

THE GOD WHO NEVER CHANGES

"Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth and made the heavens with your hands. They will perish, but you remain forever. They will wear out like old clothing But you are always the same; you will live forever." (Psalm 102:25-27)

Heraclitus was a Greek philosopher best known for his statement, "A man cannot step into the same river twice." As water flows, change occurs even if it is imperceptible to us. The riverbank slowly erodes, the molecules of the water advance, or, if nothing else, a person is older the next time he steps in the river, even if it occurs only seconds later. In this profound statement, Heraclitus was simply pointing out that change is a constant reality of living in this world. Technology, communication, social standards, interest rates, job security, housing markets, international tensions, weather, daily routines and even our own bodies are constantly changing. The consequence of all this change is uncertainty, fear, stress and anxiety because it seems to us as if everything is out of control.

The only remedy we have for all that is trusting that God is in control and that He is trustworthy. We know this because God never changes. He is always the same and He will live forever. Despite all the difficult circumstances we go through in this life, God has not altered in any way. He is still the same God today as He was when He created the universe. Psalm 24 teaches that God is in total control of all that he has made, including us. He is our King, who rules over everything in heaven and on earth. In Psalm 115:3 David affirms that God is sovereign and that nothing happens outside his will. We can fully rely on God in good times and bad times. He remains sovereign, even in seasons of change. He has faithfully kept his promises and will continue to do so (Psalm 145:13). God is not indifferent to us. He loves us unconditionally and he cares for us (Joshua 1:5). God will never abandon us and will help us to grow as we face difficult circumstances (Psalm 23). As we strive to live for Him, God will provide the means for us to live each day - even in the darkest times (Matthew 6:33). He provides food, clothes, shelter, friends, family, and a Christian community. But more importantly than anything else, he provides us with his Word to grow closer to Him and to know the good news and share it with others. So, as we face another year of change in 2023, let us remember that God never changes. We may not be in control, but He is! May we find comfort in knowing that God is absolutely loving, sovereign and compassionate. May we trust, depend on, look to, and delight in Him each day, regardless of what changes we face. God bless, Pastor John.

PRAYER & PRAISE POINTS

- Pray for the families and rescuers who are dealing with grief and trauma as a result of the recent helicopter tragedy - for comfort, strength, peace and healing.
- Pray that we will strive to make choices based upon the fear of God, not the fear of man.
- Praise God that in an ever changing, uncertain world his purposes, character, power, promises and provision never change. He is our rock.
- * Pray that God will help us to live with Christ as our hope and true source of peace and happiness.

MEETING WITH FAMILIES

We would like to invite all our families with kids to meet with the Pastors on Sunday morning 15th January. The purpose of the meeting is to chat about our children's and youth ministries here at CBBC. We are looking for feedback and potential new ideas for 2023 and beyond.

PROMISED LAND PLAZA

It's all happening on Sunday 29th January so kids need to make sure they earn as much money as possible over the next few weeks. This will be our last Plaza as we are looking at some new options for this year's end of year holidays.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP RETREAT

Our pastors, elders and deacons will be holding their annual retreat from 4th to 5th February. Please be in prayer for them as they consider some exciting and challenging new plans for our church in 2023.

COOLUM CRUSADERS SEASON 2023

On-line registrations are open for season 2023 and we will also be holding a sign on day at the church on Saturday 12th February. Please be in prayer for the Club committee as they get everything ready for the first game of the season on Saturday 11th March.



"Apparently little Moses thinks he doesn't want a bath!"

NOTES "God Can't Change" (Psalm 102)

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

'To know Christ and make Him known'

"My God you are always the same. You will live forever." (Psalm 102:27)

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9AM PASTOR JOHN "God Can't Change" (Psalm 102)