

# **The Unchanging Christ In A Changing World**

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Heb. 13:8

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## Christ and the beginning

### **He was with God in the beginning.**

John 1:1-5, “*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.*”

All things made by Him and for Him.

### **He was the light of all men, but they didn’t receive Him.**

John 1:10-14, “*He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*”

### **He gave himself in death for all men.**

Acts 2:22-24, “*Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.*”

### **He was raised from the dead, exalted, and crowned King of kings, and Lord of lords.**

- Acts 2:36, “*Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made the same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.*”

- Eph. 1:20-23, *“Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.”*
- Phil. 2:6-11, *“Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

**He was given a scepter of righteousness to reign over God’s kingdom forever.**

Heb. 5:8-9, *“Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him,”*

He is head over the church in all things for all time with absolute authority.

**He is unchanging; the same yesterday, today, and forever.**

The world changes from age to age, and will finally wax old as a garment, and pass away; but our King is eternal. Our Head (Christ) is unchanging and everlasting.

- Heb. 1:8-12, *“But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.”*

- Heb. 13:8, “*Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.*”

## **Christ reigns as King over the kingdom, and exercises His authority over His church through His Word**

### **His authority to speak:**

- Matt. 17:5, “*While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.*”
- 2 Pet. 1:16-18, “*For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.*”
- Heb. 1:1-2, “*God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;*”
- Heb. 2:1-4, “*Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?*”
- John 8:31-32, “*Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*”

**During His personal ministry, Jesus promised His apostles that after His departure he would send the Holy Spirit to them to guide them into all truth:**

John 14:25-26, *“These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”*

**The apostles spoke as the Holy Spirit directed, not their wisdom or the wisdom of the world.**

1 Cor. 2:9-13, *“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”*

**Their words are complete and final.**

- 2 Pet. 1:3, *“According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:”*
- 2 Tim. 3:14-17, *“But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”*
- Gal. 1:6-9, *“I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.”*

- 2 John 1:9-11, “*Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.*”
- Rev. 22:18-19, “*For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*”

### **From these scriptures we learn:**

- That under the Christian dispensation, God speaks to man through His Son.
- That God has confirmed the words of Christ and His inspired men with miracles, wonders, and signs.
- That God will cut off all who refuse to hear His Son.
- That when the Holy Spirit came to guide the apostles into all truth, He did not speak of himself, but only as Jesus commanded.
- That the apostles spoke in wisdom and words given by the Holy Spirit.
- That the words of Christ contain everything pertaining to life and godliness.
- That God requires men to accept the words of Jesus, just as they are, without change, addition, or subtraction in everything about which He has spoken. The word of Christ is complete, final, and binding. Regardless of any and all changes that may come in the world in any age, the words of Christ must be accepted just as they are, and those who refuse to thus accept them are cut off.

## Faith and human opinion

In Christianity there is the realm of faith and the realm of human opinion. In the realm of faith the Word of God is final. In the realm of faith there must be unyielding adherence to the Word. Where He speaks there is no appeal. In the realm of opinion there is no decisions reached on the basis of human judgment.

Sometimes people think of others as being hard-headed when they are only being steadfast in the faith. In the realm of human opinion there can be compromise with each other, but we can never compromise the Word of God.

We have only to look at Biblical history to see that God has not been tolerant with people who are not satisfied with His ways.

- Exo. 12:37, *“And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children.”* 600,000 started out of Egypt with Moses.
- Exo. 32:28, *“And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.”* When Moses came down from the mount with the 10 commandments on stone and saw many of the Israelites turning from God, he had 3,000 of them killed.
- Exo. 38:26, *“A bekah for every man, that is, half a shekel, after the shekel of the sanctuary, for every one that went to be numbered, from twenty years old and upward, for six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty men.”* Headcount: 603,550 were 20 years or older.
- Num. 11:1-3, *“And when the people complained, it displeased the LORD: and the LORD heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the LORD burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp. And the people cried unto Moses; and when Moses prayed unto the LORD, the fire was quenched. And he called the name of the place Taberah: because the fire of the LORD burnt among them.”* Many were killed by God with fire for complaining.
- Num. 14:42-45, *“Go not up, for the LORD is not among you; that ye be not smitten before your enemies. For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and ye shall fall by the sword: because ye are turned away from the LORD, therefore the LORD will not be with you. But they presumed to go up unto the hill top: nevertheless the ark of the covenant of*



*the LORD, and Moses, departed not out of the camp. Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites which dwelt in that hill, and smote them, and discomfited them, even unto Hormah.”* Because of their murmuring, God was not with them during their war with the Amalekites and Canaanites, and many of them were killed.

- In Numbers 16: we see that several rose up against Moses: Num. 16:31-33, *“And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them: And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation.”* The earth opened up and many perished in it.
- Num. 16:35, *“And there came out a fire from the LORD, and consumed the two hundred and fifty men that offered incense.”* 250 more were killed by fire.
- Num. 16:41, *“But on the morrow all the congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron, saying, Ye have killed the people of the LORD.”* The next day the congregation was mad at Moses for killing their people.
- Num. 16:42-49, *“And it came to pass, when the congregation was gathered against Moses and against Aaron, that they looked toward the tabernacle of the congregation: and, behold, the cloud covered it, and the glory of the LORD appeared. And Moses and Aaron came before the tabernacle of the congregation. And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Get you up from among this congregation, that I may consume them as in a moment. And they fell upon their faces. And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a censer, and put fire therein from off the altar, and put on incense, and go quickly unto the congregation, and make an atonement for them: for there is wrath gone out from the LORD; the plague is begun. And Aaron took as Moses commanded, and ran into the midst of the congregation; and, behold, the plague was begun among the people: and he put on incense, and made an atonement for the people. And he stood between the dead and the living; and the plague was stayed. Now they that died in the plague were fourteen thousand and seven hundred, beside them that died about the matter of Korah.”* Because of this, 14,000 more died by plague at the hand of God.

- In Numbers 25: we find that the Israelites had joined themselves with other nations and worshipped Baal. Num. 25:9, *“And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand.”* 24,000 died in the plague that was sent by God because of their disobedience.
- Num. 20:10-11, *“And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock? And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also.”* Moses sinned by taking some credit on himself in using the word “we” instead of giving God all the credit.
- Num. 20:12, *“And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.”* God told Moses he could not enter into the promised land.
- Deut. 34:4, *“And the LORD said unto him, This is the land which I swear unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither.”* Moses was allowed to look in at the promised land, but could not enter. He died at the age of 120 years.
- Num. 14:30, *“Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I swear to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.”* Caleb and Joshua were the only ones of the original 600,000 that left Egypt that went into the promised land.

When we look at how many of the children of Israel died because of their sin, how can we expect to escape on the Judgment Day because of our sin? Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Heb. 13:8-9, *“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines.”*



