

BE READY - EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

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Isaiah 43:18-19

Perhaps you are distanced from the place that God made for you, not enjoying the blessing of what He intended for your life. It was in that situation God said to His people and to you, "I am going to do a new thing."

How do you position yourselves for the "new thing"?

1. **FORGET** the former things (v 18)

There are two ideas here:

- Don't recall those things. NASB puts it this way: "Do not **call to mind** the former things or ponder things of the past." In other words, don't be like a record stuck in its groove – playing the same tune over and over again.
- He is admonishing you not to confine Him to what He's already done. It is "... **nothing** compared to what I am going to do." (verse 18 NLT) Ephesians 3:20 says that the LORD is able to do "exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."

2. **EMBRACE** the Unexpected (v 19b)

When the Lord asks, "Shall you not know it?" He is saying, "Do you want to open yourself to My new thing? Are you willing to **embrace** it?"

The verb "know" in Hebrew has to do with the total giving of yourself, as in the husband-wife relationship within marriage. This "knowing" is a total embrace.

3. **OBEY** even you don't see it

"... now it shall spring forth." (v19a). Just because you don't see it doesn't mean it hasn't started. The Hebrew text says: "now it shall sprout." What the Lord wants us to understand is that it is in process and progress already. You can't see it yet, but it's set in motion.

It's like the LORD telling you:

- Don't confine Me to what I've already done or try to anticipate what I will do next.
- I am your complete Deliverer, making a way for you where there is no way. I come in My holiness to make you whole.
- My "new thing" will prepare you for whatever is to come and out of it, you will find new themes for your praise to Me.

Are you facing a situation so overwhelming that unless Jesus intervenes, you don't know how it will work out? Could it be what the Lord's getting ready to change is **you** rather than the circumstance? Would you let go and let Jesus take over by applying these principles in your life? I will be praying for your breakthrough and break out into praise to Him.

Making It Personal:

1. **Insight** – What is ONE new insight the Holy Spirit has given me?
2. **Conviction** – Something pierced my heart or convicted me? Take action now!
3. **Share** – Received something I want to share with someone else?