

The Father's House Newsbanner

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Inez Brinkley, Editor

He came to set the captives free...

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"Change" by Bro. Gerald Brinkley

Change is a word that can send many people into a state of shock. Simply because change to some, means entering the unknown. And of course in some instances, this is correct. There is just something about the unknown. To some it's scary, to others it's a challenge. Thinking about the pioneers that settled this nation during the 1800's, the unknown to them represented something new & exciting.

To these pioneers, as they were leaving what they were accustomed to, there had to be many thoughts racing through their minds. But I truly believe that they had faith, and they were going to exercise their faith.

So you see, change can be good, it can be rewarding, it can be exciting.

Of course we all know that change is to make something different from what it was. To change, is to become different.

Concerning change, first one must decide, "Do I need to change? Do I want to change? What's in it for me if I decide to change? Is everything going great in my life right now? Could I use something different in my life right now? If one doesn't say right now, then whatever changes one might be considering can be put off until a later date. If that become the case, then more than likely change will never take place. Always talking about it, but never doing anything about it. The devil can use this against you; and believe me, it won't be for your good. There are many issues that need to be settled before one can go forward.

Now let's address an issue that I believe is important. Especially if one wants to know God in a greater way.

I have this saying: "If one keeps on doing the same thing, then what that one is going to get is the same old thing." It's simple

sowing & reaping.

[Galatians 6:7] Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

What I am saying is simply this: If everything is going right, then why change. Because change is to make something different. But on the other hand if everything is not all right in your life, then you do need to change. I did not say that you need a change, but rather you need to change. A change will last only so long. But if you change, then this change can last as long as you want it to last. Do you see the difference here, for this is very important.

Because when one comes to God & receives Jesus as their Savior, there is a change that takes place. The old is gone & the new takes the place of the old.

[II Cor. 5:17] Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

So let me say this: Make a change in your life. Allow God to take the old & make it into something, not only new, but something like you never experienced before. Just like the early pioneers embarking on a journey that they never experienced before in their lives. .

You can say right now, "yes I need that change. I want something different. I'm tired of being & receiving the same old hurt, pain, disappointment, never experiencing the joys of life."

[Acts 2:28] Thou hast made known to

me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.

God did not breathe life into you for you to live out your life of abuse & all that goes with it, as well as spiritual abuse.

Remember this & cherish it: Jesus says that I have come that they might have life & have it more abundantly. The first disciples of Jesus might have lived in a different time frame in history, but one thing is for sure. They needed Jesus then, and we need Jesus now. There is something else that we need to address now concerning change. Judas, for whatever reason, couldn't change and didn't change.

For I do believe that he saw no reason to have a change of heart. Judas was with Jesus through out His ministry until the very last. But at the last, his true nature came out. Through this coming out, Judas faced the end of his life. His life didn't have to end the way it did. For Jesus came to give life & give it more abundantly. The gift that Jesus had was extended to Judas, but he refused the gift of eternal life, to go back to his old ways. No change means just what it means. Judas didn't change, therefore he reaped what he sowed.

With God comes the gift of life. This gift is God's only Son Jesus Christ. Yes, it's time for a change.

Laughter.... Medicine for the soul

A Rabbi and a Priest are driving one day and, by a freak accident, have a head-on collision with tremendous force. Both cars are totally demolished, but amazingly, neither of the clerics has a scratch on him.

After they crawl out of their cars, the rabbi sees the priest's collar and says, "So you're a priest. I'm a rabbi.

Just look at our cars.

There is nothing left, yet we are here, unhurt.

This must be a sign from God!"

Pointing to the sky, he continues, "God must have meant that we should meet and share our lives in peace and friendship for the rest of our days on earth."

The priest replies, "I agree with you completely.

This must surely be a sign from God!"

The rabbi is looking at his car and exclaims, "And look at this! Here's another miracle!

My car is completely demolished, but this bottle of Mogen David wine did not break.

Surely, God wants us to drink this wine and to celebrate our good fortune."

The priest nods in agreement.

The rabbi hands the bottle to the priest, who drinks half the bottle and hands the bottle back to the rabbi.

The rabbi takes the bottle and immediately puts the cap on, then hands it back to the priest.

The priest, baffled, asks, "Aren't you having any, Rabbi?"

The rabbi replies, "Nah... I think I'll wait for the police."

Two bowling teams, one of all Blondes and one of all Brunettes, charter a double-Decker bus for a weekend gambling trip to Louisiana. The Brunette team rode on the bottom of the bus, and the Blonde team rode on the top level. The Brunette team down below really whooped it up, having a great time, when one of them realized she hadn't heard anything from the Blondes upstairs. She decided to go up and investigate. When the Brunette reached the top, she found all the Blondes frozen in fear, staring straight ahead at the road, clutching the seats in front of them with white knuckles. The brunette asked one of the Blondes, "What the heck's going on up here? We're having a great time downstairs!" One of the Blondes looked up at her, swallowed hard and whispered..... "YOU'VE GOT A DRIVER!..."

