

CHANGE

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Change means to turn from something and take on something new. It means to put off the old and put on the new. It means to abandon the old and embrace the new.

Change means to abandon the normal and usual way, method, lifestyle and attitude, and take on a new better, successful, proven and effective way, method, lifestyle and attitude.

Change is a sign of maturity. Change is a proof that one can handle life. Change is a proof that one is teachable - that one is constantly learning and applying what has been learnt to his or her life. Change is an evidence of an open heart.

Change shows one's acceptance of his or her imperfections and a willingness to become better.

Change reveals one's selflessness - realizing that your attitude, habits and character is causing another pain, and deciding to change to promote love, peace, harmony and acceptance (not wanting to hurt others).

Change promotes peace with God and man. Change displays wisdom and discretion. Change is the road to progress and prosperity.

Change is part of the circle of life. You cannot do without it. You are created to change from one glory to the other.

2 Cor 3:18

18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

NIV

You are expected to be affected and transformed by the word of truth (God's word) and by the experiences of life.

John 8:32

32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

NIV

Rom 12:2

2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will.

NIV

Give the word of God that you read and hear daily a chance in your life. God gave his word to change man. To refuse to be changed is to be stubborn or stiff-necked. To refuse change is to rebel against the authority and wisdom of God. And you know every rebel will face the music.

THE DANGER OF RESISTING CHANGE

He that will not change will be destroyed by his bad habits, sins, mistakes and stubbornness.

Prov 13:13

*13 He who scorns instruction will pay for it, but he who respects a command is rewarded.
NIV*

A man who will not take correction does not like progress, and will not progress. A man who does not want change will eat frustration as his food. Those that resist change are those that are wise in their own eyes. And anyone that is wise in his own eyes is a proud fool - he has a small mind and suffering awaits such.

Prov 15:10

*10 Stern discipline awaits him who leaves the path; he who hates correction will die.
NIV*

Change is inevitable. You can't do without it. A man who is always failing or suffering loss because of his methods, and refuses to change his methods certainly does not want progress.

A man who does not want to change his evil ways, has pitched his tent against God. Such a one has made himself an enemy of God, and has positioned himself for curses rather than blessings.

Prov 29:1

*A man who remains stiff-necked after many rebukes will suddenly be destroyed--without remedy.
NIV*

KNOW THIS

1. Your experience in life is a product of your faithfulness to God and his instructions.
2. What you were yesterday, what you are today, and what you will be tomorrow are determined by your faithfulness to God.
3. God's blessings in your life are determined by your faithfulness to his instructions.
4. Your level of obedience determines your level of promotion and upliftment in Christ, in business and society.
5. You are the one who chooses the cup with which you are to be blessed - the cup is determined by your level of obedience.
6. You are where you are by choice. And you can also decide to move from where you are. It is a matter of choice.
7. Disobedience is the root of agony and oppression. The devil's attack on you will never work when you are in obedience to God's word.

Isa 54:14-17

14 In righteousness you will be established: Tyranny will be far from you; you will have nothing to fear. Terror will be far removed; it will not come near you. 15 If anyone does attack you, it

will not be my doing; whoever attacks you will surrender to you. 16 "See, it is I who created the blacksmith who fans the coals into flame and forges a weapon fit for its work. And it is I who have created the destroyer to work havoc; 17 no weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me," declares the LORD.

NIV

Walking in righteousness will deliver all these to you. And obedience is the foundation and road of righteous living.

Change brings one into the part of greatness. Change takes you from the wrong way of doing a thing to the right way where success and prosperity is sure.

Change positions you for blessings, while hardness of heart closes the door against you.

DO NOT RESIST CHANGE

To be stiff-necked is to be hard-hearted or to be stubborn and rebellious. If you refuse to bend, you will be broken by God. When He applies a heavy hand to discipline you, you will be bruised badly.

If you do not bend, you will break.

