

1. Man (and creation) is limited by time, space and physical substance. And man and creation are constantly changing. Even the evolutionists require change. They cannot think in any other terms. But God is eternal and does not change. He says: "I am the Lord, I change not." Mal. 3:6. His Word does not change. "Forever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven." Ps. 119:89. And it will endure forever. "The Word of the Lord endures forever." I Pet. 1:25. God's qualities endure forever. In each of the 26 vss. of Ps. 136 it is said: "For His mercy endures forever."
2. But sinful man and nations often delude themselves into thinking that they are god. They frequently say: "I am number one." They live and act as if they will live forever. God says: "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me." Mankind violates that commandment more than any other. Where are the great nations of Babylon, Egypt, Greece, Rome, etc? What has happened to the great people of history? They are dust and ashes. They tried to be immortal but failed.
3. But Christians have learned what God says about man. Read Ps. 90. It begins with "Even from everlasting to everlasting You are God." But of man it says: "In the morning it flourishes and grows up; in the evening it is cut down and withers." "We finish our years like a sigh." And then the Psalmist says in vs. 12: "So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." How does a sinful human being become wise?
4. Sinful human beings become wise only because "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." He is the bridge between the holy, eternal God and sinful, temporal man.
5. Jesus Christ is true God. I Jn. 5:20 reads: "This (Jesus) is the true God and eternal life." He is from eternity. Jn. 1:1 says: "In the beginning (already) was the Word." That Word is Jesus. He knows all things. He has all power. He can heal the sick. He can drive out devils. He can raise the dead. He can raise the spiritually dead. But Jesus is also true man. His divinity gave His humanity all the qualities of divinity. He proved that many times during His public office of three years. He turned water into wine. He healed leprosy. He forgave sins. He made sinners wise unto salvation. He even raised the dead.
6. Now of this God-man our text says: "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever." Jesus Christ is the very same today as He was when He ascended into heaven. And He will be the same forever. Hebr. 1:12 says of Jesus in prophecy: "You are the same and your years will not change." Hebr. 7:20 says of Jesus in prophecy: "You are a priest forever." There were over 80 High Priests from Aaron to Caiaphas. They prefigured Jesus. He now alone is Priest forever. These 80 Priests performed thousands of sacrifices. But of Jesus Hebr. 10:14 says: "By one sacrifice He has perfected forever those who are sanctified." They entered the most holy place often but of Jesus Hebr. 9:12 says: "Not by the blood of goats and calves but by His own blood He entered into the Holies, once and for all, having found an eternal redemption." Of this Jesus Hebr. 13:5 says: "I will never leave you nor forsake you." He says: "Heaven and earth will pass away but My Words will never pass away." Of His sheep Jesus says at Jn. 10:28: "I give them eternal life." Of Him the angel told Mary (Lk. 1:33): "Of His Kingdom there will be no end." David sang at Ps. 145:13: "Your Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom." And of Him Hebr. 13:21 says: "To Whom (Christ) be the glory forever. Amen."
7. Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever. Not only His divinity but also His humanity is eternally changeless. And I Jn. 3:2 says: "When He appears, we shall be like Him." In heaven we will become eternally changeless. No more sin or sorrow. No more growing old or weary. The same forever. SLAVA BOGU EDINU!!!

Sermon Outline on Heb. 13:8, New Year

Theme: JESUS CHRIST, THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER.

Introduction: Our text is short and to the point. Therefore we are using it as our theme too. Today is New Year. We begin a new year. How will we fare this year? Everything depends on our attitude toward Jesus. We see change, decay and death all around us. Nothing is certain except death. If we die this year will we and our works be remembered? Yes, if we look to Him Who is the same yesterday, today, forever.

I-Jesus is eternally same as to His person. At Gen. 1:26 God said: "Let US make man in Our image." Did that include Jesus? Yes, because Jn. 1:1 says "In the beginning was the Word." That Word is Jesus. At the very end of the OT Mal. 3:6 says: "I am the Lord. I change not." Was that speaking of Jesus? Yes. He is true God from all eternity. Wherever God is mentioned in the OT that includes Jesus because He is the same yesterday, today and forever. One day Jesus' enemies said to Him: "You're not 50 years old yet. Have you seen Abraham?" Jesus answered: "Verily, verily I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." Jesus' enemies did not believe that Jesus was the true God of the OT. But we believe that He was because He says so and our text says so. Of course, in the OT He was not yet a man. That did not happen until He was conceived in Mary's womb. The term "the Angel of the Lord" denotes an OT appearance of Jesus. See Gen. 16:7; Ex. 23:20; Num. 22:23; Zech. 3:3; Zech. 12:8. Read the account of God appearing to Abraham and Sarah, Gen. 18:1-33. In the first and last vss. and several times between He is called "the Lord." Abraham could see him as a man. But, of course, Jesus did not become a man until He was conceived.

II-Jesus is eternally the same as to His Word. Jn. 1:1 calls Jesus "The Word." I Jn. 1:1 calls Jesus "The Word of Life." Never separate Jesus from His Word. Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. His Word is the same yesterday, today and forever. Ps. 119:89 tells us: "Forever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven." And at Mt. 24:35 Jesus said: "Heaven and earth will pass away but My Word will never pass away." I Pet. 1:25 reads: "The Word of the Lord endures forever." If anyone denies the six-day creation of Gen. 1 he is actually denying Jesus, the Author of the Word. There are many so-called scholars today who deny the historicity of the Bible. They are denying Jesus when they do that. There are people today who say that abortion is not wrong, not sin. They are denying Jesus when they do that. There are people who say that Christ's body and blood cannot be in the Lord's Supper. They are denying Jesus when they say that because Jesus and His Word stand or fall together. There are people who claim that they can save themselves by their own works or worthiness. They are denying Jesus Himself.

III-Like Jesus, His Works and Kingdom are eternal. The Baptist said of Jesus: "Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world." Jn. 1:29. That is eternally true. Jesus said of His sheep: "I give them eternal life." That is eternally true. Hebr. 10:14 says: "By one sacrifice He has perfected forever those who are sanctified." That one sacrifice is eternally valid. The angel told Mary: "Of His Kingdom there will be no end." Lk. 1:33. I Jn. 3:2 promises us: "When He appears, we shall be like Him." That means we shall be eternal. Rev. 14:13 tells us: "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth. Yes, says the Spirit, they will rest from their labors and their works will follow them." There you have the final fruit of the eternal person, Word and work of Jesus. You are eternally His. You will be like Him. He will cause your works to be remembered.

Conclusion: Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever. To Him be the glory forever. Amen. Hebr. 13:21