



BROAD STREET

BANNER

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From Where I Sit . . .

“A Point of New Beginnings”

From creation to recreation we can follow a long line of illustrations of God’s people at points of New Beginnings.

Garden of Eden – A Beginning – A fresh start; a sinless world; God met all the needs of man; he could live forever – but sin muddied the picture!!

Noah and his sons after the flood – A New Beginning – Mt. Ararat could almost represent the point of New Beginnings. (1 Pet. 3:21) The New world, separated from sin, had a chance to start over again and serve God — BUT SIN had caused destruction, and now they must revolt against sin’s way.

Abraham’s call was a point of New Beginnings!! Gen 12:1-3 – Revolutionary changes took place in his life as he followed where the Lord led him.

Moses and the Exodus - Mt. Sinai. A Point of New Beginnings Through him God gave Israel a covenant, a law, a new nation, a land of promise, and a hope. But all the while He called upon them to revolt against sin and revolve around His commandments: (See Deut. 11: 8-11, 14, 15, 21, 23-25.)

Moses gathered the people to hear the reading of the law before they went into the Promised Land. This was a **point of embarkation – A New Beginning** – They were promised, **“I will be your God and you shall be my people”** if they would keep His statutes.

All through the period of the judges – one right after the other, Israel was given the opportunity to make a **clean start**. They experienced many cycles of new beginnings that followed punishment and repentance. Often people do not make proper use of new beginnings and second chances.

The prophets foretold of a New Beginning – Isa 9:6 **“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”**

A new deliverer – Matt. 1:21 – **“Jesus,”** for he saved his people from their sins.

A new covenant – Jer 31:31 **“Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:”**

A New Outlook – When the world has done its bet for us our outlook is short indeed, for it’s bounded by the cradle and the grave. When life is almost finished it looks to be but a short span between the beginning and the ending. But in Christ the outlook is definitely broadened, for in Christ our outlook looks to a limitless eternity. Abraham looked for a heavenly city – **Heb. 11:10**. Peter saw new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness – **2 Pet 3:13**. Paul saw a crown of righteousness awaiting all those who love the Lord’s appearing – **2 Tim. 4:8**. This outlook will change our direction and affect all our choices.

Who Needs A New Beginning?? Everyone without Christ does. Everyone who has failed to walk faithfully needs a new beginning to get back on track!! Thank God for second chances, and New Beginnings!!

Happy New Year!!

. . . . Terry Broome