1 Cor 10:1-13

10:1 For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers, that our forefathers were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. 2 They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. 3 They all ate the same spiritual food 4 and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. 5 Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert. 6 Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. 7 Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry." 8 We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did-and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. 9 We should not test the Lord, as some of them did-and were killed by snakes. 10 And do not grumble, as some of them did-and were killed by the destroying angel. 11 These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. 12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! 13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

NIV

Prov 1:20-33

20 Wisdom calls aloud in the street, she raises her voice in the public squares; 21 at the head of the noisy streets she cries out, in the gateways of the city she makes her speech:

22 "How long will you simple ones love your simple ways? How long will mockers delight in mockery and fools hate knowledge? 23 If you had responded to my rebuke, I would have poured out my heart to you and made my thoughts known to you. 24 But since you rejected me when I

called and no one gave heed when I stretched out my hand, 25 since you ignored all my advice and would not accept my rebuke, 26 I in turn will laugh at your disaster; I will mock when calamity overtakes you-- 27 when calamity overtakes you like a storm, when disaster sweeps over you like a whirlwind, when distress and trouble overwhelm you.

28 "Then they will call to me but I will not answer; they will look for me but will not find me. 29 Since they hated knowledge and did not choose to fear the LORD, 30 since they would not accept my advice and spurned my rebuke, 31 they will eat the fruit of their ways and be filled with the fruit of their schemes. 32 For the waywardness of the simple will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them; 33 but whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm."

NIV

To resist change is to resist progress. To resist change is to resist blessing. To resist change is to resist promotion. To resist change is to resist good and welcome evil and misfortune. To resist change is to resist God and his Holy Spirit. To resist Change is to reject truth. To resist change is to reject an open door. To resist change is to resist breakthrough. To resist change is to resist the answer to your prayers. To resist change is to reject a happy and a peaceful relationship. To resist change is to reject successful marriage.

Embrace instruction and follow instruction. Take advice and work with good counsel. Repent of all the evils in your life. Get rid of all the attitudes, habits and character that hinder, and are contrary to God and progress. Read Proverbs 4.

CONCLUSION

Jesus came to change us. Therefore, don't resist change. It pays to change. A woman, who is always fighting, disobeying her husband or making the home uncomfortable, will soon discover she has no more home. The single who refuses to change his or her character or evil habits will soon discover that he or she is always having broken relationships and unable to maintain a good relationship. A man, who doesn't give a damn about his children and wife, will soon discover that his children are total strangers to his person. A student, who will not take his studies serious, will soon discover that all his mates have left him behind. When they have all gotten admission, he is still sitting for his examination. When they have all gotten good jobs with their good grades, he will be fighting everybody in the family for not helping him to secure a job with his weak result.

A business man or worker, who will not apply the principles of God in his business, will soon discover that everybody had left him behind. At the end he will complain, that the church has not brought a change in his financial life.

A sinner who refuses to repent of his sins will live to regret it in hell. A pretender or hypocrite who refuses to repent and deal with his deceit will end up in hell gnashing his teeth. It doesn't pay to be stubborn.

If you refuse to change your mental attitude, your method of doing things, and your wrong beliefs, you will pay dearly for it. The reason the word of God came to you is to change you and

bring you into the perfect will, way and life of God. Let the word work in you and on you. Accept change.

I charge you in the name of Christ to change. Effect change from today where necessary and you will be happy you did. Accept Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, and serve him with all your heart in total submission and faithfulness.

Deal with that sin that God had been speaking to you about. Make that correction the Holy Spirit has been laying in your heart. Do not play with it. Don't postpone action either. Make that change now! Kill that pride now, and stop being wise in your own eyes. Accept truth and make the necessary changes. Stubbornness does not pay but kills. It turns one into an enemy of God. Don't postpone that decision, make that change now. Give your life to Christ. Correct every wrong in your life. Straighten your life. Work by God's methods and principles. Live by the Holy book.