



# BROAD STREET

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*From Where I Sit . . .*

### “The Gospel: Antique But Not Antiquated” – Part One

The story is told of an ancient king who called his wise men and charged them to give him a sentence which he could apply with equal appropriateness to every situation in life and to every object which he might see. The wise men went away, fearful of their fate facing so unusual and so difficult a task. What single sentence could possibly apply to everything with equal appropriateness? After a great deal of thought and after the passage of much time, these wise men returned to their king with a reply. They had framed a sentence which would apply to every situation in life and to every material object. The sentence? **“This, too, shall pass away.”**

To most of us this would appear to be true. Wherever you look, whatever you may see, whatever situation in life you may face, their sentence seems to apply – “This, too, shall pass away.” It’s not altogether true, however, that everything is changing or that everything will pass away, or that everything needs to change. Let me illustrate a couple of ways.

I don’t know if you admire antiques or not, but to many this is a rewarding hobby. An antique is something that is of a much earlier time period, something that is ancient. Antiques can become even more valuable with age. The interesting thing is that so many people throw things away which turn out to be antique because they assume that they are antiquated, or outdated. We are so accustomed to throwing away what we don’t need and buying the modern replacement for it – so accustomed to making constant changes, that it’s easy for people to assume that it’s necessary to discard everything as if it’s obsolete. We get rid of old possessions, old treatments, old rules and laws to the point that men also discard old values. A sign of our times is to reject the traditional view of everything.

This brings us to the point of our **“Thoughts From The Bible”** for today. In the midst of such a changing world, questions naturally arise regarding the Gospel. Is it possible that we need a new gospel? Some argue that **THIS Gospel** is outdated, that times have changed, that we live in an age of enlightenment, that people are different now. Can the Gospel as preached by Paul 1900 years ago save man as he is today?

The **Gospel of Christ** is indeed “Antique” but it is in no way “Antiquated.” In **Hebrews 13:8** we read **“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.”** Christ remains relevant to every generation. He’s never outdated or obsolete!! We also affirm that His message, **THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST**, is always up to date with the needs of mankind. As in the words of an old hymn, “it was good for Paul and Silas,” the gospel was indeed sufficient to meet the needs of their day! It changed lives everywhere it was preached. Jesus declared in **John 15:3** **“Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken.”**

Sinners, guilty of all kinds of sin, were made whole again through the preaching of and response to the same Gospel we read today. **Romans 6:17-18 (NASB)** <sup>17</sup> **But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed,** <sup>18</sup> **and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.”**

The **Gospel of Christ** was sufficient in those days to lay sin bare and perform a needed surgery on the hearts of men. It remains sufficient to meet the needs of our modern generation as well.

. . . Terry Broome