Introduction: Last night we changed our times. The reason I know this is because we started Eastern/Central Time early this morning, and we are here. If you did not change your clock, you would not be here, where you belong, at the right time. But as I wrote in the bulletin there were certain clocks that I did not change from last fall to now. It got me to thinking and understanding why some people do not change and my responsibilities toward those folks. As we look at reasons clocks and people do not change.

**I) Do Not Know How To Change**

**A) Some clocks are hard to change and takes a certain knowledge.**

1. Requires getting out the manual or instructions and reading through it.

2. Manuals can be confusing if you do not know how to read it.

**B) Some people don't know how to change their lives.**

1. Ethiopian Eunuch was a pretty good fellow, religiously minded but he did not understand God's plan of salvation**,**

**Acts 8:30 So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him.**

a. He needed someone to explain to him what the prophet Isaiah was talking about.

b. He was receptive asked Philip to come up and explain to him the scripture.

2. The Philippians Jailer wanted to know what he needed to do to be saved,

**Acts 16:30b And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"**

**C) The Gospel must be studied and learned from the Bible**

1. Most people do not study the Bible for themselves. As they have heard that one is saved because of Jesus and they need to pray.

2. What does the Bible say about our salvation?

a. Jesus died for our sins on the cross and to be saved we must come to Him.

**John 8:24 "Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."**

b. We must believe Jesus to be the Messiah, the Son of the living God, **John 8.24**.

c. We must repent, stop sinning, and do the will of God,

**Luke 13:3 "I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.**

d. We must confess that Jesus is the Son of God,

**Acts 8:37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."**

e. We must be baptized, immersed in water,

**Acts 8:38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.** It is in baptism we are buried with Christ, into His death, and raised to walk in newness of life,

**Romans 6:3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.**

**D) Those that know, need to teach those that do not know. Romans 10.14-16**

**II) Some Don't Change Due To Laziness**

**A) Easier to just not touch that clock**

1. You hope that someone else (wife, children, whoever) will eventually change the clock.

2. May be you just mentally adjust the time in your head.

**B) Some like the theology that God has done everything for you and you don't have to do a thing to be saved.**

1. Jesus died on the cross for you and you don't have to obey the Gospel, or live a righteous life, or go to church, or do anything else.

2. That is an easy religion to live.

a**. Romans 4.3 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." 4 Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. 5 But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,** may be used to say that one is saved by "faith only"

b. What works are under consideration in **Romans 4.3-5**? Self righteous works, works under the Law of Moses?

**Romans 4:3 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."**

**Romans 4:13 For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.**

**C) Bible teaches there must be faith to be saved; and faith requires works**

1. Believing is a work

**John 6:28 Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" 29 Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."**

2. Repentance is a work, **Matthew 3.8**

3. Baptism is a work,

**Colossians 2:11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, 12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.**

4. We are to work out our salvation, **Phil. 2.12**.

**III) Some Don't Change Because of Its Inconvenience (Procrastination)**

**A) We will change that clock later on.**

1. Days turn into weeks; weeks turn into months, and month turn into seasons,

2. Before you know it we are once again changing our clocks.

**B) Of course we have Felix in Acts 24.25.**

**Acts 24:25 Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, "Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you."**

1. Why did he not obey the Gospel? Selfishness, required changing his life.

a. We tend to put off things that are hard.

b. We tend to put off things that we think we can put off.

2. The foolish farmer planned on resting "later on", **Luke 12.**

3. I don't know but the rich man in **Luke 16** may have planned on doing better "one of these days."

4. Now is the day of salvation**, 2 Corinthians 6.1-2**.

**IV) Some Don't Change Because They Think Some Thing Or Else Will Change**

**A) Our time changes twice a year.**

1. If you just leave your clock alone it will eventually be right again.

2. Of course it will be wrong the rest of the time.

**B) People think God will change His mind on the Day of Judgment**

1. Consider the following passages:

a**. John 12.48** will we be judged? By what standard?

**John 12:48 "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.**

b. **John 5.25-29** will we be raised when Jesus returns? who will go to heaven? who will go do heaven?

**John 5:25 "Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. 26 "For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, 27 "and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. 28 "Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 "and come forth--those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.**

c. **2 Thessalonians 1.8** what will happen to those who do not know the Gospel? what will happen to those who do not obey the Gospel?

**2 Thessalonians 1:8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

2. Why would anyone think God will save those who He specifically condemns? Why save those who deny Jesus as the Son of God? Why save those who never confessed Jesus to be the Son of God? Why save those who never repent, change? Why saved those who never have their sins washed away by the blood of Jesus (the bloodshed on the cross)?

Conclusion: There will come a time of change. We die and leave behind this physical body; at the resurrection we will be change and take on a spiritual body; we be judge and either condemned or rewarded.