

# CHRISTIAN LIFE NOTES

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## Changes in Life...Good or Bad?

Change---it's happening around us all the time, but does that mean it's always good or that we have to like it? Teachers know the difficulties with changing the classroom routine once in a while. Some children don't handle change very well and the teacher needs to find the best way to console the child without disrupting the planned event.

We've seen the results of changes in the political arena. Those changes have brought about verbal disputes, calls for changes in the constitution, picketing, and even violence.

Then there are the changes that take place, or are attempted, within our congregations—oh my! The subject of contemporary worship services has been quite controversial.

For years I've heard younger people in congregations complain that the older adults always oppose change. That's not exactly true. We older adults have seen so much change in our lives we've learned to "go with the flow". We've learned that there are good changes, which we readily support, and there are bad changes. Yes, we might oppose what we see as unnecessary or a bad change, but we know that eventually those changes will change again. As we've gotten older, however, we've also gotten tired of change. We have seen so much change in our lives that sometimes we wish for something that just won't change.

Permanent, the opposite of change: We do have a permanency we can hold onto.

In the Old Testament, Samuel tells Saul: "He Who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change His mind...." (1Sam. 15:29).

Malachi 3:6 reports: "I the Lord do not change."

In the New Testament, we are told of Jesus' priesthood: "The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind: 'You are a priest forever.'" (Heb. 7:21).

Then there's the passage many keep close to their hearts:

"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." (James 1:17)

Throughout the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, we are given, and reminded of, God's promises of love, redemption, and eternal life.

How blessed we are! No need to fear change for it can't harm us as long as we cling to our Lord and Savior.

But wait.....there is a change we can look forward to:

"Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed." (1Cor.15: 51-52).

Now that's change we can embrace. Praise the Lord!

The Christian Life Committee,

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