

1 John 3 – Let us Love One Another (Part 3)

INTRODUCTION: The extraordinary love of God towards mankind, and the effects of it. (1-3)

The Command to Love - (1) Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us

John's words remind us of God's love towards us.

There are so many times that BEHOLD is mentioned in the Bible ... let's continue our study:

IS 43:18-19 Behold, I Will Do a New Thing

18 "Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old.

19 **Behold**, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness *And* rivers in the desert.

Each of us needs newness in our lives. We crave it and we must continually seek out the new to replace and refresh the old. And meanwhile God is in the business of providing (opportunities for) "*new things.*"

NOTE: With Fall approaching ... we are thinking about putting away our summer things and look towards new things for the Fall. Then we think of leaves changing colors and views of God's incredible artistry as the season approaches. We look forward to cooler weather, maybe a new Fall wardrobe, warm comforting savory soups, bonfires, hayrides, Thanksgiving, pumpkins and caramel apples, baking days, and one of my favorites – candy corn. It's the time of year to start thinking about pruning or planting bulbs for the Spring. Kids are starting a new school year and pumpkins are in the stores everywhere.

What does a "new thing" look like for you? Did you know that God longs to do a new thing in and through you, not just once but ***every single day***?

Perhaps you need *supernatural intervention*. Maybe the "*new thing*" for you looks like a breakthrough in this season. I have good news—we serve a God of breakthrough. Both freedom and provision are promises that accompany a new thing. In what area of your life do you need a supernatural breakthrough, or God's intervention, or provision and freedom? Remember, He is the **God of more**.

Maybe the new thing you have your eyes and heart set upon requires ***the favor of God***. Once again, He is the **God of favor**. The Lord wants to favor you and shower His mercy upon you. His companionship can be the source of blessing and fullness in your life that you could never have imagined—and simply staying on the path of a relationship with Jesus is all that it requires. Whatever "new thing" you need, expect it. Look for it. And move toward it.

I love the conversation God has with Moses in Exodus when this tired leader relays the fears and hesitations of his people to the Father. God's response to his questions is this:

"Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward" (Exodus 14:15).

Maybe you, too, have reached an end. Maybe you, too, long for something new but have found the road to be bumpy. God always has a way forward; you just need to keep moving. Ask God to surprise you with His goodness and favor.

PRAYER: *Father God, thank You for this new day. May You go ahead of me to guide me and make things new for me every day. Help me to keep my relationship with You on a steady path through bumpy times so that I may obtain Your blessing and fullness of life. Please protect my heart and mind today. Help me to rise above the troubles and harshness that seems to plague this world. May I show the same grace and mercy to others that You show to me.*

Question to Share: What kind of "new thing" do you crave? (Click on the link on the web site and share).

<https://hillsong.com/collected/blog/2018/05/there-is-more-day-4-behold-i-will-do-a-new-thing/#.Xy1BSDHsaM8>