



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

Is God “Doing A New Thing”?

FEBRUARY 20, 2013

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As I travel the state and even other parts of the country, I get to hear a variety of speakers on a variety of topics. I heard a message recently based on the theme “God is doing a new thing”. The message was passionate. The message was stirring. The message captured the hearts and the minds of the people in the congregation. For those familiar with the Bible, this speaker was using Isaiah 43:19.

The message was a complete misuse of this portion of scripture.

(To get a more complete understanding of that verse in its context, might I suggest a thorough reading of chapter 43?)

Some might say to me, “Pastor Dale, that is just your opinion, your interpretation.” For those of you tempted to go down that path, I simply ask, “Could God ever do anything that was completely contrary to His character, His nature, His very essence?” The answer is a resounding, “No!”

Whenever God does anything, old or new, He must always remain consistent with Who He is. Here are a few things you might want to consider when thinking about God doing anything and its consistency with His character, nature and essence:

- God is Love. I John 4:8 &16 say those exact words. Even the speaker above referred to this. Everything God says and does is wrapped in His love, even the things He hates. Yes, the Bible is clear on things God hates. We are told about those things he detests. Strong words? Yes! Why? Because He loves us and desires to protect us. The speaker was promoting things God specifically says He detests in both the Old and New Testaments. How can God support that which he specifically says He detests? He can't. The speaker misused the text.
- God is Just. “He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He” (Deuteronomy 32:4). No one is above the law except the Lawgiver. Even then, his laws must be consistent with His being. To promote “God is doing a new thing” when that new thing is diametrically opposed to what God has declared is just is not a new thing. It is a perversion of God's truth. God sets the rules not vice versa.
- God is Holy. “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty” (Revelation 4:8). “Be holy because I am holy” (I Peter 1:16). The speaker avoided this completely. Could it be that we humans do not want to be held accountable to standards God has established? To ignore them doesn't make them go away.

This list could be much longer but the point today is this: If God is doing a new thing, it's only a God-thing if the new thing is consistent with the character, nature and essence of God which includes His love, His justice and His holiness.

LA's and support staff – There is a Bible study for you on Friday mornings at 11 in room 229 at the Capitol. C u there!