

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Same- identical; not different or other.

Our day to day events may not be the same, but our God never changes. He is not blown about by every wind of doctrine, neither does He change by trying to please man. He inhabits eternity and He is in the beginning and in the end.

Revelation 4:8-11 And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever, The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Revelation 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Revelation 1:17, 18 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead, And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and , behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys fo hell and of death.

God is in control. He always has been and He always will be. We don't know what this year holds for us, but we know God holds this year. It is He that we are to trust.

Psalm 68:19 Blessed be the Lord, who daily leadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.

Psalm 68:35 O God, thou art terrible out of thy holy places: the God of Israel is he that giveth strength and power unto his people. Blessed be God.

terrible- this word expresses the idea of being feared, held in esteem: God was feared and awesome; His deeds are awe-inspiring.

Psalm 118:8 It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.

Proverbs 3:5, 6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

It is obvious from Scripture that God stays the same. He is omnipotent, omniscience, and omnipresent. He always has been and always will be. He doesn't change, but we do.

Circumstances do not affect Him, but they affect us. He doesn't make mistakes, but we do. Life wears on us; time is cruel to us; but God changes not. We cannot physically see God while we are alive on this earth; we are to follow by faith. Faith is not positive thinking. Faith is trusting God no matter the outcome. Faith in God is not something that we muster up.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

A person of great faith in the Lord is someone who meditates upon the Word day and night. There are great motivational speakers, there are people standing behind pulpits that are simply cheerleaders, and people flock to hear their message.

Please understand that the storms of life will come. We have seen that magnified in this church this past year. If our trust is in what man says, we will be cast down.

Psalm 42:5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted in me? Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

The presence of God in our lives is our deliverance. God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. We see this all through the Bible. Moses, Joseph, David, etc... If we would stop and look at our own lives we would see the Lord working in us also.

In reading the Word of God we understand that life isn't always rosy and peachy. We have times in our lives where we are overflowing with happiness. We all love these times. But we also know about the times when we are overwhelmed with distresses. These seasons come and go. God is faithful and He doesn't change. He is the same God when we are overflowing with happiness and when we are overwhelmed with distresses.

Psalm 1:1-3

blessed- spiritual and emotional joy.

This person is full of spiritual and emotional joy because his willing pleasure is in the Word of God. The Word of God always points us to Jesus Christ and when we meditate upon the Word of God day and night our faith will be added to and we will become strong in faith because our faith will be based upon what God's Word says about God and not what some motivational speaker or pulpit cheerleader says. The more we know of the Word of God the more we know about God. During the seasons of life we will be like a tree planted by the rivers of water in that we will be firm and steadfast, unmovable.

When these testing with trials come we will look to Christ; when joyous days come we will look to Christ. Where we look will encourage others to look also.

If your trust is in man, you will be let down. If you look back you can say that God has not failed you. This means we look ahead in confidence of the Word of God and from our own experiences in life and we know that He will not fail us.

Hebrews 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

He will never leave me nor forsake me. We don't know what this year holds, but we know God holds this year. We are flesh and we will become discouraged, some will battle depression, we will even question God. I want to encourage you to go to the Scriptures. Pour out your heart to the Lord in prayer. David would bring his complaint before the Lord; David would find his joy in the Lord.

The Lord is our joy. He is our life. He is the blessed life. When we are wrapped up in Him we will be feeding upon His Word and we will be active for Him.

Our faith comes by the Word of God; we can look back and see the workings of God in our lives; but we have a responsibility. We must read, we must trust, we must follow, these are actions that we must do. As we learned this past Sunday, we as saved people have a choice to make. We can stay down and out in a sea of misery, or we can by faith trust the Lord. We can not do anything for the Lord, or we can be busy about the Lords business looking for His return. Have you seen the Lords faithfulness this past year? How has your faithfulness been to the Lord this past year? Tell others what Christ has done for you, and serve Him out of love for Him. We encourage each other through our faithfulness to the Lord. What will you do this year; how will you serve the Lord? This is a new year, but God is the same. Do kingdom work. To God be the glory.