MAKING ROOM FOR THE NEW

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Isaiah 43:16-21 MSG

[16-21] This is what GOD says, the God who builds a road right through the ocean, who carves a path through pounding waves, The God who summons horses and chariots and armies- they lie down and then can't get up; they're snuffed out like so many candles: "Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something **brand-new**. It's bursting out! Don't you see it? There it is! I'm making a road through the desert, rivers in the badlands. Wild animals will say 'Thank you!' -the coyotes and the buzzards-Because I provided water in the desert, rivers through the sun-baked earth, Drinking water for the people I chose, the people I made especially for myself, a people custom-made to praise me.

How do we embrace the New?

1. Understand that God is not limited in what He can do.

Ephesians 3:20-21 MSG

[20-21] God can do anything, you know-far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us. Glory to God in the church! Glory to God in the Messiah, in Jesus! Glory down all the generations! Glory through all millennia! Oh, yes!

2. We have to Stop living in former Glory or Former pain.

Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history.

Ephesians 4:20-24 MSG

[20-24] But that's no life for you. You learned Christ! My assumption is that you have paid careful attention to him, been well instructed in the truth precisely as we have it in Jesus. Since, then, we do not have the excuse of ignorance, everything-and I do mean everything-connected with that old way of life has to go. It's rotten through and through. Get rid of it! And then take on an entirely new way of life-a God-fashioned life, a life renewed from the inside and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you.

I think one of the saddest things that can happen to Christians is that they sit back and reflect on all the good things they've done and justify not looking for God's NEW in their life.

3. We should Always be Ready For God to move

Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it?

4. Be willing and able to give God the Praise.

Wild animals will say 'Thank you!' -the coyotes and the buzzards- Because I provided water in the desert, rivers through the sun-baked earth, Drinking water for the people I chose, the people I made especially for myself, a people custom-made to praise me.

2 Samuel 6:15-22 NKJV

[15] So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet. [16] Now as the ark of the LORD came into the City of David, Michal, Saul's daughter, looked through a window and saw King David leaping and whirling before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart. [17] So they brought the ark of the LORD, and set it in its place in the midst of the tabernacle that David had erected for it. Then David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD. [18] And when David had finished offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts. [19] Then he distributed among all the people, among the whole multitude of Israel, both the women and the men, to everyone a loaf of bread, a piece of meat, and a cake of raisins. So all the people departed, everyone to his house. [20] Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, "How glorious was the king of Israel today, uncovering himself today in the eyes of the maids of his servants, as one of the base fellows shamelessly uncovers himself!" [21] So David said to Michal, "It was before the LORD, who chose me instead of your father and all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the LORD, over Israel. Therefore I will play music before the LORD. [22] And I will be even more undignified than this, and will be humble in my own sight. But as for the maidservants of whom you have spoken, by them I will be held in honor.