

Some Things That Have Not Changed

John Isaac Edwards

We live in a changing world. The world of a few centuries ago would not recognize the world of today! Yet, there are some things that have not changed.

Bible Teaching on Modesty. Customs regarding dress vary. Fashions come and go. One thing remains the same: what the Bible teaches about modesty. 1 Timothy 2:9-10 is binding upon every culture and age. Paul said, “In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.” Godliness or ungodliness: which does our dress profess?

The Law of Christ Concerning Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage. The laws of the land, wedding ceremonies, and the thinking of men concerning marriage, divorce and remarriage may change, but the law of Christ has not. Matthew 19:9 still says, “Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.”

The New Testament Church. Men, over the years, have tried to change the church in lots of ways, but have been unsuccessful

as the Lord’s church continues to be what it has always been. It is still the church built by Christ (Matthew 16:18), headed by Christ (Colossians 1:18), and that wears the name of Christ (Romans 16:16; Acts 11:26). Its work, worship, and organization have not changed.

The Need for Divine Authority. Men may not always recognize the need for divine authority, but the need is always there. Colossians 3:17 records, “And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus...” The fact that man must do all by the authority of Jesus Christ has not changed.

The Consequences of Sin. Some may get the idea that sin is not quite as bad as it used to be. Sin is still what it has always been and will do what it has always done! Sin is still “the transgression of the law” (1 John 3:4), and sin still “bringeth forth death” (James 1:15).

The Gospel Plan of Salvation. Men have taught, believed and obeyed plans foreign to the gospel plan of salvation, but what it takes to save a person has not changed. God still requires hearing (Matthew 17:5), believing (John 8:24), repenting (Luke 13:3), confessing (Romans 10:9-10), being baptized (Acts 2:38), and faithful living (Revelation 2:10).

Respect for the Word of God

John Isaac Edwards

One of the finest places respect for the word of God is seen is the eighth chapter of Nehemiah. Read the chapter and observe the respect shown:

They Asked for It. The people requested that Ezra “bring the book of the law” (Nehemiah 8:1). What book is it that you ask for? May we always insist that men of God bring the word of God!

They Listened to It. As Ezra read the book of God, “from the morning until midday,...the ears of all the people were attentive” (Nehemiah 8:3). Today, some “turn away their ears from the truth” (2 Timothy 4:4). May we never grow tired of hearing the word!

They Made Provisions for It. Nehemiah 8:4 records, “And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose...” Would you have made they arrangements they made?

They Stood Up for It. When Ezra opened the book, “all the people stood up” (Nehemiah 8:5). What respect! At the singing of the national anthem, people stand out of respect for our

country. Should we show any less respect for the Bible, the word of God?

They Were in Agreement with It. “...the people answered, Amen, Amen” (Nehemiah 8:6), which means “I agree.” Today, when we point out what the Bible says, even on very basic things, there are often those who take issue with what the word of God says. We need to be in agreement with the truth!

They Stood in Place for It. Respect for the word of God is seen as “the people stood in their place” (Nehemiah 8:7). It would be a good practice to keep my place and teach my children to keep their place when the Scriptures are being read so as to hear, and not create a distraction to others interested in hearing, the truth.

They Wept over It. The audience was so touched by the word that, “the people wept, when they heard the words of the law” (Nehemiah 8:9).

They Obeyed It. The people “...went forth... and made themselves booths” (Nehemiah 8:13-18) as the word instructed. What respect for the word of God!

The Terre Haute Speaker is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

Assembling At:

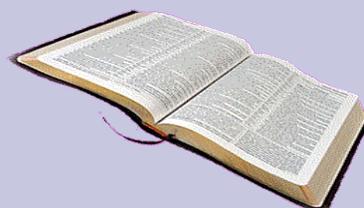
Holiday Inn Express & Suites
2645 S Joe Fox St.
Terre Haute, IN 47803
(Exit 11, I-70 & SR 46)

www.churchofchristatterrehaute.com



Assembling Times:

Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.



**The Bible
Is Our
Only Guide!**