

March 13, 2016 "The Unpredictable God" based on Isaiah 43:16-21

Example of 'new things' happening from March Madness

Babylonians were brutal in defeating Israel and carrying out their captivity

- They discouraged the people of Israel
- Best memories were of the Exodus centuries before
- Isaiah shared the message from the Lord: "I am about to do a new thing!"

People were astonished because so much was based on the history of God's intervention

- Were they to base their faith on a past memory or on a future promise?
- Exiles were released as Cyrus and the Persians conquered the Babylonians

We experience 'bondage' in many ways today

- Disease, guilt, poverty, by other people, by our own human nature
- How do we overcome our captivity, where shall we find relief and deliverance?

God is doing a 'new thing'

- Creative relationships, prayer lives focused on Christ, guidance of Spirit, an open future
- Don't think God cares who wins March Madness, but God cares how you overcome the bondage in which we find ourselves!