

## **A Pocketful of Change A Meditation**

### ***I've a pocketful of change!***

Life is a pocketful of change!

Old Mr. Jackson always has a pocketful of change. You can hear him jangling it during the church service. If he put it in the collection plate he wouldn't be tempted. He can't love it that much.

Life is a pocketful of change  
waiting for us to give it back to God.

Every new day is change.

Every windswept cloud paints a changed sky.

A grub becomes a dragonfly.

A sunlit leaf takes on a golden mantle.

The stars change places as the earth revolves.

In the wide expanse of history all things have time to change,  
governments and nations come and go,

.... and I am not the person once I was.

### ***All Change!***

There's a problem on the line.

The train is terminating here.

I'll have to take the District line.

I'll Be late home again.

Delays and diversions can be irritating when my schedule's tight  
and I'm running late.

But relax,

sometimes those roundabout journey's can be a time to wait  
to patiently trust God's timetable rather than my own. New experiences.

*I've not noticed that before!*

New meetings, with new people.

*Do you travel this way often?*

### ***Think I'll go and change***

I can't go out in these old gardening clothes.  
They hardly smell of roses.  
You never know who you'll meet at the Supermarket.  
They say, *Just smile and keep looking them in the eye, they'll never notice what you've got on.*  
But it's more than that.  
It's how I feel.  
Clothes may not make the man, but they do help you feel like yourself.  
Of course it's the person inside the clothes that matters. I met an old tramp once who looked as though he hadn't changed in months, but when he opened his mouth you'd think he came from royalty.  
Perhaps he did!

### ***I've changed my mind!***

We say it, both for good and ill.  
A change of mind may be a selfish thing,  
Destroying another's hopes and dreams;  
It can be a magnanimous gesture putting, others first.  
To have an honest, open mind to listen and to hear a counter view.  
It can be a most courageous thing, to say,  
*I've thought again, perhaps I'm wrong.*

### ***Change the baby for me will you!***

I drag myself away from the television, reluctantly.  
That's the third time today!  
How can someone so small produce so much?  
If I compared it to my writing output, I could even be called prolific!  
*Come on little fellow,*  
I'd hate to be left so helpless.  
It's always good to be cleaned up.  
My faith has taught me that.  
God gave us Jesus and said,  
*Change the world for me will you ... and start with him!*

### ***It's changed hands!***

It's happening all the time to shops and pubs these days..

*Under new management!*

In different hands now.

So we assume the food, the service, the merchandise, will surely have improved.

The apostle Paul's '*no longer I but Christ*'

has been a cherished phrase for me since my earliest Christian days.

I changed hands then.

I told him he could have control of my life because he'd make a better job of it than me.

That's not to say I haven't had a go at running it myself again from time to time.

My life has changed hands a few times, but it still runs best when he's in charge.

After all he owns the business!

### ***Ring the changes***

I love the sound of church bells.

I know some people find them tiresome,  
especially when the ringers need a couple of hours  
to go through all the changes.

The bells are full of past memories for me.

Not that I'd ever see myself as a bell-ringer.

Everything has to be in the right order.

I'm sure I'd miss my turn.

Life's like that, of course.

When you're part of the team and working by God's rules

you can ring the changes and know it'll all be right whatever others may think.

### ***Changed your tune***

Attitudes.

Frame of mind.

It's so easy to get into a rut.

So easy to go on saying and believing the things we always have.

Keeping the attitudes we've lived with so long

Forgetting that the world has changed around us.

Still singing the same tune oblivious to the fact that the words have changed.

### ***Change gear!***

It's laziness really.

That's what she tells me, coasting round corners in third. I knew a farmer once who, when his men complained they were cold, used to tell them

*You're in the wrong gear lad!*

A lower gear may mean travelling slower,  
but it's more powerful and I'm in control.

There's a life lesson there for the Church and every Christian.

All this frantic rushing around for the Lord  
while he's probably saying,

*You're in the wrong gear. Slow down and find the power.*

### ***Have you got change?***

I never remember the coin for the shopping trolley.

What if no-one has an extra pound  
to change for my two-pound coin,  
or even worse, five for a note?

I'm left without a trolley

and that's limited my choice of what I'll have for tea tonight.

But that's how it is for half the world  
no trolley!

Not even a basket laden with things I do not really need plus some to throw  
away.

*Have you got change for charity?*

Why do the poor have to have my spare change

When if I gave the capital there could be the change which makes them rich.

### ***We shall be changed***

What a tremendous promise.

Heaven will be all change.

I know we don't have to be good enough to get there. We're going because  
Jesus is good enough.

But I like to think he'll go on changing me,  
getting me ready.

I'd hate to enter heaven like I am now.

I'd stick out like a sore thumb in that company!

That's if the new body has thumbs!

Hope so. There's a lot of people I'd like to 'thumbs up' to.

Especially those who've given me a pocketful of change!