

The Changeless Christ In A Changing World

Intro: Heb. 13:8 “⁸ Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.” Allow us to look at the background of our text. The epistle to the Hebrews was written at a time of political and religious agitation. The Jewish state was still existing but was plainly drawing near to its end. Change and unrest were in the air, and everything pointed to a swift sudden upheaval. Christians were persecuted with bitterness by both Jews and Romans, they stood friendless, alone, with no earthly power willing to protect them. It was just at this crisis that this epistle was written. In the midst of a world that seemed crumbling to ruins, these words were penned. It must have been a source of comfort to those who read it.

I. CHRIST CHANGES NOT IN HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD ERROR.

A. Every departure from God’s word was denounced by Christ while on earth.

1. Christ rebuking error.
 - a. Mat. 15:1-9 “¹ Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, ² Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. ³ But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? ⁴ For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. ⁵ But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; ⁶ And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition. ⁷ Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, ⁸ This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. ⁹ But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.”
 - b. Mat. 22:29 “²⁹ Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.”
 - c. Mat. 23:
2. Christ governed His life by:
 - a. It is written; Mat. 4:4, 7, 10 “⁴ But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. . . . ⁷ Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. . . . ¹⁰ Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.”
 - b. John 8:38 “³⁸ I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father.”
 - c. John 12:48-50 “⁴⁸ He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. ⁴⁹ For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. ⁵⁰ And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.”
 - d. John 14:10 “¹⁰ Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.”
3. In this He has not changed and will not; this will still be His attitude toward error at the judgment.
 - a. Mat. 7:21-23 “²¹ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. ²² Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? ²³ And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”

- b. Rev. 20:12 ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”

B. Today it seems as nothing is counted as error; just so long as you are sincere. We need to remember that Christ changes not.

II. CHRIST CHANGES NOT IN HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD FALSE RELIGIONS.

A. Mat. 15:13 ¹³ But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.”

B. Divisions were condemned.

1. Rom. 16:17 ¹⁷ Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.”
2. 1 Cor. 1:10 ¹⁰ Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”

C. There is but one church.

1. Jesus built but one: Mat. 16:18 ¹⁸ And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”
2. There is only one body.
 - a. 1 Cor. 12:13 ¹³ For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”
 - b. Eph. 4:4 ⁴ There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;”
 - c. The body is the church; Eph. 1:22-23 ²² And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, ²³ Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.”
3. Jesus has but one bride.
 - a. Eph. 5:23-33
 - b. 2 Cor. 11:2 ² For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.”

D. Jesus will come again for His own; John 14:3 ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

III. CHRIST CHANGES NOT IN HIS ABILITY TO SAVE.

A. Zec. 13:1 ¹ In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.”

1. That fountain is the blood of Christ which washes away our sin.
 - a. 1 John 1:7 ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”
 - b. Rev. 1:5 ⁵ And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood;”
2. John 4:14 ¹⁴ But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.”
3. That blood was shed for all.
 - a. Heb. 2:9 ⁹ But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.”
 - b. 1 John 2:2 ² And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”

- B. Heb. 7:25** ²⁵ Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.”
1. Only those who will not come to Christ will not be saved.
 2. John 5:40 ⁴⁰ And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.”
- C. He can save even the vilest.**
1. Luke 19:1-10 ¹ And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. ² And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich. ³ And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. ⁴ And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way. ⁵ And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house. ⁶ And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully. ⁷ And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. ⁸ And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. ⁹ And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”
 2. 1 Tim. 1:13-15 ¹³ Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. ¹⁴ And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.”
 3. There are none He cannot save today.

IV. CHRIST CHANGES NOT IN HIS INTEREST IN SAVING THE LOST.

- A. Luke 19:10** ¹⁰ For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”
1. That was His mission when He came into the world.
 2. This remains His mission today.
 3. Christ is interested in all. cf. John 4: the Samaritan Woman.
- B. He has made your case His own.**
1. 1 John 2:1 ¹ My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:”
 2. With the ardor of an elder brother, He pleads with you; Rom. 8:17 ¹⁷ And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.”
- C. Christ died for me; Gal. 2:20** ²⁰ I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

V. CHRIST CHANGES NOT IN SYMPATHY.

- A. So that He could be sympathetic to man, He:**
1. came into our world.
 2. Assumed our nature: made like unto His brethren
 - a. 1 Tim. 3:16 ¹⁶ And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”
 - b. Acts 3:22 ²² For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.”
 3. Tempted in all points like we are.
 - a. 1 John 2:15-17 ¹⁵ Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh,

and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”

