



The Harvest

Embrace TRUTH | Live TRUTH | Share TRUTH

A Fresh Start

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,
the new creation has come:
the old has gone,
the new is here!”
~ 2 Corinthians 5:17 ~*

Take a moment to reflect on the ways you have become a new creation since beginning to follow the Lord. It's okay if you grew up in church and don't have a distinct moment you remember accepting Yeshua as your Savior! He's still done good works in your heart and through your life! So no matter what your journey with the Lord has looked like, write down some of the ways knowing our Creator has changed your life:

We can all say with sincerity that this year (2020) has not been what we expected.

Many people have shared that when they entered the year 2020, they expected it to be “their year” – a year of prosperity and blessings and all-around good things. But our reality looked vastly different. This year was full of uncertainty, pain, suffering, frustration, concern, ill health, job instability, and – for many – the loss of loved ones due to the pandemic we are currently living through. This year in many ways has been tragic and fraught with difficulties.

Yet, in the pain we have seen God move.

There have been countless stories of what God has done in our local community. Sickness has been healed, finances have been restored and expanded, job situations have improved. In other words, hope has been restored. *1 Peter 1:3* demonstrates this very truth: *“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy, He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”* This verse reflects the truth of God's Word. There is always hope no matter our circumstances. Even if God had not provided the healing of our sick, financial stability, better jobs, and countless other blessings, He still would have been good. We know of the hope we have in our Messiah. And that hope is never-ending. Our hope lies in He who is eternal.

As the year 2020 comes to a close, we have a choice before us: we can carry in the frustrations that have come with this year, or we can choose to allow the Lord to set us free. We know we were created to be a new creation – alive in Yeshua. We know we're not meant to live in bondage. We also know our circumstances might not change. Even if the pandemic seems to subside, there will always be another

crisis as long as we are alive on this earth. But in all things, our God is good. Our God is alive. Our God is crushing death and the enemy day after day, moment after moment. We get the power to choose. We can live in light of our circumstances, or we can live in **the light of God**.

As we enter this next year, fix your eyes upon the Lord. Take this opportunity to align your heart with what God is doing. Just because you may feel stagnant, stuck, or unsure does not mean He isn't working and moving in your life. Wait upon the Lord. Fast. Pray. Read His Word. Spend time with other believers sharpening and encouraging each other. This year can be a fresh start for you in your relationship with the Lord. Don't let another day go by without striving to draw closer to Him. In Him, you will find hope eternal. In Him, you will find love everlasting. In Him, you will find freedom. And in Him, you will find your new beginning.

Ask God what it is He needs to do in your heart as you enter into this new beginning. Write a prayer of surrender to Him below. Ask Him to do a new work in your heart as you seek Him out with a new fervor.

Worship:

- ~ Only Takes a Moment by Cory Asbury
- ~ New Wine by Hillsong Worship
- ~ Do It Again by Elevation Worship
