

THE SAME

(Hebrews 13:8)

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THE SAME (Hebrews 13:8)

- **Have you ever met people who don't like change?**
- **They love to sit in the same place all the time whether it is at the dinner table, church, restaurant, etc.**
- **They wear the same kinds of clothes, buy the same kinds of things, and eat the same kinds of food. They just don't like change.**

THE SAME (Hebrews 13:8)

- Have you noticed, for as much as we don't like change, change occurs?
- It is interesting how life changes.
- Our parents get older and change.
- We get older and change: for the better or worse.
- Our kids get older and change.

THE SAME (Hebrews 13:8)

- No matter who we are, there will be times when we need to face change.
- We are actually in a constant state of change in our lives.
- However the Lord Jesus gives us some words of encouragement in Hebrews 13:8. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever."

THE SAME (Hebrews 13:8)

- **If you are a born again Christian, this basic truth is still true. It has not changed.**
- **Jesus Christ, the Son of God, God in the flesh, has not changed.**
- **He's still on the throne.**
- **He's still in charge.**
- **He's still available to help.**
- **He still cares.**

THE SAME (Hebrews 13:8)

- **Because Jesus does not change, we can be hopeful, we can find peace and rest, we can be confident, and we can go on!**
- **There are at least three things about the Lord Jesus that have not changed and will not change.**

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **Yesterday, Jesus was powerful.**
- **Long before Jesus was born, Isaiah 9:6 described the Lord Jesus.**

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

**For to us a child is born, (virgin birth)
to us a son is given, (his adoption)
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.**

I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **Notice in this verse that Jesus is called mighty God and everlasting Father, which means "Father of eternity."**
- **Isaiah is telling us that Jesus is God.**
- **Isaiah is telling us that Jesus is eternal.**

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **John 1:1-4 also tells us that Jesus is God, Eternal God and Eternal Creator.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **Yesterday Jesus showed His power when He came to earth.**
- **A lame man, sitting by a pool, was made to walk.**
- **A blind man, named Bartimaeus was made to see.**
- **A sea blowing, and churning, causing fear, was made to be still.**
- **A little girl, a widow's son, and a man named Lazarus were all made to rise from the dead.**

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **And here's another remarkable thing about Jesus. He was sinless!**
- **He alone had the power to live a sinless life!**
- **And then Jesus showed His power by going to the cross.**

I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **You might be thinking, "Jesus died on the cross. How does that show His power?"**
- **It is only Jesus who had the power to die for our sins and who could pay for our sins.**

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Cor. 5:21)

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **Another way Jesus showed his power yesterday was through the resurrection.**

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures (1 Cor.15:3-4)

I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **Jesus also showed His power when He ascended into Heaven.**

When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. (Luke 24:50-51)

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **Well, that's great!**
- **Jesus was powerful yesterday, but what about today?**
- **Is Jesus still powerful?**
- **Let's look at Ephesians Chapter 1:**

I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way. (Eph. 1:19-23)

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **Jesus is still powerful.**
- **Jesus is still in control.**
- **Jesus is still God.**
- **So that leads us to a very tough question.**

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **If Jesus is still powerful, still in control, and still God, why were innocent people killed last week? Why is there so much devastation in the world?**

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **Let me say this to a question that our minds have trouble grasping.**
- **Hurt, pain and sorrow are caused by man's sin, not by God.**
- **God has given man free will to make choices and often man makes very bad choices.**
- **And if God did not allow choice, we'd be robots.**

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **Also, God has a plan that I don't understand, and these tragedies are part of His plan.**
- **And often God uses these tragedies to get our attention, to draw us to Himself.**
- **Some people would never turn to God unless things like this happened.**

I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- I am very comforted by the words of Colossians 1:17, "He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."
- No matter what, Jesus holds things together. We need not fear.

I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **And Jesus shows His power today each time a prayer is answered in His name.**

And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. (John 14:13-14)

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him. (1 John 5:14-15)

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **The Lord Jesus is powerful, yesterday and today, but what about His power forever?**
- **There will be a day when Jesus will come for His saints. That's called the rapture!**
- **After that there will be a great tribulation, and at the end Jesus will come and win what we know as the "Battle of Armageddon".**

I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war against the rider on the horse and his army. But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur. The rest of them were killed with the sword that came out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh. (Revelation 19:19-21)

**I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **And Philippians 2:9-11 tells us that every knee will bow to the Lord Jesus and every tongue shall declare that He is Lord.**

