

Blanchard River Church of Christ

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Isaiah 43:18-19 (ESV)

¹⁸ "Remember not the former things,
nor consider the things of old.

¹⁹ Behold, I am doing a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

One fact of life is most people don't like change. Books have been written with titles such as *Who Moved My Cheese?* to combat our dislike for change. It's kind of like that comfortable pair of shoes you're reluctant to replace. Why buy something new that may be uncomfortable at first? We like what we like, and we don't like change, yet no matter how much we don't like it, it always seems to find us.

Just like a few changes we will face in the new year. Starting in January we will all have to start writing 2024. Our church has some changes too. We no longer have a land line phone. Also, we will be launching a new website at www.briverchurch.com and phase out the old www.blanchardriverchurch.org. And another big change is how our newsletter will be distributed, which you can read about in a page to follow.

When God used Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, that was a big change. When Jesus came, that was a huge change, especially for those comfortable in the Law. When He comes again, that will be an even bigger change for all! When we cross into eternity, that will be a change that's hard for our minds to comprehend.

But not all change is bad. The God who can take a formless earth and turn it into something beautiful can do even greater things than we can ever imagine. In fact, if you are in Christ Jesus, you are changed from a life of death and separation from God to life eternal with Him. If we are in Christ Jesus, He changes us from the inside out as He gives us His Holy Spirit that transforms us into His image. In our flesh all we have to offer is pride and selfishness that leads to disappointment and heartache. But in the Lord, we can grow into a reflection of God's love that is supernatural and leads us into better relationships, and a deeper meaning and fulfillment of life only found in Him. Sure, we are still imperfect, but we are less imperfect when we can live our lives for Him, basking in His grace and forgiveness. And in that, we can give each other that same grace and forgiveness which is so rich and so sweet. And that is a change worth embracing.

*In Christ's Love,
Dave*