



Topic: New Thing. Bible Scriptures: Exodus 33:11 Joshua 1:1-3 2 Kings 2:8-14 John 1:14-18
Isaiah 43:19 Acts 4:13

The New Thing

As we come to a new season, we honour the past, give thanks to God for who He is and all He has done and prepare our hearts for the New Thing. Last year was a season of fruitfulness but also preparation for the three years ahead. Three years of multiplication and sustainable harvest.

It is this generation young and old who out the revelation of God's love and in the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, will enter into the new thing that God has for His church. We simply need to be willing.

Now is the Time

Let us go back to the moment in time when Moses led the Hebrew people out of Egypt. Moses' style of leadership was that he was the one through whom God did all the miracles. Moses was the one who spoke to God, received instructions from God and told the Hebrew people what to do.

Exodus 33:11 *So the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle.*

Moses' servant Joshua would become Moses' successor. The word translated "servant" here does not mean slave, but rather a minister, one who does spiritual service.

From the humble beginnings of ministry Joshua hungered to be in the presence of the Lord. God commissioned Joshua as the leader of the new thing that God wanted to do in the hearts and minds of the Hebrew people, the children of Israel.

Joshua 1:1-3 *After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, it came to pass that the Lord spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying: "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses.*



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New Empowerment

Joshua was given the Spirit of God and represented a new kind of leadership where he empowered all the children of Israel to be part of God's miracles and wonders and salvation plan.

True Witnesses

Joshua along with Caleb was the true witness of God. Two out of the twelve that were sent out to spy the promised land. Ten said that the land was filled with giants and so we could not enter in. Joshua and Caleb testified the land was good. Giants or no giants God is greater, He had given us this land. God said go, so we must go and take the land.

The only two out of the many people that God delivered out from Egypt who entered the promised land were Joshua and Caleb. They hungered for His presence. Both were surrendered to the will of God, had His Spirit within, and knew God was good, faithful and true. As a result they trusted in Him.

Not even Moses entered the promise land. He started to do the work of God in his own strength, thus not bringing glory to God. Yet God honoured Moses. Joshua honoured Moses. But God was calling His people and Joshua to a new thing.

To enter into the new thing their needs to be a crossing over or transition.

Season of Transition

To cross over into the new thing there is an acknowledgement of the past and a letting go of the old ways. In a spiritual sense letting go of trusting in formulas, strategies, thoughts and gifts given. In letting go we are transitioning from the past into the new thing.

Joshua was anointed for the generation of his time, a true witness of the living God. He empowered all to participate in God's wonders.



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With God, the new thing is always greater than the former.

Let us look at another time of transition to the new thing, once again it is at the river Jordan.

2 Kings 2:8-10 *Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground. And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?" Elisha said, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." So he said, "You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so."*

Personal Encounter

2 Kings 2:11-14 *Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried out, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!" So he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces. He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan. Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over.*

Elisha wanted to know the God of his spiritual father. Elisha received a personal heavenly vision and took up the robe of Elijah. The prophet's role is to testify of God and speak His Word, so that the individual or group will know Him. The prophetic gift is to reveal God. Elisha just like Joshua went through the river and went over to the other side.



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New Experience

Elisha heard the call from an early age. Like Joshua, Elisha hungered for the presence of God. Elijah was gone, but the love story of God lived on. Elisha entered into a greater revelation of God, His truth, power and love.

All of this was before Jesus, where God Himself became flesh and blood and walked the earth as a man, died, rose, ascended into heaven and poured out His Spirit upon all flesh.

God in Christ Jesus is calling His people to a new thing. As we come to the new thing, we acknowledge the past, yet we must let go of the ways of old. Let God give us new ways to think, new ways to see, where each one is empowered to live in a greater revelation of His love, truth and power.

New Life

The Apostle John testifies of Jesus as the beginning of the new thing and speaks of John the Baptist as a true witness of God.

John 1:14-18 *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.' " And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.*

Now is the time for this generation to receive the fullness of the truth and life. All who receive Jesus receive His Spirit. Like Joshua may we hunger for His presence, receive the truth in Jesus and empower others to empower others.



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May we like Elisha see the open heaven that God has before His people and take up the robe of Jesus, His robe of justice, which is right standing before God. Let us know and experience the fullness of the living God flowing freely through us testifying of Jesus. God the Father is seeking true witness of who He is, what he has done and will do.

Jesus the King of kings gives us His robe, His name, His authority and His power to be His true witnesses.

The world does not need another religion, the world needs Jesus.

Man cannot change himself. Only Jesus can change lives, only Jesus, only He.

New Intimacy

God called the children of Israel back to Himself, when He declared to them that they are to be His true witnesses of His love, truth and power. That was the situation when God said to them in **Isaiah 43:19** *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.*

God is calling His people back to Himself in greater intimacy, to be true witnesses of His love, truth and power.

The time is now for the new thing of God, which in fact is the same thing from since the beginning. That is to know and experience personally God's love, truth and power. For the hearts and minds of His people to be transformed, so that the world may know Him.

Letting His Living Waters flow freely in and through this dry land where religion has bound so many people. Where good works have wearied so many.



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This dry land cries out for true witnesses of the Living God in this generation.

Conclusion

This generation is asking questions of belief and this world. We have the answer.
His name is Jesus.

Therefore the more we focus on Jesus, the victory of the empty tomb, the experience of the resurrected Lord, and the fire of His Spirit burning within, the more we live in a new freedom of victory over self, competitiveness, pride, works of the flesh and defensiveness.

Now is the time for this generation to see years of multiplication and sustainable harvest. This is the fruit of the root of Jesus.