

April 5, 2024

Beginnings

[John 1:1 - 2:2](#)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. (NRSVUE)

A famous rock group from the sixties and seventies, the Chicago Transit Authority, who later shortened their name to Chicago, had a hit single that smashed the charts when it was released in 1969 called "Beginnings." However, although the song speaks of a beginning, I doubt that it was referring to the same beginning that John 1 speaks of.

The NIV interprets this passage of scripture as: That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.

We all know that our Lord and Savior came as a babe in Bethlehem to begin his earthly ministry. That was the second biggest beginning in the Bible, with creation being the first. There were others in the Bible who had a beginning as well. Look at the lives of Joseph, Naomi, Noah, and Esther to more modern stories of faith. New beginnings are a theme that is woven throughout the Bible. Each of these stories provides us with an example of renewal, hope, and faith in God.

Just like those in the Bible, we too have beginnings, from the time we are born until the day we die. Each year we begin a new year, some say it is turning over a new leaf, while others call it getting a clean slate. We have new beginnings each day that the Lord gives to each one of us. It is often said your gift *from God* is life and what you do with it is your gift *to God*. With this Easter season comes spring; spring brings with it a time of new beginnings and new possibilities.

What new beginnings for the Lord are you planning this year? Is it to begin a Bible study? To read the Bible more? Or is it to memorize scriptures, or maybe attend church more? What has the Lord laid on your heart to begin that you have not done before? The possibilities for new beginnings are endless if we only believe and trust in the Lord. We all just need to listen to that small voice inside all of us (The Holy Spirit) for directions on what he wants you and me to do.

Maybe we as Christians should all meditate on the first few words in Chicago's hit single "Beginnings." Don't these words sound like something we as Christians should be saying to our Heavenly Father every day?

When I'm with you; It doesn't matter where we are
Or what we are doing; I'm with you that all that matters.

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, we love you and adore you, show us all the new beginnings that you want us to do for the advancement of your Kingdom. In Jesus' name we ask. Amen*

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