

# *The Truth Has Not Changed*

Times have changed. The world we live in is in upheaval. Communities have been attacked, not only by physical violence but also by philosophical agendas that breakdown long-standing family values. Many wholesome traditions have been discarded. Ambition is desired more than integrity. Taking advantage of others is too often the norm. Honesty is no longer an objective rule to live by but has been redefined as a relative principle that shifts conveniently to suit people's selfishness.

As cultural and societal winds blow in different directions, shifting to and fro, God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. With God "there is no variation or shifting shadow" (James 1:17). "But You are the same, and Your years will not come to an end" (Psalm 102:27). God does not change. Jesus, who "is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature" (Hebrews 1:3), does not change either. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (13:8).

The word of the unchanging Creator is likewise trustworthy because He speaks truth. "God is not man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent; has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" (Numbers 23:19) There is no falsehood, nor deceit in our heavenly Father. Neither is any deceit in the mouth of the Christ (cf. 1 Peter 2:22). God does not lie. He cannot lie because He "is Light, and in Him is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5).

The word of the Lord is truth – dependable truth upon which every person can stand, even in the midst of contrary winds. "Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Your law is truth. . . . And all Your commandments are truth" (Psalm 119:142, 151). Throughout the ages God has always spoken truth, and "in these last days has spoken to us in His Son" (Hebrews 1:2). "... grace and truth came through Jesus Christ" (John 1:17). He is "the truth" (14:6). The only begotten Son, who came to reveal the Father's commandment (12:49-50), has declared, "Your word is truth" (17:17). That revelation and gospel is no lie.

The truth that sets men free in the first century is the same truth that will set men free in the twenty-first century. Doctrines of men change to satisfy man's desires, but the doctrine of Christ contained in the inspired Scriptures has not changed. The word of the Lord endures because it is imperishable truth (cf. 1 Peter 1:22-25). "The message of truth" that was preached by Christ's apostles and prophets is the gospel of salvation (Ephesians 1:13; cf. 3:3-6). That teaching is still the truth that sanctifies (John 17:17) and what will judge men on the last day (12:48). It is what grants fellowship with the Father and the Son (2 John 9). This unchanging truth from Christ is to be obeyed today and tomorrow (Galatians 5:7).