

Scripture Reading

A reading of the Letter to the Hebrews (*Hebrews 13:8-9*)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. The Word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.

Reflection – God is perfect and unchanging and so is His teachings

I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed (Malachi 3:6). The name that God calls Himself “I AM” (cf. Exodus 3:14) indicates His unchanging, immutable nature and character. The process of change requires a passage of time. Time is created by God for man (cf. Genesis 1:5). He Himself is outside the constraints of time. God alone is perfect and timeless. Change is irrelevant to God. Nothing can make Him change for He has dominion over everything (cf. Ps 62:11, Romans 13:1, John 10:29). He is the Eternal Now. He is from everlasting to everlasting. He has no beginning or end. He has always been God and nothing else. What He was like before creation started is what He is like now and will be after heaven and earth cease to be. “*I am the Alpha and the Omega,*” says the Lord God, “*who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.*” (*Revelation 1:8*). We worship the same one true God not a new one. God is referred to as the Ancient One in the Book of Prophet Daniel (cf. Daniel 7:9). The immutability of God’s nature (cf. Psalm 102: 25-27, James 1:17) is a source of great comfort and security to those who believe in and pledge their loyalty to Him.

The plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of His heart through all generations (Psalm 33:11). God’s will and purpose do not change (cf. Hebrews 6:17, Isaiah 14:24, Isaiah 46:10). *God is not human, that He should lie, not a human being, that He should change His mind. Does He speak and then not act? Does He promise and not fulfill?* (*Number 23:19-20*). As a loving father, God’s most ardent desire is the salvation of all His children. He wills that all come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved (cf. Timothy 1:24). Christ’s incarnation and birth into our world for our salvation is a fruit of God’s love for His children. God the Father does not hesitate to endure to see His Son, Jesus suffer in order that all His human children can be brought to holiness and clothed in the righteousness of Christ to enter His eternal glory in heaven.

God’s teachings do not change. *All His precepts are trustworthy. They are established for ever and ever, enacted in faithfulness and uprightness (Psalm 111:7-8).* God’s laws and commandments are perfect like Himself since they are based on divine love. All His divine teachings have the sole purpose of leading His children to holiness so that they are fit to enter the gates of His Kingdom. *God’s gifts and His call are irrevocable (Romans 11:29).* God is a generous father who never retracts His gifts and blessings once given even when the recipient falls from His grace. An example is that of Satan, the fallen Lucifer who now uses the gifts God has given him to destroy souls.

God never retract His call to us to repent and grow in holiness (cf. Romans 11:29). *I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am He, you will indeed die in your sins (John 8:24).* God is loving but He is also holy, just and righteous. Those who persist in stubbornness of heart and refuse to accept the Truth in Jesus, sin against the Spirit of Truth. For these, the mercy of God which is shown in salvation by Jesus is rejected by them. They cannot gain the eternal reward of heaven.

Conversation with Jesus

Precious Lord, unlike me, You are forever unchanging, forever holy and perfect, forever loving, forever righteous and just. I can rejoice again and again in You because Your love is unchanging, even if I offend You and fall from Your grace. With my repentance, my salvation is sure, and You await for me with open arms to enter the inheritance that You have prepared for me. I rest in peace and security in Your holy, divine will, knowing that in Your infinite wisdom it is Your blueprint for me to walk in Your footsteps to the glory that You will share with me. Mary, Mother of Salvation, pray for me. Thank You Jesus. Praise You Jesus.