

## 1 IS CHANGE GOOD?

- IF IT IS, THEN WHY DON'T WE CHANGE EVERYTHING!

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- Our culture values change on account of all the technological advances over the decades.
- Change means progress and it will yield good things.
- Change = Hope (expectation that things will be better).

## 4 Progress is Good

## 5 Updated Monopoly

- City Streets have been replaced by actual cities.
- Broadway is replaced by Montreal, Illinois Avenue by London.
- Water Works and Electric Co. are replaced by Solar and Wind farms.
- Instead of dollars, players spend Monos, and do so using electronic transactions placed on their calculator-like personal bank units.

## 6 New Clue Game

- Murder-mansion game now has a spa and a home theater.
- Professor Plum is now Victor Plum—a billionaire video-game designer.
- Colonel Mustard is now former football star Jack Mustard.

## 7 New and Improved M&M's

- Recently, M&M's have gone "Premium," with new flavors, including
  - Almond
  - Raspberry Almond
  - Mocha,
  - Mint & Triple chocolate.
- Lack hard shell, but do have a new trendy box.

## 8 New Coke

- Major Event in 1985!
- Remember the drama surrounding the introduction of the New Coke?
- New Coke replacing Coca-Cola, then reverting back to just plain old Coke.

## 9 Generation of Change

- My grandfather was born in 1897. In his lifetime he saw the following changes in his lifespan:
  - Electricity
  - Indoor plumbing
  - Automobiles
  - Telephones & Radios
  - Airplanes

- World War I & II
- Cold War
- Television
- Nuclear Power
- Man on the Moon
- Computers

## 10 Change in our Community

- What are some of the changes in our community?
  - Remember when there was no Man-O-War Blvd. or Hamburg Pavilion?
  - Remember Stoll Field?
  - Remember the Steak and Ale Restaurant?
  - Remember when most stores were closed on Sunday?
  - Remember when divorce was rare?
  - Remember when living together was a sin?
  - Remember when a gay person was someone who was carefree and happy?

## 11 Change in our World

- CNN's Jack Cafferty all but endorsed a global version of China's oppressive one-child policy on Friday's Situation Room.
- Newsweek Writer: Open Marriages Key to Ending 'Cheating Scandals.'

## 12 Progress

- Because of the false teachings of Darwinism, many people today have rejected the Judeo-Christian worldview and become humanist or progressives.
- Progressives (liberals) are people who have a romantic notion that a utopia (heaven on earth) is obtainable through education and the applied sciences.
- They believe that if we can employ progressive forms of social engineering and redistribute wealth (social justice), people will have the things that will make them happy.
- But the Bible teaches that man's problem hasn't changed. His problem is a sin problem and what he needs is redemption not material things.

## 13 Is Change Something New?

- Have you ever heard the phrase, "The more things change the more things stay the same"?
- "What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun." (Ecclesiastes 1:9 NIV)
- "Is there anything of which one can say, "Look! This is something new"? It was here already, long ago; it was here before our time." (Ecclesiastes 1:10 NIV)
- "I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind." (Ecclesiastes 1:14 NIV)

## 14 Does God Change

- In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. . . . But you remain the same, and your years will never end. (Hebrews 1:10-12 NIV)
- “I the LORD do not change. So you, O descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed.” (Malachi 3:6 NIV)
- “God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?” (Numbers 23:19 NIV)

## 15 The Unchanging God

- So when the Bible says that Jesus is the “same yesterday, today, and forever,” (Hebrews 13:8) how does that give us hope?
- Because God is not arbitrarily changing the conditions of his promises.
- The LORD—the God of Israel is the unchanging God. We can depend on him to be consistent and dependable.

## 16 What Changed?

- What did the “Knights who say Ni,” require of King Arthur?
- What did King Arthur provide?
- Were the “Knights who say Ni” true to their word?
- What was Arthur’s opinion of the “Knights who say Ni”?

## 17 Is Change Good?

- “If you really change your ways and your actions and deal with each other justly, if you do not oppress the alien, the fatherless or the widow and do not shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not follow other gods to your own harm, then I will let you live in this place, in the land I gave your forefathers for ever and ever.” (Jeremiah 7:5-7 NIV)
- “And he said: “I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 18:3 NIV)

## 18 Real Hope

- “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14 NIV)
- “If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.” (John 15:7 NIV)
- “In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.” (John 14:2-3 NIV)

## 19 Conclusion

- Since the LORD Almighty does not change and is fair and just we have real hope.
- For if we meet the conditions of His promises then we will surely see His goodness and grace.
- If those promises don't seem to be working, we may just want to look to our ways.
- Change is good if changing means meeting the standard of Him who never changes.