



“All Things New,” Even Scott Harrison

Is that the same guy? How did Scott Harrison go from debauched night club promotor to devoted believer providing drinking water to thousands through Charity Water, an organization he founded? <https://www.charitywater.org/about/scott-harrison-story>. His before and after pictures look the same. Same voice, same mannerisms. Same entrepreneurial instincts. An MRI wouldn't show any anatomical changes. But he's different, changed, remade. The word in Greek for “new” is “kainos.” It can mean something that's been recently created, like a kaivos container for wine (Matt. 9:17). But it also refers to God-given freshness and restoration that comes from personal contact with Jesus the Messiah. “Kainos” is our theme for today's Joel Moment.

Between 6:00 AM—9:00 AM: Celebrities who are struggling to reboot their flagging careers often talk about “reinventing” themselves. Many times, however, the changes are just cosmetic, like a new haircut or music style. In contrast, Paul celebrates the radical renewing of persons who come close to Jesus. *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a kaivos creation. The old has passed away; behold, the kainos has come”* — 2 Cor. 5:17). However, we often revert to an “out-with-the-new-in-with-the-old” perspective. How does the enemy seek to draw your attention back to what is obsolete in you, even six feet under in the grave, according to Paul? *“[Y]ou were buried with him in baptism...”* — Col. 2:12. Reflect on the new you, and praise God for the changes he's made.

Between 9:00 AM—12:00 PM: Speaking of new things, our access to God is also kaivos. No complex and fearful rituals to perform. *“Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus,²⁰ by the kainos and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh...”* We know that the path to God's presence was paved with Jesus' own tears, blood and emotional agony. It's fitting to thank him as best we can, and as often as we can. Let's do that now. You might Google the song by MercyMe called “The Nails in Your Hands,” and sing it to the One who holds us with a scarred, tender grip.

Between 3:00 PM—4:00 PM: Join the **Joel Moment Prayer Gathering**. Go to [Zoom.com](https://zoom.us) and enter Meeting ID and Password.

Between 5:00 PM—9:00 PM: God is preparing a fresh and new habitation for his fresh and new people. *“Then I saw a kainos heaven and a kainos earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more”* (Rev. 21:1). And our resurrected Lord will reign in the middle of this green and glorious World-to-Come, with no fasting, aging, parting and pandemics. Talk to him about all your concerns. This verse in Exodus might give us a preview of the consummation: *“they beheld God, and ate and drank”* — Ex. 24:11. Together we'll be enjoying the splendor of the Divine Presence without end.



JOHANNA B. [A Scripture passage about God's sure-to-come deliverance.]

ESV **Joel 2:17-27** *Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"* ¹⁸ *Then the LORD became jealous for his land and had pity on his people.* ¹⁹ *The LORD answered and said to his people, "Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations. ²⁰ "I will remove the northerner far from you, and drive him into a parched and desolate land, his vanguard into the eastern sea, and his rear guard into the western sea; the stench and foul smell of him will rise, for he has done great things. ²¹ "Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! ²² Fear not, you beasts of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit; the fig tree and vine give their full yield. ²³ "Be glad, O children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given the early rain for your vindication; he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the latter rain, as before. ²⁴ "The threshing floors shall be full of grain; the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. ²⁵ I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent among you. ²⁶ "You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God and there is none else. And my people shall never again be put to shame.*

RALPH B. [A prayer of thanks for the rescue that is on the way for those who have returned to him.]

JAIME B. [Scripture verses, a reflection and prayer on what still needs to be restored in the church.]

ESV **2 Corinthians 5:17** *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.*

ESV **Colossians 3:9-10** *Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.*

ESV **Hebrews 10:19-20** *Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,*



ANDY D. [A Scripture passage, reflection and prayer about the day when all will be new forever.]

ESV **Revelation 21:1-6** *Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." ⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.*

GROUP PRAYER PROMPT #1 (8 min.): Peter writes: *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,"* — 1 Pet. 1:3. Jesus brought us from death to life. Let's give him glory.

GROUP PRAYER PROMPT #2 (8 min.): In a twist on our theme, John writes that he has a new-old discipleship precept: *"And now I ask you, dear lady--not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning--that we love one another"* — 2 Jo. 1:5. Ask God to pour out his boundless affection into our hearts so that we'll touch each other with the surplus.

GROUP PRAYER PROMPT #3 (8 min.): When Jesus comes back, his "by-faith conquerors" will get a new name (Rev. 3:12), sing a new song (Rev. 5:9), and live in a new world (Rev. 21:2). With that knowledge, pray that we'll foster new life in our neighbors through evangelism, discipleship and help for the poor. Intercede also for your personal needs and all concerns related to the present crisis.

Record verses and insights from Joel Moment Part 2 — that is, time after 4:00 PM — when we talk, intercede and catch up.
