

Those Things That Are Eternal (2)

Introduction

A. Question: "Does everything suffer under the inexorable toll of time?"

B. Answer: "No. The Bible reminds us that many things are of an eternal nature. For example: God does not change, nor does His Word. The following is a brief sample of those things that are eternal."

I. The Gift of Life, Given by the Lord Jesus Christ, Does Not Change, John 10:28.

And I give unto them eternal life and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand.

Observation: We can only receive the provision of eternal life as a gift. It is impossible to earn salvation. God, in His mercy, has made it possible for the sinner, under sentence of death, to be saved and to become the recipient of spiritual life. Those to whom this gift is given will possess it forever. It is eternal life.

II. The Gift of the Holy Spirit, Given by God, Does Not Change, John 14:16.

And I will pray the Father and He shall give you another Comforter (Helper), that He may abide with you for ever.

Observation: When the Lord Jesus Christ was approaching His death He sought to instruct His disciples in their divine provision for living the Christian life and doing their work. That provision was the blessed Holy Spirit. He is our Helper. His presence with us and His ministry to us will not change.

III. The Promised Reward of Glory, Given by God, Does Not Change, II Cor. 4:17,18.

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen, for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Observation: Here we are reminded that our trials are highly temporary. The reward we will receive from faithfully trusting God in our trials will be eternal. It is a temporal trial with an eternal reward. We are also taught that the reward will far exceed the discomfort brought by the trial.

IV. The Priesthood of the Lord Jesus Christ Does Not Change, Hebrews 7:21,28.

For those priests were made without an oath, but this with an oath by Him that said unto Him, The Lord swears and will not repent, Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec. . . 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.

Observation: In order to get to Heaven - every person needs a priest. The Lord Jesus Christ alone can be that priest. We can only come to God by Him (John 14:6). To all who have received Him as Savior and Lord - He is their priest for ever.

V. The Redemption Provided by the Lord Jesus Christ Does Not Change, Hebrews 9:12;10:12

Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us . . . But this man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God.

Observation: These verses form the basis for what is called "The finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ." The redemption, provided by the Lord Jesus Christ in His Crucifixion and Resurrection, was accomplished once in history and will never be repeated. Since His work was finished and will never change - the believer has a firm basis for the assurance of his salvation.

VI. The Salvation Provided by the Lord Jesus Christ Does Not Change, Hebrews 10:14.

For by one offering He hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

Observation: This verse teaches the effect, in the life of the believing sinner, of the "once for all redemption" described in the above verses. The believer is "perfected" (made complete) in the area of salvation. This relationship and provision will never change.

VII. The Lord Jesus Christ Does Not Change, Hebrews 13:8.

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever.

Observation: Here we are taught that the Lord Jesus, in His Person, His work, and in His relationships with the believer, does not change. The immutability of God is the store basis for faith and action.

VIII. The Word of God Does Not Change, I Peter 1:23.

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth far ever.

Observation: As the word of an honest man does not change, because he chooses to keep his word, so God upholds His holy Word. The promises, the commandments and the exhortations do not change. This is the reason why we are instructed to put our trust in God as He has spoken to us in His Word. Note for example, I John 5:13.

IX. The Gospel Does Not Change, Revelation U*:6.

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth

Observation: The gospel is everlasting in that it has never changed nor will it ever be changed in the future. Abel became a believer the same way we become believers today. The need for repentance, faith and the receiving of Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord have always been the same and will always be such.

X. The Future Reign of the Christian Does Not Change, Revelation 22:5.

And there shall be no night there and they need no candle, neither light of the sun, for the Lord God giveth them light, and they shall reign far ever and ever.

Observation: The Christian is being prepared to reign and thus serve God. This reign will never cease. Our life now is an apprenticeship.

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