

CHANGE ME, O LORD

2 Corinthians 3v18

Today we are living in a world of constant change. This change whether for the good or the bad is something that we must adjust to.

These changes are tearing at the very fabric of society and we as a nation are in danger of losing its moral conscience.

Crime and violence are rampant. Our elderly are living as virtual prisoners in their own homes, afraid of going out and being mugged. There was a heat wave a few months back and 27 people died of HEAT exhaustion on one day. The Majority being elderly folk afraid of opening their houses because they feared being robbed.

Recently another six year old killed a six year old. Recently a large number of teenagers were murdered at Columbine High School. 8 of these kids were Christians. It was later found that these kids were deliberately targeted because of their Faith. One girl was shot in the legs twice and her killers stood over her and asked her did she still believe in God -she said yes and they pointed a gun to her head and said prepare to meet your maker and blew her brains out.

300,000 brothers and sisters in Christ were killed last year. This equates to one dying every three minutes, so by the time I will have finished this sermon 20 brothers will have died.

We have rampant drug abuse in our society

We have 95000 babies murdered every year in Australia overseas in the States it runs into the Millions.

Christians now have the Highest divorce rates than the secular world 27% compared to 25% the figure for Christians should be 1%. Or less;

We have corruption amongst Politicians and law enforcement officers. WE have widespread fraud in the Social Security System.

In Church we have ministers ripping off the Flock for gain. We have Leaders that have allowed UNGODLY influences to become a part of the

Church. They have allowed Satan to come in and have a field day. The church has become a Circus instead of a HOUSE OF PRAYER.

We have No Accountability amongst our leaders.

What is going to change this situation? What will turn our Nation and Our Church Around?

Prayer will help but there needs to be a change of Our Hearts. We need the Spirit of God to move upon our hearts to change our thoughts and Intents.

We need men and women who are prepared to say God Change my Heart and God use me I am available for your service.

The Change has to come from the inside of each and everyone of us.

I sense we are in the start of something Big that God has purposed for this church. The last few weeks I has seen God moving upon the hearts of his People, but I sense that God wants to do a greater work if you are willing to let his Holy Spirit do what he wants.

MATTHEW 23v26 Jesus speaking to the Pharisees telling them of their Hypocrisy Tells them Plainly Clean the inside of the cup first.

We pray Lord change the situation, change my workmates, change my SPOUSE but we very rarely pray LORD CHANGE ME.

God wants his Holy Spirit to dig deeply to show you where you have failed and where you have gone astray- Matthew 15v 17-19

He wants to expose your pride, anger and stubbornness and sin. He wants to help you lay it all down. If you want healing and restoration then it is your responsibility you must take the responsibility.

2 COR 3 v13-15 speaks of a veil that is upon the hearts that blinds the eyes.

In context it speaks of the Jews that are blinded because the have not accepted Jesus as Messiah. Let us look at some issues.

However there is a veil that Blinds believers.

Scripture Makes clear warnings in Plain language about unforgiveness

Matthew 6v14-15 . God cannot forgive you if you haven't fully forgiven your brother.

They claim to forgive but their heart is not in their words. Their sins begin to pile up against them and on judgment day they will point their accusing finger at you.

Jesus will plainly say I have told you so. You have no excuse.

God says in Malachi 2v 16 he hates Divorce yet 27% of Christian marriages end in divorce. I have an email where a man told me that his wife had prayed and God told her it was ok to divorce him and go and marry an evangelist.

I told him that this was a lie of Satan. There are some exemptions for divorce such as adultery, physical abuse abandonment.

Are we not like Israel Today?

God warned and warned but they did not heed his call. Church has become a ritual for many people. They go and praise God and play the hypocrite. They take his word and twist it to their advantage

God's solution is found in His word

Depart from me for I never knew you,

The Bible is clear

You cannot be changed if you remain willing Blind to the word of GOD.

Can you hide your heart from God?

2 SAM 7v 20 “ what more can David say to you? For you know your servant, O Sovereign Lord.”

Job 31 v4 “ does he not see my ways and count my every step.”

Psalm 44 v 21 “would not God have discovered it, since he knows the secrets of the heart”.

Read PS 139 v1-12.

Can this veil be removed?

Yes if you turn to the Lord.

Change is the exclusive work of the Holy Spirit.

We simply cannot change ourselves. The Holy Spirit is the only one that can break down the barriers that we have built up. Our trust must be totally on Him ALONE.

Do you trust God?

Or are you saying it with your lips but not your heart.

2 COR 3v18 we must look into the Mirror to see our refection .Is it reflecting Christ likeness????

James 1v23-25 uses the same Metaphor and he says that if we look into a mirror and forget what we look like then we have missed what God is trying to say to us.

The Greek word used means we mirror our selves on Jesus. Open face means totally committed to allowing God to expose every hidden thing in your heart for the purpose of being delivered from it all.

The mirrors they used in Paul's day were not like what we use today they were basically highly polished Brass or Bronze so the image was not clear but rather Fuzzy. We are to Gaze intently into that mirror i.e. God's word. When we look into the perfect Law of Liberty .Ohh how sweet it is

It is only when we reach heaven then we will have full knowledge for we will see him face to face.

God wants to work on our Character

Psalm 34v18 a contrite heart a heart that is repentant.

Psalm 51 v 17 Brokenness of spirit or a Broken Spirit.

Isa 57v 15 Humility

Isa 66v2 Humility

Humility is when we are walking and serving with a servants Heart??
Or are we puffed up with pride? Are you putting yourself first before your brothers and sisters .Do you see a need and do nothing about it .Do you take without giving in return? i.e. not tithing Are we prepared to be

wrong for the sake of a brother? Do you wash the feet of saints? Are you a blessing to the poor and needy .Do you like the Praise of Men .If you are feeling uncomfortable by now the Spirit of the Lord has started his work, Are you Going to let him continue or are you going to grieve him. The choice is yours.

It is so easy to see others faults but it is difficult to see our own wrong doings.

Do you have a critical spirit? Do you find fault in what people do or say?

Matthew 5 v44

When things are going wrong and falling apart it is time to pray

It is I, Lord that has to change. Change my heart O LORD

Has your heart been calloused has it become hard?

My heart had.

Wounded by other Christians over and over again you build up defensive barriers to protect you and shield you from the hurt. People allow hurts to cocoon their hearts. I did

Turning to Jesus the veil can and will be lifted.

Change my Heart O God.

You must allow the Spirit of God to soften your heart let him make you pliable and useable.

Let him take that heart of Stone and change it to a heart of Flesh

Jer 31v 34 Heb 8v10 2 Cor 3 v3 Eze 11v 19-21

Paul's trust is not in self-confidence but confidence in the SUFFICIENCY of God's Spirit This should be our cry too.

Lord Change me I don't want to be like this I want to be more like Jesus in thought and action and deed. I am not happy the way I am I want to see peoples lives changed I want to see the sick healed the dead raised and people saved. Lord I surrender all unto you .Use me God for your purposes.

Slowly but surely you will be changed there will be peace within your heart .All fears of failure will pass away. There will be a renewed Hope in God a fresh faith in his word. You will be able to hear the Spirit of the Lord more clearly. There will be a sweet communion between you and Jesus. You will begin to start bearing Fruit

As John 8 v32 says If you abide in my

Then you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free.