

## 2020 Mid-Year Review: A Year of *Change*?

In a few days we will be at the halfway point of the year. Wow-what a year so far! Some of you are *much* older than me, but I've never seen anything like it (just teasing!). We've gone from, "Hey, there's a dangerous virus, wash your hands," to "It's great to see even the top of your head and your eyes (because everyone is wearing a mask)- it's been so long!" We've had quite the ride, and I'm not sure when we will get back to "normal" or even whether or not we'll recognize it when we do.

And then the last week or so has been... different (even from the last eleven weeks), disheartening, disturbing, discouraging, and divisive. It reminds me of the scene in Acts 19:29-41 where people were *angry, confused, shouting, violent, and on a precipice*, but eventually listened to reason. I hope such happens for our city and country.

If one word describes this year so far, I would choose "change"- it seems *everything* has changed; how we *work, school, shop, socialize, recreate*, and even *worship*. But in times of extreme *change*, the One who does *not change* (cf. Num.23:19, ESV; and things He requires) gives us stability and provides hope.

I'd like to just remind us of a few things from **Romans**:

- **12:1-2**, our duty/relationship **to God** has not changed;
- **12:3-16**, our duty/relationship **to each other** has not changed;
- **12:17-21**, our duty/relationship **to the world** has not changed;
- **13:1-7**, our duty/relationship **to government** has not changed (or vice versa, v.4);
- **13:8-14**, our duty relationship **to everyone** has not changed; and,
- **14:1 – 15:3**, our duty relationship **to those different than "me/us"** (in non-sinful ways) has not changed.

Yeah, a lot **has changed** so far this year; but a lot has also **not changed** too!

Are **you** one of the things that need to change? If so, why not start today- right now in fact.