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| **Slide #** |  |
| **1** | **Agents of Change**  **How God’s servants can bring about positive change** |
| **2** | **What Kind of Change?**  Warning! Be careful of those *“****given to change****”.*(Proverbs 24:21)  We need to talk about “***traditions***” …   * **Traditions** to be **avoided**. (Mark 7:3-9; Colossians 2:8) * **Traditions** to be **held on to**. (2 Thessalonians 2:15; 3:6) |
| **3** | **Why Is Change Needed?**   * **Because times are different?** (Ecclesiastes 1-2; Psalms 42:4) * **Because standards are different?** (Isaiah 5:20; Jeremiah 6:16; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Peter 1:22-25) * **Because people are different?** (Romans 3:23; Psalms 143:1-2) * **Because sin is progressive, pervasive, and unrelenting?** (Genesis 6:18-19; 2 Timothy 3) |
| **4** | **What Kind of Change?**  **Change back to God’s standards and will**!   * Seeking the “***ancient paths****.*” (Jeremiah 6:16)   **How did we get here**? (Hebrews 2:1; cf. Isaiah 5:20; Psalms 42:4; Ephesians 5:7-16)  **So how do we get back** “**there**”? What does “there” look like? (Who’s responsible?)  **Where does it begin**? (Matthew 15:18-20)  **How do we change hearts**? What? Who? |
| **5** | **Who Is Responsible?**  **Politicians?** (Proverbs 14:34; 1 Timothy 2:2)  **Clergy/laity?** (What does that mean?)  **All members?** (Ephesians 4:11-16)  **Am I part of the problem?** (Nehemiah 1:5-11)  **Am I part of the solution?** |
| **6** | **Biblical Case Studies … How Did They Bring About Change?**   1. **Jehoshaphat** (2 Chronicles 17:3-9; 18:1-2; 6-9; 19:1-4; 20:1-12; 20:31-37) How did he negate his ability to bring about reforms?) 2. **Ezra, Haggai, Zechariah, Nehemiah.** (Ezra 5:1-2; Haggai 1:1-5; Ezra 5:8-12) 3. **Paul** (cf. 2 Corinthians 12:15; 1 Corinthians 9:23; Acts 26:24) 4. **Jesus** (Submission to His Father’s will, iron-clad commitment, willingness to sacrifice all!) |
| **7** | **How Do We Bring About The Changes Needed?**   1. **Be personally responsible** and “***live the change***” boldly and courageously. (Nehemiah; Daniel 9:4-11; Isaiah 6:8; Ezekiel 22:30; Jeremiah 5:1-3) 2. **Not conformed but transformed**! Stop the moral “drift” by returning to God’s standard. (Romans 12:1-2) 3. **Stop compromising**! (2 John 9-11) |
| **8** | **How Do We Bring About The Changes Needed?**   1. **Look for open doors**. (Colossians 4:3-6) Pray for them, that we’ll recognize & make the most of them. 2. **Be as tactical & relentless as our opponent(s)**. (Matthew 10:16; 1 Peter 5:8; cf., Ephesians 5:15-17; 6:10ff) 3. **Persuade others using God’s power**. (Acts 17:1-3, 17; 18:4; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11; 2 Timothy 3:16-17) |