

- I) **V18-19 INTRO: Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a**
  - a) **If there is any promise in scripture that stands out, it is God's promise to do a new thing**
    - 1) **HERE: God was revealing something of Himself to the people of Israel**
    - 2) **What I have done in the past will be eclipsed by what I am about to do and will yet do in the future**
  
- II) **HE WAS SAYING: I am the God who delivers and I am the God who does the new thing!**
  - a) **He is the One who delivers, and He is the One who holds our future in His hand**
    - 1) **He is the God who makes all things new**
  
- III) **29 YEARS AGO: We began our work in the Inland Empire**
  - a) **I was an assistant Pastor at another fellowship and was asked to resign my position**
    - 1) **Instead of remaining, I knew that it was time to leave and to begin a new work**
    - 2) **THIS SCRIPTURE: Was our first Sunday message: Behold, I will do a *New Thing***
  
- IV) **OVER THE YEARS: We have seen the Lord fulfill this word to us**
  - a) **He has slowly but surely produced a new work in our midst**
    - 1) **THE FIRST ELEVEN YEARS: Were in Ontario, and these last 18 years here in Chino**
  
- V) **I ORIGINALLY: Came to this area in 1974 where I taught a bible study in Ontario**
  - a) **I eventually moved it to Montclair and finally let the study go in 1975**
    - 1) **In 1977, we came back and began ministering in a Calvary until planting this fellowship**
  
- VI) **WHEN WE STARTED THIS WORK: We laid a what we called a Sure Foundation**
  - a) **Jesus is the Chief Cornerstone that the entire work is to be built on**
    - 1) **1 Co 3:11 No other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.**
  
- VII) **UPON THIS SURE FOUNDATION: We developed a philosophy of ministry with four pillars**
  - a) **We would teach God's word, we would worship God, we would fellowship, and witness**
    - 1) **This would all be done in order to emphasize Jesus and our love and service to Him**
    - 2) **Phil 1:21 For to me, to live *is* Christ, and to die is gain.**
  
- VIII) **I GOT SAVED: During a time in America's religious history called the Jesus Movement**
  - a) **The Jesus Movement was and remains an evangelistic movement**
    - 1) **I got saved, witnessed to my family, witnessed to my friends, and still witness**
  
- IX) **KEY: The world was to hear good news: God has loved them and has sent His Son to save the lost**
  - a) **The church was intended to take the message throughout the world, sharing about Jesus**
    - 1) **Mt 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age**
  
- X) **V19 GO THEREFORE: And make *disciples* of all the nations**
  - a) **IN THE JEWISH RELIGION: The Temple became the central place of worship**
    - 1) **Jews would gather in Jerusalem, to worship God in the temple**
  
- XI) **KEY: After the Resurrection: The Temple now goes out to the people, not just the Jews**
  - a) **MISSION: To *make disciples* through the declaration and teaching of the gospel of Jesus**
  
- I) **SOME MIGHT ASK: Are we to push our beliefs on other people: should we not leave them alone**

- a) Are not their own beliefs sufficient for them to gain access to Heaven?
  - 1) What about sincere Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, Jews, Nature Worshipers and all the rest
  - 2) Is this not sufficient for them to gain entrance into heaven
  - 3) Jn 3:36 He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.
  
- II) V19 SO JESUS SAYS: *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations*
  - a) The commission of the church is to go, and to make disciples of *all the nations*
  
- III) NOTICE: As the church goes out and does the work of missions and evangelism, fruit results
  - a) KEY: Jesus makes it very clear who is to be baptized: Disciples, not *infants* or Toddlers
    - 1) Mk 16:16 He who *believes* and is *baptized* will be saved
    - 2) Ac 8:36-37 (Ethiopian) Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized? Then Philip said If you believe with all your heart, you may. And he answered and said I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God
  
- IV) KEY: We are not baptized in order to join any church group or denomination
  - a) NOR ARE WE: Baptized in order to be saved because baptism is not necessary *for salvation*
    - 1) 1 Co 1:17 Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.
    - 2) 1 Pe 3:21 This water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also-- not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience towards God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ
    - 3) 1 Jn 1:7 If we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship one with another...
  
- V) BAPTISM: Is the picture of our total identification with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus
  - a) It represents our new life in Jesus, the taking on of a newness in Jesus
    - 1) BAPTIZE: (Baptizo) To dip or immerse; to plunge under; used in reference to dying cloth
    - 2) It is a visible demonstration of salvation and identification with Jesus
  
- VI) KEY: This message of salvation was to be declared by those who have experienced salvation
  - a) KEY: It is shared by those who have come to faith in God, through Jesus
    - 1) It is a message intended to produce what the bible calls disciples
  
- VII) WHAT IS A DISCIPLE: A disciple is a person who is a life long follower of a teacher
  - a) In the NT: There were certain things that identified a person as someone's disciple
    - 1) They decided to follow a teacher, memorized his words, learned his way of ministry, imitated his life and character, and raised up disciples to continue the chain
    - 2) Mt 10:25 It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master
    - 3) 2 Ti 2:2 the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.
  
- VIII) THIS IS: What makes a person a Christian
  - a) They have repented, received Christ as Lord and Savior, and have chosen to pursue Him forever
    - 1) Lu 9:23 He said to *them* all, If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and *follow Me*
  
- I) THE OUTER EMBLEM OF REGENERATION: Is Water Baptism
  - a) Immersion in water: Symbolizing our death and resurrection in Jesus

- 1) We are saved by God's grace through faith and Baptism represents our knowledge of this
- II) **WE ARE BAPTIZED:** In order to be visibly identified as a follower of Jesus Christ
  - a) **IMPORTANT:** We are not baptized in order to join any particular local church
- III) **LET'S TURN TO ROMANS 6:** This passage speaks concerning baptism
  - a) Ro 6:3-4 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- IV) **V3 KEY:** When we go under the water we were identified with Jesus' *death and burial*
  - a) This is one reason why we practice immersion: it portrays burial
    - 1) Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.
- V) **V4 NOTICE:** Christ was raised from the dead *by the glory* of the Father
  - a) By the glory refers to the exercising of His power through Resurrection that results in glory
    - 1) We now walk in newness of life by the same power that raised Jesus from the dead
    - 2) Eph 1:19-20 the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of *His mighty power* which He worked in Christ *when He raised Him from the dead* and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places
- VI) **V5-6 FOR:** If we have been united together in the likeness of His death certainly we also shall be
  - a) In baptism, we have demonstrated that we are buried with Jesus: (Burial, the seal of death)
    - 1) **KEY:** Our baptism should be seen as the final break with the sinful life we once lived
- VII) **FACT:** It is a starting point for us, a benchmark spiritual experience
  - a) **AGAIN:** It is intended to represent the cleansing we received through faith in Jesus
    - 1) Heb 10:22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.
    - 2) After being saved, we are only baptized once: If we blow it, confession is made
- VIII) **THOUGHT:** In being united in His death, we are also in His resurrection
  - a) Jesus' resurrection guarantees our own resurrection
    - 1) As we come out of the water, we are being reminded that in Him we live
    - 2) Ro 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you
- IX) **CONCLUSION:** This is one time you know you are in the middle of God's will for your life