A Matter of Trust by Inez Brinkley

Being a Home Health nurse can get you lost lots of times. Directions to patient's homes is not always clear: Turn left by big tree; house is by old car, etc. So I decided to invest in a GPS (global positioning system), so that I could always find my way.

The first thing I learned about the system is that it has a mind of it's own, and secondly, it's very accurate. My husband and I were driving to a town a long way from our home and came to a sign that said the highway was closed. The GPS gave us an alternate route to take. It took us down gravel roads, seemingly in a circle for a good while. We had a choice. We could follow the route it was taking us, or we could try to find our way on our own. We decided to trust it. After a lot of back country roads, we arrived back at the main highway, right where the road was open again! We continued our journey, listening to the voice in the GPS as it guided us right to the exact address we had typed into the machine. So we now realized that, even though it seems to be giving us the run around, it really knows what it's doing and worthy of our trust.

Another thing I learned is that if it has a prepared route, and you go in the opposite direction, it will re-calculate another route. It doesn't waste time, just gives a new route.

Sometimes, I know exactly which roads to take to get to a patient's house, and the GPS will give the opposite direction to start. I have to decide if I want to trust it, or go the way I know the patient lives, in the opposite direction. I have found that, if I trust it, it will lead me to the exact address, even though it took me in the opposite direction. I don't understand all the ins and outs of this system, how it knows

exactly where I am, and exactly how to get me where I'm going. But I have found that it works every time. Now, if it seems to be taking me in the wrong direction, I just follow where it leads and trust that it will get me where I'm going. So it is with the Lord. Sometimes we can't understand, or see rhyme or reason why He is sending us down a certain path. We know we should be on a different path, but we hear His voice deep down in our soul telling us to take another path. We have a choice: we can trust that He is leading where He wants us to be because He has our best interests at heart. Or we can just go on down the other path, which is usually lined with brambles and briars. He allows us to go our own way without forcing us down His path. But in the end, we see that we have made a big mistake. Sometimes that is why life is so hard, and filled with so many trials. He showed us the right way to go, but we chose our own way.

Sometimes He shows us His way, but when we choose not to listen, He will choose an alternate path. We are still in His will, and He will work in our lives like He planned to in the beginning. But we will miss blessings along the way that He had for us on the path He chose. Usually the alternate route is not nearly as good as the one He chose. We'll still reach our destination: Heaven. But we will reap what we sowed along the way.

When we trust the Lord fully, we can be assured that no matter what, He has our best interest at heart. Even if we get off of His path for a season, He will wait for us to get back on the right path, or He will re-calculate a new direction for us. Either way, we will be blessed in all we do, if we just trust.

The Path of Life

Sometimes we walk this
path called life
Through weeds and tangled
brush
We walk along the crooked
path
Forever in a rush.

It doesn't matter which path
we take
They all lead to the grave
A short life span and then
it's o'er
We face that cold, dark
cave.

But Jesus says, "There's
something more...
Just seek Me and you'll see
Amid the weeds and tangled
brush,
A soul that's been set free.

And death will not, the vic-
tory win
For eternal life I give..
Forget the weeds along the
path
With Me, you'll start to
live!"
I. Brinkley ©

More reasons to laugh and mend the soul ...

This minister just had all of his remaining teeth pulled and new dentures were being made.

The first Sunday, he only preached 10 minutes.

The second Sunday, he preached only 20 minutes.

But, on the third Sunday, he preached 1 hour 25 minutes.

When asked about this by some of the congregation, he responded this way. The first Sunday, my gums were so sore it hurt to talk.

The second Sunday, my dentures were hurting a lot.

The third Sunday, I accidentally grabbed my wife's dentures... and I couldn't stop talking!

Sometimes women are overly suspicious of their husbands. When Adam stayed out very late for a few nights, Eve became upset. "You're running around with other women," she charged.

"You're being unreasonable," Adam responded. "You're the only woman on earth." The quarrel continued until Adam fell asleep, only to be awakened by someone poking him in the chest. It was Eve. "What do you think you're doing?" Adam demanded. "Counting your ribs," said Eve.

As Bill was approaching mid-life, physically he was a mess. Not only was he going bald, but years of office work had given him a large pot belly. The last straw came when he asked a woman co-worker out on a date, and she all but laughed at him. That does it, he decided. I'm going to start a whole new regimen. He began attending aerobics classes. He started working out with weights. He changed his diet. And he got an expensive hair transplant. In six months, he was a different man. Again, he asked his female co-worker out, and this time she accepted.

There he was, all dressed up for the date, looking better than he ever had. He stood poised to ring the woman's doorbell, when a bolt of lightning struck him and knocked him off his feet. As he lay there dying, he turned his eyes toward the heavens and said, "Why, God, why now? After all I've been through, how could you do this to me?"

From up above, there came a voice, "Sorry. I didn't not recognize you."

Two blondes were driving along a road by a wheat field when they saw a blonde in the middle of the field rowing a row boat.

The driver blonde turned to her friend and said "You know - it's blondes like that that give us a bad name!"

To this, the other blonde replies "I know it, and if I knew how to swim, I'd go out there and drown her."