

## New Things for a New Year

Isaiah 43:14-21

📖 Isaiah 43:18–19 (NIV84) “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. <sup>19</sup> See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.”

### We need to **remember** what God has **done**.

📖 Isaiah 43:14–17 (NLT) “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 43:1–2 (NIV84) “But now, this is what the Lord says— He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. <sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.”

### We need to **forget** what God has **forgotten**.

📖 Isaiah 43:18 (NIV84) “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.”

📖 Isaiah 43:25 (NIV84) “I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.”

### We need to **perceive** what God is **doing**.

📖 Isaiah 43:19a (NIV84) “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?”

📖 John 5:17 (NIV84) “Jesus said to them, “My Father is always at His work to this very day, and I, too, am working.”

📖 2 Timothy 1:12 (NASB) “...I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day.”

### We need to **go** where God is **going**.

📖 Isaiah 43:19b (NIV84) “I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.”

📖 Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV84) “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

**Digging Deeper** What are some things that God wants you to remember? What are some things that God is waiting for you to forget? What new thing does God need to do in your life, in your marriage, or in your career? Maybe God wants to do a new thing in your heart or a new thing in your relationship with Himself—will you let Him? Will you trust that God has good gifts and a good future for you and that He is working even though you cannot see what He is up to? **R.C. Sproul** said, “**The issue of faith is not so much whether we believe in God, but whether we believe the God we believe in.**”—Will you believe God in 2021?