I. JESUS IS POWERFUL:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **Jesus was powerful yesterday by His great acts and the fact that He has been proven to be God**
- **Jesus is powerful today as He holds all things together and answers prayer.**
- **Jesus is powerful forever in that that every knee will bow to the Lord Jesus and every tongue shall declare that He is Lord.**

II. JESUS PARDONS:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **Before God created man, God knew that man would sin.**
- **Before God created man, God knew that man would fail to please God.**
- **Before God created man, God had a plan so that man could be pardoned.**

II. JESUS PARDONS:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. (1 Peter 1:18-20)**

II. JESUS PARDONS:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **Yesterday, before the foundation of the world, God had foreordained, planned ahead that Jesus Christ would die for your sins.**
- **God loved us so much that He planned for His Son to die to secure our pardon.**
- **Yesterday, 2000 years ago, Jesus did die for our sins, so that we might be forgiven.**

II. JESUS PARDONS:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:6-8)

II. JESUS PARDONS:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **Yesterday Jesus secured pardon for us**
- **Today Jesus offers pardon to all who believe. (see John 3:16) (see Eph.2:8-9)**
- **And pardon is available for you, for your family, and for your friends.**
- **Pardon is available for all sinners who will turn to the Lord Jesus in faith.**
- **That is why we encourage you who know Christ as Savior to share your faith.**
- **Pardon is available, but only through Christ.**

II. JESUS PARDONS:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **And when we Christians sin, pardon is still available.**

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:7-9)

II. JESUS PARDONS:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **There was pardon yesterday. There is pardon today. There is pardon forever!**

because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. (Hebrews 10:14)

II. JESUS PRESENT: YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **God has been present throughout all history.**
- **Jesus, as God has been present throughout all history.**
- **Jesus made Old Testament Appearances as the Angel of the Lord called “Christophanies”.**

II. JESUS PRESENT:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **Jesus was present in the Garden of Eden.**
- **Jesus was present when Enoch walked with God.**
- **Jesus was present with Abraham.**
- **Jesus was present with Moses and the Children of Israel.**
- **Jesus was present with David and the prophets.**

II. JESUS PRESENT:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **And Jesus was present when He is, for us, unthinkable. He became a man, and walked among men.**

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

- **Yesterday Jesus was present.**

II. JESUS PRESENT:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **But is Jesus present today? Yes!!**

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. (John 14:16-18)

II. JESUS PRESENT: YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

“and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20)

- **Wherever you go and whatever you face, Jesus is present.**

II. JESUS PRESENT:

YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- **And what about the future?**
- **Will Jesus continue to be present?**
- **Yes, but His presence will even be more special than it is now.**

After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. (1 Thessalonians 4:17)

- **We will be with the Lord forever!**

II. JESUS PRESENT: YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!

- "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

**II. JESUS POWERFUL, PARDONS,
AND IS PRESENT:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **Let's now watch a very moving video:**
- **http://www.tangle.com/view_video.php?viewkey=ed76456155cd780ee9ce**

**II. JESUS POWERFUL, PARDONS,
AND IS PRESENT:
YESTERDAY, TODAY, & FOREVER!**

- **If you are not sure if you will spend eternity with Christ or not, I now encourage you to repeat this prayer after me in order to become a child of God and spend eternity with Jesus in heaven.**
- **It will be the greatest decision you will ever make – I and other Christians would testify to that.**

CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY!!

- **LET'S PRAY:**
- **Father God, I know I am a sinner and have displeased You in many ways.**
- **I know that I am dying in my sin and only You give Life.**
- **I believe You sent Your Son Jesus Christ to die for my sin, and only through faith in His death and resurrection can I be forgiven.**

CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY!!

- I want to turn from my sin and ask You to come into my life as my Savior and Lord.
- Lord Jesus forgive me of my sins. I'm deeply sorry.
- Lord Jesus, thank You for forgiving me.
- Lord Jesus, please come into my heart right now and fill me with Your wonderful Holy Spirit.

CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY!!

- **Lord Jesus, thank You for filling me with Your Holy Spirit right now.**
- **I now believe You have filled me with Your Spirit.**
- **I believe I have received You and am now a child of God.**

CHRIST IN YOU, THE HOPE OF GLORY!!

- **I believe I have eternal life because of what YOU did for me through your death on the cross and Your resurrection from the dead.**
- **From this day on, I will follow You by living a life that pleases You through the Power of Your Holy Spirit.**
- **Thank you, Lord Jesus, for saving me.**
- **In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen."**