

# BRINGING THE WORD OF LIFE

## E-MAIL NEWSLETTER

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'...that you may know that you have eternal life.' 1 John 5:13

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Fueled by unfulfilled promises, unrealized hopes, and increasing difficulties, 'it's time for a change' has become a common theme with both politicians and the general public.

### THERE HAVE BEEN CHANGES IN THE PAST

Within the recent past, *changes* have occurred with surprising suddenness. Governments once thought to be stable have been toppled. Financial institutions have failed. Once-successful businesses have collapsed. Even more significantly, the moral fabric of society has been shattered by turning away from God and the principles of His word, the Bible. The “*do what feels good*” mentality—casting off restraint and rejecting authority—has broken up families and ruined lives. This is nothing but lawlessness, the essence of sin, which has brought the disillusion, disease, death, and destruction we see all around us.

### THERE WILL BE MORE CHANGES

When Jesus Christ prophesied that He would return to earth, He was asked what the signs of His second coming would be. He replied, “Ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars ... famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers (different) places. *All these are the beginning of sorrows*” (Matthew 24:6-8).

In **2 Timothy 3**, we read about the time of apostasy, or “falling away.” This is the result of people deliberately rejecting the truth about who Jesus is and what He accomplished on the cross of Calvary. “Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived” (**2 Timothy 3:13**).

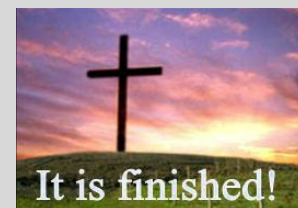
This time has already begun, and the rapidly-increasing rejection of God will soon bring a swift *change*. Instead of God’s grace being offered to all people so they may be saved, His judgment will fall upon this godless world of unbelievers, leading to eternal destruction.

### THERE MUST BE A PERSONAL CHANGE

To escape God’s judgment upon sin you need to be changed. The Lord Jesus desires to change you:

- from death to life,
- from darkness to light,
- from sin to salvation, from judgment to glory.

To enable this change He died on the cross for you. There He “suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God” (**1 Peter 3:18**).



The work is finished, and sin’s penalty has been paid! God proved He was satisfied with the work of Jesus by raising Him from the dead. The Lord Jesus lives, and now declares the way by which you may be changed.

### WHAT MUST YOU DO TO BE CHANGED?

First of all, the Lord Jesus declares: “Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3,5). To repent means to change your mind as to the wrong course you are following without God. It means you accept His verdict that you have sinned and come short of His glory, and you can do nothing to save yourself (**Romans 3:23; Titus 3:5**). You must repent!

Secondly, He says: “Ye must be born again” (**John 3:7**). New birth is spiritual birth from above—from God. It is brought about by receiving Christ as your Savior.

“As many as received Him [Jesus], to them gave He power [authority] to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name” (**John 1:12**). To receive Him is to believe on Him. Believing He died for you and rose again makes you a child of God.

You receive everlasting life, and thus become a completely new creature in Christ Jesus (**2 Corinthians 5:17**).

This is the change you must have, or else you will perish in eternal separation from God.

## THE TIME FOR A CHANGE IS NOW

Trust the Lord Jesus Christ and be *changed* while there is still time! “Flee from the wrath to come” (**Luke 3:7**). “*Now* is the accepted time; behold, *now* is the day of salvation” (**2 Corinthians 6:2**). “*To day* if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts” (**Hebrews 4:7**). D.T.J. Moments with the Book

### THE CHANGE TRUSTING CHRIST AS SAVIOUR MAKES

#### ❖ A CHILD OF GOD

But as many as received him, to them gave he authority **TO BECOME THE CHILDREN OF GOD**, even to them that believe on his name. **John 1:12**

#### ❖ EVERLASTING LIFE

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, **HATH EVERLASTING LIFE**, and shall not come into condemnation; but **IS PASSED FROM DEATH UNTO LIFE**. **John 5:24**

#### ❖ SAVED

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, **THOU SHALT BE SAVED**. **Romans 10:9**

#### ❖ REDEEMED AND FORGIVEN

In whom **we HAVE REDEMPTION** through his blood, **THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS**, according to the riches of his grace. **Ephesians 1: 7**

#### ❖ A NEW CREATION

Therefore, if any man be **IN CHRIST HE IS A NEW CREATION** old thing are passed away; behold all things are become new. **2 Corinthians 5:17**

#### ❖ DELIVERED AND TRANSLATED

Who hath **DELIVERED US** from the power of darkness, and hath **TRANSLATED US INTO THE KINGDOM OF HIS DEAR SON**; **Colossians 1:13**

## THE TOUCH OF THE MASTER'S HAND



T'was battered and scarred and the auctioneer  
Thought it scarcely worth his while  
To waste much time on the old violin,  
But he held it up with a smile.

“What am I bid, good folk?” he cried.  
“Who’ll start the bidding for me?  
A dollar, a dollar ... now two ... only two ...  
Two dollars, and who’ll make it three?”

“Three dollars once, three dollars twice,  
Going for three” ... but no!  
From the room far back a gray-haired man  
Came forward and picked up the bow.

Then wiping the dust from the old violin  
And tightening up the strings,  
He played a melody pure and sweet,  
As sweet as an angel sings.

The music ceased, and the auctioneer,  
With a voice that was quiet and low,  
Said, “What am I bid for the old violin?”  
As he held it up with the bow.

“A thousand dollars ... and who’ll make it two?  
Two...two thousand, and who’ll make it three?  
Three thousand once and three thousand twice ...  
Three thousand and gone!” said he.

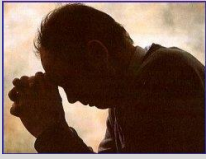
The people cheered, but some exclaimed  
“We do not quite understand ...  
What changed it’s worth?” and the answer came:  
“T’was the touch of the master’s hand.”

And many a man with soul out of tune  
And battered and scarred by sin  
Is auctioned cheap by the thoughtless crowd  
Just like the old violin.

But the Master comes, and the foolish crowd  
Never can quite understand  
The worth of a soul, and the change that is wrought  
By the touch of the Master’s hand.

O Master! I am the tuneless one  
Lay, lay Thy hand on me,  
Transform me now, put a song in my heart  
Of melody, Lord, to Thee! *Myra Brooks Welch*

## POINT TO PONDER



**To repent means to change your mind  
as to the wrong course you are  
following without God and turn from it.**

**It means you accept His verdict that  
you have sinned and come short of His  
glory, and you can do nothing to save**

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