



A Comforting Thought

Last Saturday my family moved to a different location in the city. For the first time we purchased a house. In November Jackie and I are due to have our third child, Hannah. Many dramatic changes have already taken place in our lives over just the past few weeks and many more will occur in a few months. And of course there are the unforeseen circumstances that can occur at any moment of any day that can change one's life forever.

I'm just going to come right out and tell you that I'm not the biggest fan of change. While dramatic changes in one's life can be exhilarating and exciting, they can also be frightening and stressful. Experience has shown me that I am far from alone in this.

Even so we live in a world of constant change, don't we? What is popular and exciting today will be outdated and boring tomorrow. Today's cutting edge technology is tomorrow's relic. Foods that are considered unhealthy today may very well become tomorrow's "super food." Our young children change as they mature, our jobs are changing as the consumer's needs change, and what we're taught in school

changes as the disposition of those who determine what is taught changes. The point is that as much as we may dislike change we cannot avoid it. Change is simply a daily part of our lives.

Yet the saying, "Everything changes" is not entirely true. James 1:17 says, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom **there is no variation or shadow due to change.**" Hebrews 13:8 says, "Jesus Christ is **the same** yesterday and today and **forever.**" Matthew 24:35 says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but **my words will not pass away.**"

Many work hard to convince people that as the world changes, so too must the message that is delivered to them. Yet the Bible tells us that God is never going to change, that Jesus is never going to change, and that His words will not pass away. Until Jesus appears to all of His people and tells them, "I'm about to give you a new revelation to keep up with the changing times in which you live," I suppose I'll just stick with "the old, old story" and be as happy as I can be in so doing.

"Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was **once for all** delivered to the saints" (Jude 3). Let us rejoice in our unchanging God, unchanging Christ, and unchanging faith!



There's a lesson here.

"Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." 1 Corinthians 5:8

Let's consider the word grudge. It's not a pleasant sounding word. Just say it to yourself a few times. Get that "GR" sound in your mind. You almost have to GRind your teeth to say it. The sound of "GR" sticks in the back of your throat and takes little effort to come out as a GRowl.

We don't like people who hold grudges, do we? We consider them to be GRouches and GRumps. Their feelings of resentment and ill-will are made up of the GRundge of injustices, personal slights, hurt feelings, and a myriad of other real and perceived injuries which fill their minds. We speak of people harboring their grudges. To harbor is to hold in place. One who harbors a grudge holds all the bad, hateful, and vengeance-seeking thoughts associated with that grudge in mind. Harboring a grudge involves nurturing and feeding that grudge so that it remains at the forefront of one's mind.

While we don't care for people who hold grudges, we are not nearly as averse to harboring a grudge ourselves. We might have an inventory of people for whom we have some deep-seated resentment. We don't like to be around them, and so we avoid them. It takes great effort to keep from speaking ill of them when they come up in conversations. We don't often find them on our list of people to pray for, and even less do we pray that our attitudes toward them might improve.

But there's a lesson in what Paul the Apostle was inspired to write, not once, but twice to brethren in two different places. And Peter, likewise, echoed the same instruction. The word in these verses that is most equivalent to grudge is malice. Consider them well.

"Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice" (Eph 4:31). "But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth" (Col 3:8). "...So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and slander" (1 Pet 2:1).

--The Elders

In need of prayers

Charlene Antle has begun her chemo treatments.

Lala Whitson continues to suffer severe intestinal problems. She is only 11 months old.

Richard Ratliff, the father of Blake, is scheduled to have gall bladder surgery tomorrow.

In need of regular prayers

Our members: Jeff Howerton, Janice Parsons, Glenn Kimberlin

Others: Edith Tirey, Tom Curtis. Rita Pagan, Linda Hill, Robin Miller, Vina Krassow, Courtney and Aubrey Reeves, John Bennett, Dennis Brennan, Robert and Sarah Brundige, Donald Dawson, Jean Gartland, Wes Kidd, Gail Stein

Weekly Reading

Su	1 Kgs 21-22, Ps 136, 1 Pet 1-2
M	2 Kgs 1-2, Ps 137, 1 Pet 3-5
T	2 Kgs 3-4, Ps 138, 2 Pet 1-3
W	2 Kgs 5-6, Ps 139, 1 Jn 1-2
Th	2 Kgs 7-8, Ps 140, 1 Jn 3-5
F	2 Kgs 9-10, Ps 141, 2-3 Jn, Jude
Sa	2 Kgs 11-13, Ps 142, Rev 1

Let us continue to:

- Seek Bible studies
- Invite folks to worship with us
- Pray for opportunities to reach souls

Today's sermon topics

AM Attitudes toward God

(2 Corinthians 8:1-5)

PM Ingratitude

(Luke 17:12-19)

Times of worship

Sunday AM

Bible study 9:45

Worship service 10:45

Sunday PM

Worship service 6

Wednesday PM

Bible study and worship 7:30

First and Third Friday's

7:30 PM

University Heights Church of Christ

445 Columbia Avenue

Lexington, KY 40508

www.uheightschurch.com

Gospel plan of salvation: Hear the gospel (Romans 10:17), Believe Jesus Christ (John 3:16), Repent of sin (Luke 13:3), Confess faith in Jesus Christ (Romans 10:9), Be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38), Live worthy of a Christian (Ephesians 4:1)