

The more things change...



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Comfort In the midst of Chaos

*“The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be;
and that which is done is that which shall be done:
There is no new thing under the sun”. (Ecclesiastes 1:9)*

By

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The More Things Change

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There is an old adage that says the more things change the more they remain the same. I think the intent of that statement is basically to point out that life is cyclical. What today may seem new to some, for others it's "*Been there and done that*". You would think that if there is any truth to this adage, that it would provide a sense of calm when experiences confront us that to us may seem new, but in reality has its origins in the ages. Even Solomon, the writer of The Book of Ecclesiastes espouses these sentiments. He states that "*The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: There is no new thing under the*

sun". (Ecclesiastes 1:9) Do these words not resonate within us? Do they not strike a chord with us? Do we not grasp the comfort of the ages that comes with this truth? I would like to say yes, but the reality suggest otherwise. We are supposed to be living in the age of enlightenment. You would think that we could go to the institutions of higher learning and find some words of wisdom. Unfortunately our educational system is broken and in need of dire repair. Well, what about our political arenas or our halls of justice is there no sense of stability there? No, too much corruption, too many politicians who are willing to be bought by the highest bidder. There are too many lawyers and judges whose only goal is to insure that justice remains deaf, dumb, and blind. Wait a minute, I know that we have many wonderful teachers, and many upright lawyers, judges, and

politicians, and it is unfair to lump all of them in with the whole, but there are too many cracks in these systems that could and should be fixed and yet remain broken. Well, preacher if our educational system is broken and our political and justice systems are corrupt, what about the church, is there any comfort there to be had? I know what you are thinking. Yes, we have problems in the church also. There are indeed pastors who have questionable moral failings, and we do have other church leaders, with similar issues of creditability. How can we then find **Comfort in the Midst of Chaos?**

Well I think it is clear that the worldly institutions of authority are questionable at best. We need to seek an authority that has been tested and proven, an authority that is immutable and true. That authority is the Word of God. What does the Word tell us that can

make some since of these times and give us a peace of mind? Is there **Comfort in the Midst of Chaos?**

First of all the Word says *“Be still and know that I am God.”* Psalm 46:10

When we find ourselves in the midst of chaos remember that God is still in charge of this universe and that ultimately He will prevail. *“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*

2*Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;*

3*Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah”* Psalm 46:1-3

No matter how troublesome, no matter how bleak, no matter how dire the situation, our Heavenly Father can and will handle it. I know that sometimes life presents us with seemingly insurmountable challenges, but hear what the Lord says *“Behold, I am the LORD,*

the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?" The answer is emphatically **no!**

Second, have faith in God. If we believe that God can handle anything no matter what, then we must have enough faith to let him. *"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.*

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

Allow God to be our guide, *"...the lamp unto our feet and the light unto our path"* Psalm 119:105

Finally, know that this too shall pass.

"The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: There is no new thing under the sun". (Ecclesiastes 1:9)

What the Ecclesiastic is teaching us is though this present storm is something that we have never seen, humanity has not only seen it before, but has withstood, endured and overcome before. There truly is no new thing under the sun. On February 1, 1918 – April 1, 1920 the world went through

the great Flu pandemic. From 1954 – 1968 the United States experienced many nonviolent protest which brought the evils of racial injustice to the forefront of this nation's conscience which lead to many changes in our laws that protect all of its citizens. But as the saying goes, "The more things change the more they remain the same". Here we are again still fighting the same battle, still struggling for America to know that "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

We still persevere for this truth to prevail, and while still persevering, we must take comfort in knowing that, like our forefathers, that great crowd of witnesses who championed the cause before us, that if in our hearts we do believe, we too shall overcome. The chaos in the streets will pass. The madness in the Whitehouse will pass. The violence within our law enforcement community will cease. How do I know? We've seen it all before! *There is no new thing under*

the sun. God has fixed it before and He will fix it again. That is **Comfort in the Midst of Chaos!**