# **SEQUOIA NOTES**

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

**A New Thing** 

With Ryan Dawson, Lead Pastor January 24, 2021

#### In what ways do you resonate with these images?





Isaiah 43:14-17 This is what the Lord says—your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "For your sakes I will send an army against Babylon, forcing the Babylonians to flee in those ships they are so proud of. <sup>15</sup> I am the Lord, your Holy One, Israel's Creator and King. <sup>16</sup> I am the Lord, who opened a way through the waters, making a dry path through the sea. <sup>17</sup> I called forth the mighty army of Egypt with all its chariots and horses. I drew them beneath the waves, and they drowned, their lives snuffed out like a smoldering candlewick."

Isaiah 43:18-21 "But forget all that— it is nothing compared to what I am going to do. <sup>19</sup> For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland. <sup>20</sup> The wild animals in the fields will thank me, the jackals and owls, too, for giving them water in the desert. Yes, I will make rivers in the dry wasteland so my chosen people can be refreshed. <sup>21</sup> I have made Israel for myself, and they will someday honour me before the whole world."

- There is a temptation to rely on <u>yesterday's</u> spiritual experience, for <u>today</u>.
- There is also a temptation for us to live in the past.

What in my past is holding me back from moving forward in faith?

"For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it?" Isaiah 43:19

# All throughout Scripture God tells us that he is doing a new thing.

Jeremiah 31:33 Ezekiel 36:26 Romans 6:4 Romans 12:2 2 Corinthians 5:17 Ephesians 4:24 Colossians 3:10 Hebrews 10:20 Revelation 2:17 Revelation 21:1

Revelation 21:5 [Jesus says] "And the one sitting on the throne said, 'Look, I am making everything NEW!"

Isaiah 43:22,24 (NLT) "But, dear family of Jacob, you refuse to ask for my help. You have grown tired of me, O Israel... you have burdened me with your sins...

Isaiah 43:25 "I—yes, I alone—will blot out your sins for my own sake and will never think of them again."

Big Idea: See with eyes of faith the <u>new thing</u> that God wants to do in you.

- Lord, what in my past is holding me back from moving forward in faith?
- Lord, what is the "new thing" you want to do in and through me?
- $\cdot$  Lord, what is the "new thing" you want to do in and through us as a church?

**Benediction:** Ephesians 1:17-19 (NIV) I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. <sup>18</sup>I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, <sup>19</sup> and his incomparably great power for us who believe





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#### A New Thing #2 of 3 - January 24, 2020

1. What stood out to you in this message and what questions did it raise?

2. Read and reflect on Isaiah 43:14-21. What is God saying to His people in this passage? How would this encourage the Israelites in exile?

3. Why are we tempted to rely on "yesterday's spiritual experience, for today" and to "live in the past"? In what ways do you feel this temptation?

4. Describe the "new thing" God wants to do in this passage in your own words. What promises does God make to His people?

5. What in your past is holding you back from moving forward in faith today?

6. Take time to read and reflect on the following verses. What is God saying to you through His Word?

Jeremiah 31:33 Ezekiel 36:26 Romans 6:4 Romans 12:2 2 Corinthians 5:17 Ephesians 4:24 Colossians 3:10 Hebrews 10:20 Revelation 2:17 Revelation 21:1 Revelation 21:5

7. Read Isaiah 43:22-25. What holds us back as a people from experiencing the "new thing" God wants to do in and through us? How does the Gospel message provide the solution to this?

8. Read and pray through Ephesians 1:17-19 (NIV). Then ask the Lord these questions and record what you sense God saying to you.

Lord, what in my past is holding me back from moving forward in faith? Lord, what is the "new thing" you want to do in and through me? Lord, what is the "new thing" you want to do in and through us as a church?

Take time to share with each other what you hear from God.



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