

Some Principles that Relate to Change  
(Daniel 2:20-21)

Introduction:

1. Each year we experience 2 changes in time when we "spring forward" and "fall back."
2. Since we changed to Standard Time last night, perhaps this is a good time for us to examine "some principles that relate to change."
3. Let us begin by considering several . . .

Discussion:

- I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES THAT RELATE TO CHANGE
  - A. According to Daniel 2:21, God causes certain changes to occur.
    1. (vs.21a) God "*changeth the times and the seasons*" [based on the natural laws He established at the Creation (Genesis 1:14)].
    2. (vs.21b) God "*removeth kings, and setteth up kings*" [based on the response of people to His will (Daniel 4:25b, 35, 37)].
  - B. Circumstances can change a person's countenance (Daniel 5:6).
  - C. There are certain personal matters that we cannot change (Jeremiah 13:23).
  - D. We make certain changes, such as clothes, regularly (Genesis 41:14).
  - E. After considering these general principles, let us turn our attention to some . . .
- II. SPECIFIC SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES THAT RELATE TO CHANGE
  - A. Certain individuals and objects do not change.
    1. According to Malachi 3:6, God does not change.
      - a. This is not to imply that God does not ever change His mind because He has "repented" many times.
      - b. However, His nature remains the same, and His promises are dependable.
    2. We learn from Hebrews 13:8 that Christ does not change.
    3. God's Word does not change.
      - a. It is "*perfect*" (Psalm 19:7; James 1:25).
      - b. We understand that there has been a change in the law (Hebrews 7:12).
  - B. We must avoid changes that do not meet with God's approval.
    1. We learn from Romans 1:22-27 that God gave up on the Gentiles because of unapproved changes they made.
    2. Those who change God's Word will be punished (Revelation 22:18-19).
    3. A serious warning is given in Proverbs 24:21 -- "*meddle not with them that are given to change.*"
  - C. God wants His people to change continually by growing and improving.
    1. Continual growth is mentioned in 2 Peter 3:18.
    2. Continual improvement is mentioned in Hebrews 6:1.
  - D. Christians look forward to a special change that will take place when the Lord returns.
    1. Philippians 3:20-21
    2. 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Conclusion:

1. We have examined a number of principles that relate to change, including:
  - a. general principles
  - b. specific spiritual principles.
2. Certain changes must not be made while others must be made regularly.
3. If you need to make changes in your life, make them today!