The Same Yesterday, and Today, and Forever

Pg 1

"Let your <u>conduct</u> be without covetousness; and be content with such things as you have: for He has said, 'I will <u>never</u> leave you, nor forsake you;' so that we may boldly say, 'The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.' Remember those who have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the Word of God; follow their faith, considering the outcome of their <u>behavior</u>. Jesus Christ is the Same Yesterday, and Today, and Forever. Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; ..." (Hebrews 13:5-8-9)

Same: from the Greek word <u>autos</u> which means: a personal pronoun (1) self; (2) he, she, it (used for the third pers. pron.); (3) the same (as in the 'same person' being spoken about).

Yesterday: from the Greek word **echthes** which means: yesterday.

Today: from the Greek word <u>semeron</u> which means: today

Forever: from the Greek word <u>aionas</u> which means: **ages**, from <u>aion</u> - a space of time, **an age**; a cycle (of time), especially of the present age as contrasted with the future age, and of one of a series of ages stretching to infinity. from a prim. root meaning: a continued duration; an unbroken age, perpetuity of time, eternity.

Literal translation:

"Jesus Christ, yesterday and today, the Same, and to the ages." (and to eternity)

All who Jesus is, is all that He shall always be - always and always! All who Jesus is to us, is all who He shall be for us - forever and ever!

Recommended reading prior to study: Hebrews 13:1-17; Matthew 6:19-34; Psalms 118:1-17: Deuteronomy 6:1-8.

Consider the Context:

"Let your conduct be without covetousness;" (<u>conduct</u>: <u>tropos</u>: conduct, behavior; literally meaning: new-way-of-life!) (<u>covetousness</u>: <u>aphilarguros</u>: literally meaning: <u>without the love of money</u>). Thus, "Let your new-way-of-life be without the love of money;" The context being: Let your new life in Christ Jesus be free from the love, and covetousness of things that money can buy! Consider this command of Jesus:

"No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what you shall eat, or what you shall drink; nor yet for your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body than clothing?" (Matthew 6:24 – read in context) (mammon: mamm nás – a Semitic term for "the treasures a person trusts in" - riches, money, possessions, property)

- "and be content with such things as you have:" Contentment in one's economic state of existence is for many Christians a difficult virtue to lay hold of. But in Christ Jesus it is possible. Consider this passage:

"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing let us be content with these. But those who seek to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil." (1 Timothy 6:6-10)

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- "for He has said, '<u>I will never leave you, nor forsake you</u>.' " (Read in context this quote from Deuteronomy 6:6; & Joshua 1:5) The context for us is the same! Jesus will never leave us or forsake us in our walk of faith in Him, not today, not tomorrow, not ever!
- "So that we may boldly say, '<u>The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man</u> shall do unto me." (Read in context this quote from Psalm 118:6) The context for us is the same! We have nothing to fear from men; for Jesus is our helper, and will always be with us in times of trouble; today, tomorrow, and forever;! It is as it says:
 - "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling pride." (Psalm 46:1-3) "Yet will I rejoice in the Lord..." (Hab. 3: ...18)
- "Remember those who have the rule over you," The context is speaking of godly rulers, leaders, and elders within the Church of Christ Jesus who are faithful imitators of the holy life and walk of Christ Jesus. It is as Paul wrote: "Remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you." (1 Corinthians 11:2)
- "who have spoken unto you the Word of God;" Referring to the remembrance of the Word of God as spoken by those godly rulers, leaders, and elders who have preached the God's Word to us; and includes pastors, prophets, teachers, evangelists, and elders.
- "follow their faith," Follow the "lives' of faith in Jesus Christ of Christian rulers, leaders, and elders who are truly abiding in Christ Jesus; as Paul wrote, "Be imitators of me, even as I also am of Christ." (1 Corinthians 11:1) Consider this exhortation:
 - "... Brethren, whatever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. **Those things, which you have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do**: and the God of peace shall be with you. (Philippians 4:8-9)
- "considering the outcome of their behavior." (behavior: anastrophe literally meaning: an upward positive change of outward behavior and conduct) Thus in context, the outcome of their behavior and conduct is that of being an observable new creation in Christ Jesus!; a very desirable behavior to imitate and follow!
- "Jesus Christ is the Same Yesterday, and Today, and Forever." (This is our devotional attribute of Jesus for this study, with key words and definitions covered above) Again, All who Jesus is, is all that He shall always be always and always! All who Jesus is to us, is all who He shall be for us forever and ever! The Same Jesus 'in the Beginning' was the Same Jesus at His first coming, and is the Same Jesus for us today! And He shall be the Same Jesus at His second coming, and even throughout all the coming ages, even forever!
- "Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines." New and strange doctrines and teachings should be diligently avoided! The Word Of God, from Genesis to Revelation, is complete in it's current contents. No new doctrine should be added; and no current part of God's Holy Word should ever be removed; as it says: "You shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall you take anything from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you." (Deut. 4:2)

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- "For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; ..." By Grace we have been saved... "Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him; being rooted and built up in Him, and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." (Colossians 2:6-7)

Jesus is altogether the Same yesterday, today, tomorrow, and forevermore throughout the coming ages:

His Lordship is the Same yesterday, and today, and forever!

His Holy Word is the Same yesterday, and today, and forever!

His Love for us is the Same yesterday, and today, and forever!

His Grace for us is the Same yesterday, and today, and forever!

His Salvation for us is the Same yesterday, and today, and forever!

His Forgiveness for us is the Same yesterday, and today, and forever!

His Promise to care for us is the Same yesterday, and today, and forever!

His Promise to never leave us is the Same yesterday, and today, and forever!

His Promises to all of His saints are the Same yesterday, and today, and forever!

Consider also these scripture truths:

"But unto the Son He says: " Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever: a Scepter of Righteousness is the Scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness above Your fellows. And, You, Lord, in the beginning did lay the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of Your hands; they shall perish; but You remain; and they all shall wax old as does a garment. As a vesture You shall fold them up, and they shall be changed; but You are the same, and Your years shall not fail.' " (Hebrews 1:8-12)

"Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, unto a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw Him, they worshipped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke unto them, saying, 'All power is given unto Me in heaven and on earth. Go you therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatever I have commanded you: and, lo, <u>I am with you always (lit. 'all the days, or every day), even unto the end of the age.</u> Amen. (Matthew 28:16-20)

Christ Jesus is with us Now! He is in us now! He is through His Holy Spirit guiding us Now! And this Same Jesus will be with us continually day by day until His Second Coming, and eternally there after - always and always – forever and ever! Amen!

Jesus is the Same Yesterday, and Today, and Forever

His Oneness with the Father is the Same yesterday, and today, and forever! He is <u>with us</u> always, all the day, for every day, even unto the end of the ages! He will never leave <u>us</u>, nor forsake <u>us</u>!

Lord Jesus Your love, grace, mercy, and forgiveness <u>for us</u> is everlasting! Your promises, providence, and care f<u>or us</u> endures forever! You are faithful and true to Your Word <u>towards us</u> throughout all the Ages!

Thank You Lord Jesus for being our eternal Lord and King!

Amen, and Amen!