

Yes, You Can Change!

When you talk to people today about improving their life, a common response of many is: "Well, I just can't change," or "This was the way I was raised," or "I've been living this way for so long."

Friend, God would never command change in the Bible if you cannot change (Acts 17:30-31). Whoever you are ... whatever your condition ... however long you've been doing it ... yes, you can change!

I know you can change because "repentance" is change (Acts 3:19) and "conversion" is change (Acts 15:3; James 5:19-20). These two things are what God wants in your.

I know you can change because God sent preachers of change. John the Baptist (Matthew 3:2,8), Jesus (Matthew 4:17), the 12 Apostles (Mark 6:12), Peter (Acts 2:38), and Paul (Acts 20:21; 26:20) were all preachers of change.

God's grace is what allows a person to change (1 Corinthians 15:9-10). Obedience to God's word is also necessary to change a person (Luke 16:29-31; Acts 16:32; Rom. 6:17-18).

Put away your laziness, your pride, your fear, your ignorance, etc., and change today! It all comes down to your will-power (Revelation 2:21; 22:17). Yes, you can change! - *Chris Reeves*

Sentence Sermons

- It's not your fault when temptations ring your door, but it is your fault when you invite them in.
- God does not simply want your ability; he also wants your availability.
- There are no detours or exists on the narrow road that leads to eternal life.
- Is it time for your spiritual house cleaning?
- A grudge is too heavy a load for anyone to carry.

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Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

¹² Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain. ¹⁵ Moreover we are even found to be false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; ¹⁷ and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.
- 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 -

The Resurrection of Jesus

The resurrection of Jesus is the most important of all resurrections recorded in scripture. There are other resurrections recorded in scripture (1 Kings 17:22; Mark 8:21ff; John 11:1ff; Acts 9:36ff; 20:7ff), but none so important as Jesus' resurrection. Jesus' resurrection proved his deity; it declared him to be the Son of God (Romans 1:4). Jesus' resurrection was prophesied (Psalm 16:8-11) and predicted (Matthew 12:40; 16:21; 17:22-23)

when the others were not. Jesus never died again and the others who were resurrected eventually died again (Acts 13:34,37; Romans 6:9). The resurrection of Jesus is so important that it gives meaning to three important things: the gospel, Jesus himself, and you.

The Resurrection Gives Meaning to the Gospel of Grace

If we reject the resurrection of Jesus, then we ruin the whole purpose of the gospel (1 Corinthians 15:12,17). We preach, receive, stand in, hold fast, and believe in the gospel (good news) of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:1-5). We preach a gospel of hope (1 Pet. 1:3-5). If the resurrection of Jesus did not actually happen, then all this is in vain. We are wasting our time preaching the gospel if the resurrection of Jesus did not happen.

The Resurrection Gives Meaning to Jesus' Life and Death

If we reject the resurrection of Jesus, then we ruin the whole purpose of Jesus' own life (1 Corinthians 15:14-16). Jesus' life, death, and resurrection go together (Romans 1:4). The world today is ruled by Jesus, a living sovereign Lord, not a dead leader (Revelation 1:17-18; 5:6). If the resurrection of Jesus did not actually happen, then Jesus' life and teaching mean nothing. If

the resurrection of Jesus did not actually happen, then Jesus is dead; not living; there is no ruling Jesus today.

The Resurrection Gives Meaning to Your Life and Death

If we reject the resurrection of Jesus, then we ruin the whole purpose of our life and death in Christ (1 Corinthians 15:17-19). We are to be pitied as misguided fools if there is no resurrection of Jesus and no life after death. Because Jesus came out of the grave, we look forward to the same (1 Corinthians 15:20,23,54-57; Philippians 3:10-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14).

Friend, you can live again! We all need to be raised with Christ in baptism so that we can be raised with him in the judgment day (Romans 6:3-7). All people will be raised in the last day, but only the righteous will be raised to live again – the “resurrection of life” (John 5:28-29). Which resurrection will you experience?

²⁸ Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, ²⁹ and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment. - John 5:28-29
- Chris Reeves -