

1 John 3 – Let us Love One Another (Part 2)

INTRODUCTION: The extraordinary love of God towards mankind, and the effects of it. (1-3)

The Command to Love - (1) Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us

Let us consider another instance where BEHOLD is spoken in the Bible.

Isaiah 43: 15-19 Behold! I Do a New Thing

Behold I do a New thing! That was the declarative word spoken by God to His people in Isaiah 43. He spoke a faith-path out of their seventy-year captivity into liberation and redemption. God was calling His people out from the old and into the new. He was calling things that were not - as though they had already happened. As far as God was concerned, it was already a done deal.

Behold. It actually means to stand in awe and be amazed – WOW! Why did God say this? His announcement was a statement of His character- Redeemer. In fact, in the same breath, God was also announcing hope for humanity through Jesus Christ, and the grace of the Gospel.

"I *am* the Lord, your Holy One, The Creator of Israel, your King."

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea And a path through the mighty waters,
Who brings forth the chariot and horse, The army and the power ...

"Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old.

Behold, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it?
I will even make a road in the wilderness *And* rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43:15-19

Today, I believe the Lord would say to His people, "BEHOLD! I am doing a new thing." He is calling us to come up and out of the ordinary and rise above our limits. He is asking us to SEE and RESPOND to His hand of preparation and purpose in our lives and in the Church - His Bride.

To behold what He has done, is doing and will continue to do ... we must live righteously, according to the Word of God and with a vision to see His kingdom come here on earth.

Are you expecting God to do a new thing in your life? That may seem overwhelming when you consider your present circumstances but take courage – the Bible declares that God has made a way, carved a road to lead you and positioned rivers of provision to refresh you. If anyone thirsts, let him **COME** to me and drink. Rivers of living water will brim and spill out of the depths of anyone who believes in Me this way, just as the Scripture says. – **John 7:38**

There is much on the horizon, so don't be discouraged by bumps in the road or detours on the path. Continue to trust, put your faith in God. What does a "new thing" look like for you? Do you know that God longs to do a new thing in and through you, not just once ... but every single day? Taste and see what God is doing in your life, your church, or across the world and be amazed.

"**Behold**, I *am* the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?" **Jer 32:27**

PRAYER: *Father God, thank You for going ahead of me to plan the path for my life. Help me to expect something new and I ask for the wisdom to respond rather than react to Your guidance. I choose to acknowledge and be thankful for Your rivers of provision along the way.*

Brian C Houston 22 June 2016 **Devotional / NEW ROADS, NEW RIVERS**

<https://brianchouston.com/2016/06/22/behold-i-do-a-new-thing/>

CONSIDER & SHARE: What "new thing" are you experiencing today? This week? This year? Besides the "virus" ... how is your life changing? Remember a Christian life is a life of change that grows your faith. How is your faith growing?