26-28)

Jesus is the same forever = The perpetual nature of Christ's rule "for all time" into the eternal "tomorrow"—
(Hebrews 1:8a, 10-12)

Jesus Christ is the Same

Jesus does not change his mind.

"And he who is the Glory of Israel will not lie, nor will he change his mind, for he is not human that he should change his mind."—I Samuel 15:29

Jesus is the "forever" priest.

"The Lord has taken an oath and will not break his vow:
"You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek."—Psalm 110:4

Jesus does not change so we are not destroyed.

"I am the Lord, and I do not change. That is why you descendants of Jacob are not already destroyed."—Malachi 3:6

The love, mercy, faithfulness of Jesus will never cease.

"The faithful love of the Lord never ends. His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning."—Lamentations 3:22-23

The Lord came when I called. The Lord is my lawyer.

"Yes, you came when I called: you told me, 'Do not fear.'
Lord, you are my lawyer! Plead my case! For you have redeemed my life."—Lamentations 3:57-58

"Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow."

7-27-08; RJB