

WHAT'S IN A SONG?

By Sally Campbell



Change My Heart, O God

Eddie Espinoza | Isaiah 64:8

(CCLI Lic#1302488)

We changed the clocks, springing forward and losing an hour. For all our complaining, we will change it back in the fall. We have been doing this for so long now we don't even remember which is the correct time. The seasons change but return once a year. Our friends change and some come back again. Fashion changes, as we mimic Celebrities and so-called social influencers. Policies change with each new government, only to be put back in place when the previous party gains power again.

To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven¹ But even Solomon realized that there is nothing new under the sun.² When people change things it's usually out of expedience or boredom, but often we revert right back to the same pattern somewhere down the road. In the field of social science this would be referred to as a pattern of "relapse", an impulsive regression back to old habits and previously dangerous behaviours. It is no wonder we are continually "repeating history". Our human tendency is to camp out in the alteration and modification part of the definition of change which means we can always change back. However, when God speaks of change, he is calling for transformation; to be changed into something new. A total commitment to change, with no default setting.

The prophet Isaiah acknowledged that we are as clay in the Potter's hand, and that potter is the God of the universe.³ The Potter takes the clay and molds it, transforming it to usefulness. Even if the pot could think for itself, it would not likely choose to return to its original form. Now it can be used to the purpose for which it was created. Humans were created by design and we have an instinctive drive for meaning in our lives. We are wired for it. A life without meaning causes all manner of consequence and mental anguish.

We were created for a purpose. When we consider God's plan in its entirety, we realize that we play a significant role in that plan. We were created to have a relationship with God; to walk with him, as his children. Therefore, his intent for us would be perfection and usefulness. We were originally called to something great, all those years ago in the garden. The act of Christ dying on the cross was to give us back what was once lost. But we can't understand any of this without a willingness to be transformed by God. We do that by acknowledging he can make us new, he wants what is best for us and agreeing to trust him in the process.

"But now O Lord you are our father"⁴. This is an acknowledgment that we each need to make on our own. To trust in God and accept the gift of inheritance. The work of the cross is a gift to all, but faith in Christ remains a choice. Part of faith development is communing with God and allowing him to transform us to a new and beautiful vessel, designed for purpose.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you

You are the potter, I am the clay

Mold me and make me. this is what I pray

1. Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NKJV) | 2. Ecclesiastes 1:9 (NKJV) | 3. Isaiah 64:8 (NKJV) | 4. Isaiah 64:8 (NKJV)