

Yes, You Can Change!

A common response among many people today when asked to improve, is: "Well, I just can't change...." When asked to do better, they often respond, "This is the way I was raised" or, "I've been doing it this way for so long."

However, God would never command you to change if you cannot change. God actually commands you to change (repent of our sins) in Acts 17:30-31 because a judgment day is coming. Whoever you are, whatever you've done, however long you've done it, yes, you can change!

Repentance is change (Acts 3:19). Conversion is change (Acts 15:3). Different preachers in the Bible preached change like John the Baptist (Matthew 3:2, 8), Jesus (Matthew 4:17), the 12 Apostles (Mark 6:12), Peter (Acts 2:38), and Paul (Acts 2:38).

Are you living without God (Galatians 4:8-9)? You can change! Are you in the wrong religion (Philippians 3:5-9)? You can change! Are you living unfaithfully (Luke 17:3-4)? You can change! Are you repeating those same old sins (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)? You can change!

By God's grace (1 Corinthians 15:9-10) and your obedience to God's word (Romans 6:17-18), you can change! Let me encourage you to put away any laziness, pride, fear, ignorance, or excuse-making, and change today. Use your will-power and do it (Revelation 2:21) - *Chris Reeves*

Up-Coming Events

- We are studying 1 Corinthians in January. We have great Bible classes. Come check them out!
- Next Sunday's Sermons: The Other Father of Jesus (AM) and Six Traits of Strong Families (PM)

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ
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Clarksville, TN 37043

Website
WBCOC.org

Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!
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THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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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 -

Some Things Everyone Will Do

There are a lot of things in life that other people have to do that you do not have to do. Other people have responsibilities, opportunities, and activities that are not a part of your life. However, when Jesus returns a “second time” (Hebrews 9:27-28), there are some things that everyone (including you and me) will do. Let’s take a look at three things that everyone will do on the day when Jesus returns.

Everyone will **HEAR THE LORD WHEN HE RETURNS.** Jesus said, *“Marvel not at this: for the hour cometh, in which all that are in the tombs shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of judgment”* (John 5:28-29).

Jesus’ return will not be secret. His return will be visible (Acts 1:9-11) and audible (1 Corinthians 15:52; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17). Everyone, dead or alive, will hear the Lord when he returns.

Everyone will **BOW THEIR KNEES AND CONFESS THAT JESUS CHRIST IS LORD.** Paul wrote, *“Wherefore also God highly exalted him, and gave unto him the name which is above every name; that in the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven and things on earth and things under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”* (Philippians 2:9-11).

Many today who reject Jesus or ignore Jesus will one day bow their knee in submission to him. However, it will be too late then to obey him. They will simply have to bow and accept their punishment. We can either voluntarily bow today in love for the Lord, or we can be forced to bow later in the judgment day.

Everyone will **STAND BEFORE THE LORD IN JUDGMENT.** Paul wrote, *“So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God”* (Romans 14:12) and *“For we must all be made manifest before the judgment-seat of Christ; that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he hath done, whether it be good or bad”* (2 Corinthians 5:10).

All peoples and nations that have ever lived and that will live are going to be gathered before Jesus in the judgment day (Matthew 25:30-31).

Every work and deed you have done will be judged. Paul wrote, *“but after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up for thyself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; who will render to every man according to his works”* (Romans 2:5-6).

Every word you have spoken will be judged. Jesus said, *“And I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment”* (Matthew 12:36).

Every thought you have had in your mind, whether secret or revealed, will be judged. Paul wrote, *“Wherefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who will both bring to*

light the hidden things of darkness, and make manifest the counsels of the hearts; and then shall each man have his praise from God” (1 Corinthians 4:5). Again Paul wrote, *“in the day when God shall judge the secrets of men, according to my gospel, by Jesus Christ”* (Romans 2:16).

Every sin you have committed will be judged. The author of Hebrews wrote, *“For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; how shall we escape, if we neglect so great a salvation?”* (Hebrews 2:2-3).

Every man-made religion that has been practiced and not approved of God will be judged. Jesus responded to his disciples this way, *“Every plant which my heavenly Father planted not, shall be rooted up”* (Matthew 15:12-13).

When you consider these things that everyone will do, it is a sobering thought isn’t it? When I think of others, I think of the justice that they will get from God (Romans 12:17-21). But, when I think of myself, I think of humility and the need to make myself ready for Jesus to return. I need to be waiting for him (1 Thessalonians 1:10) and loving him (2 Timothy 4:8).

What everyone will do, I will do and you will do! And, the Lord could return in this new year of 2017. Are you prepared to hear him, confess him, and then stand before him in judgment? If not, let us help you to get ready. - Chris Reeves