August 31

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NIV) There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: Isaiah 43:19 (NASB1995) ¹⁹ "Behold, I will do something new, Now it will spring forth; Will you not be aware of it? I will even make a roadway in the wilderness, Rivers in the desert.

Yesterday I mentioned that when I started teaching, they gave me my books and turned me loose. The only equipment I had was an overhead projector with a roll of film on which I could write. It was wonderful! All I needed was one bulb and one plug. In my later years, we had interactive smart boards, iPads, Chromebooks, Zoom, digital books, tests that graded themselves, and interactive chats we could use outside the classroom. During our "spare" time, I would challenge my classes in a game of Scrabble on the Smartboard. When I taught certain stories or books or songs, I could call up videos, performances, and historical background. Somewhere along the way, my trusty overhead projector got lost.

Yesterday, we talked about the unchanging nature of the Word of God and of Jesus Christ Himself. There is comfort in that truth. There is comfort in knowing the Word that Paul heard from the Holy Spirit is the same Word that we are hearing. However, as with my classroom, my teaching did not change. I still taught grammar, writing, discussions, and literature, but my methods changed. While the Gospel will never change, our delivery of that Gospel may. God tells us that He is doing something new, and He wants us to be aware of it. Our services are now livestreamed, allowing us to partner with other bodies around the world. Our outreach encompasses new adventures such as pool parties, Night in Bethlehem, community egg hunts, and community Vacation Bible School. The message must never change. The truth of the Gospel will never fade or be modified. However, our ways of reaching our world may. Will we not be aware of it?