

## JLH Women's Saturday Morning Devotional

## January 7th 2023 **Expecting Something New**

Sister. Joann Henriques

Happy New Year! I remember when it was 1999 and we were in the house thinking the world was about to end because of Y2K. We had enough food and water to last us for months. We were expecting something new to happen and as the count down began, 3,2,1...silence. It was so quiet. You didn't hear any car horns, gun fire, or anyone running down the streets screaming at the top of their lungs. I was too afraid to open my eyes as I held my daughter in my arms. My daughter said, "Mommy, open your eyes. The lights are still on. Nothing happened." She broke lose from my arms and went into her room and fell asleep. We were expecting something new to happen that night, but it didn't.

In 2020, no one was expecting the whole world to be on lockdown for months due to a virus still creeping in 2023. However, when we put our trust in God, we don't have to be afraid of what's coming. We have to continue to believe Jesus is coming to take us out of this terrible world to a better place. (**John 14:2**) Amen.

The word New in the KJV Dictionary is 1. Lately made, invented, produced or come into being; that before known, recently discovered, invented produced or come into being. 2. Lately introduced to our knowledge; not before known; recently discovered.

So my question to you today is: Are you **Expecting Something New?** Perhaps, you've never been pregnant, and have been waiting patiently. Can you believe God can open your womb like he did Hannah's? **(1Samuel 1:20-23)** Are you **Expecting Something New** like getting married as Esther did (birth name Haddasah), not expecting her world would be turned upside down for such a time as this? **(Esther 2:17 & 4:14) Are you Expecting Something New?** Have you been searching for God, longing for truth, and ready to give your whole life to Jesus as Lydia? **(Acts 16:14-15) Are you Expecting Something New?** Living a life that's not pleasing to the Lord but praying to be saved as **Rahab? (Joshua 2:9-13)** It can happen this year!

We're no longer living in 2022; it's over. Let's put it behind us and move forward. It's the 7th day in the new year and seven is completion. Jesus wants to do something new in you. Do you believe it? As the Lord works on you today—not yesterday—today, let him do it. Yes, it may be challenging, but don't go backwards. Call on Jesus and declare I'm Expecting Something New! Shout it again, Jesus, I'm Expecting Something New! One more time, Jesus, I'm Expecting Something New! When we truly let go and let God, he will do a new thing. Isaiah 43:19 For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland.

As we wait patiently **Expecting Something New** from the Lord, expect that the enemy is expecting something too. The enemy has a plan to take you backwards, bringing up all the years you've been on earth. The enemy will try to bring up what you did yesterday, in 2022, 2012, 2000, 1990, 1985, 1970, 1962, since you were born. He is out to kill, steal, and destroy. But Jesus says *I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. John 10:10* 

Continue to stay on the straight path this year, Jesus promises to never leave you nor forsake you. God has a plan for you and has called you to a purpose and wants to fulfill it in you. No matter how difficult it gets hearing disappointing news, losing a loved one or a job or whatever comes your way, don't let the enemy distract you. Luke 22:31-32 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: but I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Are you still **Expecting Something New?** I am, and I'm trusting Jesus all the way to see what he has in 2023 and, if the Lord tarries, 2033, 2043, however long, I'm **Expecting Something New**. **Luke 2:36-38** Anna, the prophetess, was expecting something new also. She was married only a few years and after her husband had died, she devoted her life to worshipping night and day, fasting and praying, never leaving the temple. She may have had challenges, but she kept expecting something new was going to come, and it did! Jesus was born and was brought into the temple. What she was expecting was very new and we should be expecting the same. Jesus will return. *In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 1 Corinthians 15:52*