

“NECESSARY CHANGES.”

5/11/2025 (AM AND PM)

INTRODUCTION:

A. Read text: Colossians 3:1-8.

B. Regarding the text:

1. “**PUT OFF**” = to cast aside; change.
2. **CHANGE**: to make different, to alter or adjust.
 - 1) In life, we see change: grow taller, heavier, stronger, *then* shorter and often weaker.
 - 2) The Christian makes physical changes (**2 Corinthians 4:16** - the outward man will perish).
 - 3) He also makes spiritual changes (**Ephesians 2:4-10**).
3. The Ephesians, at one point were *dead in trespasses and sins*, but things had changed.
 - 1) There was a change for the better (**Ephesians 2:5** – “...we were dead in sins, hath quickened us...”).
 - 2) Later, we see a change for the worse: “they left their first love” (**Revelation 2:4**).

C. We may not always realize the need for change.

1. God’s word is filled with commands which produce change for the better (**James 1:21-25**).
2. Following Christ requires a change in our behavior and our convictions (**Galatians 5:24**). **Galatians 2:20**.

DISCUSSION: NOTICE SOME OF THE NECESSARY CHANGES...

I. A CHANGE OF MIND.

A. Just look at the change that took place in Acts 2:37-47.

1. Earlier they had demanded Christ’s crucifixion (**Mark 15:12-15**).
2. When they accepted the TRUTH, they had a change of heart: **Acts 2:37**!
3. Change based upon understanding truth (**Romans 10:17**).

B. Saul of Tarsus had a change of mind (Acts 26:19).

C. Question: Has our faith changed our thinking?

II. A CHANGE OF ACTION.

A. When a person is converted, a decision must be made as to how this IS going to change his/her actions.

1. **BY REPENTANCE!**
2. Jesus gives everyone the same choice: *Repent or Perish* (**Luke 13:3, 5**)
3. He died to remove our sins (**1 Peter 2:24**).

B. Godly sorrow produces repentance (2 Corinthians 7:10).

1. Christ’s sacrifice should motivate us *to repent & obey* (**Acts 2:38; 17:30**).
2. Faith requires repentance and willingness to Let Him Have His Way With THEE.

III. CHANGE OF ALLEGIANCES.

A. Change requires allegiance to Him and a desire to live for Him.

1. **Romans 10:9-10**.
2. **Galatians 2:20**.

B. This change of allegiance is essential (Matthew 10:32).

1. To “confess” means to declare openly, to speak freely.
2. Vincent’s Word Studies: “The idea is that of confessing Christ out of a state of oneness with him.”
 - 1) To confess is more than a mere formal or verbal acknowledgment.

2) Note **Matthew 7:21; Luke 6:46.**

IV. CHANGE IN RELATIONSHIPS.

- A. My relationship to the world changes (**James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17**).
- B. Our associations may need to be changed (**Ephesians 5:11; Psalm 1:1-2**).
- C. We now have brethren of “like precious faith” (**2 Peter 1:1**).
 - 1. We have responsibilities to one another (**Galatians 6:1-2, 10**).
 - 2. New obligations (**Hebrews 10:24**: provoking our brethren.)

V. CHANGE IN AFFECTIONS.

- A. Paul spoke of the priority of our affections (**Colossians 3:2**).
- B. Everyone must choose where they will place their affections (**Joshua 24:15; 1 John 2:15**).
- C. **1 Kings 18:21** - We choose to love the Lord of the world!

VI. CHANGE IN CITIZENSHIP.

- A. Notice the change in the Colossian brethren (**Colossians 1:13**).
- B. Citizenship (community) for the Christian is *in heaven* (**Philippians 3:19-20**).
- C. This world is temporary; therefore, we are sojourners in this life (**1 Peter 2:11**).
 - 1. Remember, we are *strangers & pilgrims on earth* (**Hebrews 11:13**).
 - 2. This World Is Not My Home... (Do you believe that?)

VII. CHANGE IN LIFESTYLES.

- A. This is the meaning of “becoming a new creature” (**2 Corinthians 5:17**).
- B. When we arise from the waters of baptism, we are *raised to walk in newness of life* (**Romans 6:4**).
 - 1. We put off the *old man* of sin and put on *the new man* (**Colossians 3:9-10**).
 - 2. The new man will control our entertainment; what we wear; where we go; etc.
 - 3. The new creature has “put on Christ” (**Galatians 3:27**).
- C. When we change our PURPOSE in life, our lifestyle changes (**Romans 6:16-17**)!
- D. The world no longer dictates our actions. We are now it is Christ!

VIII. OUR NAME IS CHANGED.

- A. “*Christian*” is a name above all names (**Acts 11:26; 26:28**).
 - 1. Some speak of their nationality; political affiliation; race; etc.
 - 2. Yet, Christianity must be our first consideration.
- B. God is glorified when we honor the name we wear (**1 Peter 4:16**).
- C. As the “*children of God*” we should obey Him recognizing that He is our Father (**Romans 8:16**).

IX. CONCLUSION.

- A. These changes are vital:
 - 1. With these changes, our eternal destiny is different!
 - 2. There is a VAST difference in man’s two destinies (**Matthew 7:13-14**).
- B. We all need to ask ourselves – “Do I need to make some changes?”
 - 1. Do you need to become a Christian.
 - 2. Or do you need to repent and come home.
- C. Today is the day of salvation (**2 Corinthians 6:2**).
- D. We have today – Tomorrow is not promised.