- b. Gen. 3:6 “⁶ And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.”
 - (1) good for food - lust of the flesh
 - (2) pleasant to the eyes - lust of the eyes
 - (3) desire to make one wise - pride of life
- c. Mat. 4:1-11 “¹ Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. ² And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. ³ And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. ⁴ But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. ⁵ Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. ⁷ Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. ⁸ Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; ⁹ And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. ¹⁰ Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. ¹¹ Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.”
 - (1) Stones to bread — lust of the flesh
 - (2) Cast thyself down from the pinnacle of the temple (show your power) — pride of life.
 - (3) Fall down and worship me and I will give thee all the kingdoms of the world — lust of the eyes.
4. Heb. 2 14-18 “¹⁴ Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; ¹⁵ And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. ¹⁶ For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. ¹⁷ Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.”

B. Jesus knows our weaknesses, trials, and sorrows; and cares for us.

1. Mat. 20:34 “³⁴ So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.”
2. Mark 1:40-41 “⁴⁰ And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. ⁴¹ And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.”
3. Luke 7:13 “¹³ And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.”
4. John 11:35 “³⁵ Jesus wept.”

VI. CHRIST CHANGES NOT IN LOVE AND TENDERNESS.

A. Christ loves us.

1. Rom. 8:37 “³⁷ Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.”
2. Gal. 2:20 “²⁰ I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”
3. Eph. 5:2 “² And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.”

4. Rev. 1:5 ⁴⁵ And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood;"
5. Notice this love is demonstrated in Christ giving Himself for us.

B. This is shown by the message he sent to His disciples after His resurrection.

1. Mark 16:7 ⁴⁷ But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you."
2. What this must have meant to Peter especially and the other apostles.

VII. CHRIST CHANGES NOT IN FAITHFULNESS.

A. Humans are not always faithful.

1. Closest of earthly friends sometimes become enemies. Friendships are broken by misunderstandings and hasty words.
2. While it is unusual for a mother to forget her child—but they do sometimes.
3. Closest ties should exist between husband and wife—but they are sometimes unfaithful.

B. Christ is faithful.

1. Rev. 19:11 ⁴¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war."
2. Even if we are unfaithful; 2 Tim. 2:13 ⁴³ If we believe not, *yet* he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself"
3. Faithful high priest; Heb. 2:17 ⁴⁷ Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto *his* brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people."
4. Faithful in keeping from evil; 2 The. 3:3 ⁴³ But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep *you* from evil."

VIII. CHRIST CHANGES NOT IN HIS ABILITY TO MEET THE DEEPEST NEED.

A. Man's basic needs are the same.

1. This is true even though our conditions change.
2. The needs of man's body are the same today as they have always been.
 - a. Food
 - b. Clothes
 - c. Shelter, etc.

B. Man's basic needs (spiritually) are the same today as they have always been.

1. Man needs to know God.
 - a. 2 The. 1:8 ⁴⁸ In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ."
 - b. We come to know God in Christ.
 - (1) Mat. 11:27 ²⁷ All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and *he* to whomsoever the Son will reveal *him*."
 - (2) John 1:18 ¹⁸ No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*."
 - (3) John 14:9 ⁴⁹ Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou *then*, Shew us the Father?"

- (4) 1 Tim. 3:16 ¹⁶“And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”
 - (5) Mat. 1:23 ²³“Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”
2. Man needs forgiveness of sins.
- a. This is true because all sin.
 - (1) Rom. 3:23 ²³“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”
 - (2) Gal. 3:22 ²²“But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.”
 - (3) Sin is that which:
 - (a) Separates us from God; Isa. 59:1-2 ¹“Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: ²But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”
 - (b) Causes death; Rom. 6:23 ²³“For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
 - b. This forgiveness is found only in Christ.
 - (1) Acts 4:12 ¹²“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”
 - (2) Acts 10:43 ⁴³“To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.”
 - (3) Eph. 1:7 ⁷“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;” Col. 1:14 ¹⁴“In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins.”
 - (4) 1 John 1:7 ⁷“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”
 - (5) Rev. 1:5 ⁵“And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,”
 - c. Through Christ we are reconciled to God; 2 Cor. 5:18-19 ¹⁸“And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.”
 - d. Through Christ we are given life.
 - (1) John 10:10 ¹⁰“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.”
 - (2) 2 Tim. 1:10 ¹⁰“But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.”
 - (3) 1 John 5:11-12 ¹¹“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.”
3. Man needs help to get out from under the control and dominion of sin.
- a. Rom. 6:6-14 ⁶“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. ⁷For he that is dead is freed from sin. ⁸Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: ⁹Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. ¹⁰For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. ¹¹Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. ¹²Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. ¹³Neither

yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God. ¹⁴For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”

