

Gospel Lighthouse Church
1/4/26
New Year
“The Same Jesus for a New Year”

Text: “*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*” —Hebrews 13:8.

Introduction: An unchanging anchor. As we step into a new year, we do so with mixed emotions—hope, uncertainty, expectation, and reflection. Yet Scripture gives us an anchor that does not shift with time: “*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*” This truth grounds us as we remember the past, trust the present, and face the future. As we step into a new year, we are anchored by an unchanging truth: **Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever.** This is not merely a statement about time—it is a **three-dimensional sameness focus of faith.**

- Same: **the same identical one.** Not merely “similar” or “consistent,” but **unchanged in identity and nature.**

1. Yesterday: God’s proven faithfulness.

- It implies both *recent past* and *all past experience*.

“Yesterday” includes all that lies behind us, including 2025. It holds moments of blessing and moments of struggle. Through it all, God proved Himself faithful.

- Scripture calls us to remember—not with nostalgia, but with gratitude. What God has done reveals who He is.

Joshua 4:5-7—stones of remembrance:

Israel built a memorial after crossing the Jordan. The stones reminded future generations that God made a way. Our “stones” from last year—answered prayers, sustained strength, unexpected provision—declare that **God has not changed.**

- Since God was faithful then, we can trust Him now.

2. Today: God’s present sufficiency.

- The present moment.

“Today” is the beginning of 2026. This is where faith becomes practical. Because Christ remains the same, we can trust Him in this moment—regardless of uncertainty, trauma, or transition.

- Time does not change His character, and circumstances do not weaken His promises.
- A lighthouse does not remove the storm, but it remains steady so ships can navigate safely. God may not remove every challenge, but His presence is constant and dependable.

Since Christ is faithful in our past and sufficient in our present, then what about the future?

3. Forever: God’s secured future.

- Jesus is **unchanging in identity.** He is **completely dependable.**

“Forever” speaks of what lies ahead unknown to us but known to God. The future does not intimidate because the same unchanging God holds it.

- Isaiah reminds us that God alone is supreme, and His purposes, He completes (Isaiah 46:9–10).
- We see unfinished work; God sees the completed design. What feels uncertain to us is already purposeful to Him.

Conclusion: Because Jesus does not change, we can remain faithful and move forward in peace despite changing leaders, teachings, or trials. JDF

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