- b. Gal. 2:20 ²⁰“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”

IX. CHRIST CHANGES NOT IN HIS ABILITY TO CHANGE LIVES.

A. Notice some examples.

1. Peter

- a. He was impulsive, weak; Mat. 26:69-75 ⁶⁹“Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. ⁷⁰But he denied before *them* all, saying, I know not what thou sayest. ⁷¹And when he was gone out into the porch, another *maid* saw him, and said unto them that were there, This *fellow* was also with Jesus of Nazareth. ⁷²And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man. ⁷³And after a while came unto *him* they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art *one* of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee. ⁷⁴Then began he to curse and to swear, *saying*, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew. ⁷⁵And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.”
- b. Became strong, a pillar in the church.
 - (1) Luke 22:32 ³²“But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.”
 - (2) Acts 4:18-20 ¹⁸“And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. ²⁰For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.”
 - (3) Acts 5:40-42 ⁴⁰“And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten *them*, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name. ⁴²And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.”

2. John

- a. Starting out
 - (1) Boanerges means rage; Mark 3:17 ¹⁷“And James the *son* of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder:”
 - (2) Luke 9:54 ⁵⁴“And when his disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?”
- b. Became the apostle of love.

3. Paul

- a. Was a persecutor, blasphemer.
 - (1) Acts 7:58; 8:3 ⁵⁸“And cast *him* out of the city, and stoned *him*: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man’s feet, whose name was Saul... ³As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed *them* to prison.”
 - (2) 1 Tim. 1:13 ¹³“Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief.”
- b. Became one of the world’s greatest preachers.
 - (1) 1 Tim.1:12 ¹²“And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;”

- (2) Col. 1:25 “²⁵ Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God;”
4. We all know examples of people today who completely change their lives because of Christ.
- B. 1 Cor. 6:9-11** “⁹ Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, ¹⁰ Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.”

X. CHRIST CHANGES NOT TOWARD NEGLECT.

A. Failing to do that which is right.

1. Christ attitude
 - a. Mat. 23:23 “²³ Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier *matters* of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.”
 - b. Christ does not want anything left undone.
2. Jas. 4:17 “¹⁷ Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth *it* not, to him it is sin.”
3. Christ will have the same attitude in the judgment; Mat. 25:41-45 “⁴¹ Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: ⁴² For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: ⁴³ I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. ⁴⁴ Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? ⁴⁵ Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did *it* not to one of the least of these, ye did *it* not to me.”

B. Not continuing in the way of Christ.

1. Jesus’ attitude is found in Luke 9:62 “⁶² And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”
2. Their sad condition; 2 Pet. 2:20 “²⁰ For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.”

XI. CHRIST CHANGES NOT IN THE PLAN OF SALVATION.

A. The power to bind and loose.

1. Mat. 16:18 “¹⁹ And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”
 - a. given to Peter
 - b. The keys of the kingdom given to him.
2. Given to the apostles; John 20:23 “²³ Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever *sins* ye retain, they are retained.”
3. Given to the church; Mat. 18:18 “¹⁸ Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”
4. This was only the right to bind and loose what had already been bound and loosed in heaven.

B. What had been bound.

1. Mat. 28:19-20 “¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰ Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.”

2. Mark 16:15-16 ¹⁵ And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
3. Luke 24:46-47 ⁴⁶ And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: ⁴⁷ And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”

C. The use of the keys shows this to be true.

1. Acts 2:14-38
2. All the cases of salvation (conversion) in Acts affirms the same truths.

XII. CHRIST CHANGES NOT IN HIS INVITATION.

- A. **Mat. 11:28-30** ²⁸ Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”
- B. **Rev. 22:17** ¹⁷ And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

Conclusion: Christ does not change. This should bring us comfort even as it must have brought comfort to the Jews who read this. Since He does not change why not accept His invitation, obeying His plan of salvation, and become a member of His church. If you have been negligent in your duty to Him, why not come back to your first love at this time.