

## **“It’s a New Beginning for You!”**

**Text: Rev. 21:6**

**Theme: New beginnings**

2008 is being heralded the year of new beginnings. I am hearing it on Christian radio over and over. I have felt no unique individual new year’s slogan for our church, but rather, adopting a more corporate Body of Christ slogan that applies to the whole Kingdom of God. As I was studying, however, I realized that this theme could not have applied to our church any greater on any other year. It is perfect for us!

There are no accidents with God. There are no coincidences with God. God never says, “Oops!” and He never says, “Oh!” in surprise. He can be saddened, grieved, angered and fed up, but He is never surprised or alarmed. He knows all from the beginning.

People say that God is not into numbers, but the Scriptures tell us different. Numbers have purpose in God’s Kingdom. 3 is called the number of perfection. 7 is called the number of completion and rest. But what about 8? What does 2008 hold for us? I do not believe these numbers are mere coincidence. Let’s look at this number as it relates to the Bible in the Hebrew language.

**“In Hebrew the number eight is Sh’moneh from the root Shah’meyn, “to make fat,” “cover with fat,” “to super-abound.” As a participle it means “one who abounds in strength,” etc. As a noun it is “superabundant fertility,” “oil,” etc. So that as a numeral it is the superabundant**

number. As seven was so called because the seventh day was the day of completion and rest, so eight, as the eighth day, was over and above this perfect completion, and was indeed the first of a new series, as well as being the eighth. Thus it already represents two numbers in one, the first and eighth.”

“Number in Scripture”  
By E.W. Bullinger

So, in this new millennium, you could say that we have come through six years of labor, into our rest as we have taken occupation of our new land during 2007, and are about to enter the eighth year of the millennium which is a sign of new beginnings.

### **Headed to the Heavens!**

There are so many examples given in Scripture of the transition of seven to eight, or the combination of seven and eight, but one stood out to me more than the others. Jesus is recorded to have gone to the mountain eight times in His life – seven of them were before His crucifixion and the eighth was after His resurrection. We have come through some grueling seasons of mountain climbing, but this season is resurrection season for us. And this mountain climb you are facing now is headed you toward an ascension into a heavenly place.

### **What's it got to do with us?**

Why is this a new beginning for us as a church, as The Fellowship? It is our first New Year in our new building. It is our first New Year in occupation of our own land.

We occupied borrowed land for 14 years – from June of 1993 to June of 2007 – two sevens. And after “double completion,” 14 years, two sevens, we have taken possession of our own land and have built the first building of many houses to come. We have established the headquarters for worldwide ministry that shall flow out of this land, both to this community and around the world. We have begun the process of building a stalwart trunk and root system that can support massive branches that reach around the globe without breaking.

### **Partnering with God.**

When Israel came out of the wilderness after wandering for 40 years, God gave them possession of their promised land. An old generation had to die in the wilderness because of a slave mentality. **Their past would not allow them to possess their future.** God had to start over with a new generation. It took new philosophies to possess this new land. Slave mentality would not work. Barely-get-by mentality would not work. Doubt and unbelief would not jive with this new dimension. It is a place of “new beginnings” and calls for a life of faith and trust in God. It is not a place of immaturity. It is not a place of perpetual infancy. It is a land of partnership and growth. In the wilderness, God provided for babes who had nothing to offer Him. But in the promised land, God is looking for partners who will rise and work with Him in perpetuating His Kingdom. In the old dimension, God fed with manna from heaven. In the new, God gives seed to sow and then waits for us to sow it in the ground. **He will grow it,**

rain on it, shine on it and give the increase . . . but we must partner and plant.

Jesus said that you cannot put new wine in old wine skins because the new wine will burst the old skins and both the skin and the wine will be ruined. New moves of God cannot flow through old mentality and old ways. Though we appreciate the operations of days gone by, they will not sustain us for today. Today, we need the new.

Today is a new day for you. Sow seed like a new man/woman. Don't judge your next forward movements by old methods of the past. Do the new! Let God give you a NEW mind and then REnew it every day with His ever-fresh Word. (Rom. 12:2)

*It's a New Day for The Fellowship!*

We have been a prophetic church and ministry for almost 40 years now. But it is time for us to be a prophecy-fulfilling church now. This building is the first fruits of that dimension of fulfillment. We can finally walk up and touch the prophecy fulfilled with our physical hands. YOU'RE NEXT!

*How can I be next?*

You may wonder how that can truly be so for your life, personally. When the Scripture uses the word "beginning" it is usually defined "a commencement; chief in application of order, time, place or rank; corner; first; magistrate; power; principality; principle; rule."

That means that a new beginning for you is a new commencement. But what about the rest of the definition? How does it apply to me? This is where your life as a child of God comes in. There is no new beginning without Christ in your heart. Look at **Revelation 21:6**.

Jesus said, "I AM the Alpha . . . the Beginning." In other words, He IS your new beginning. He is your commencement. He is your chief. He is chief in your life and your future in order, in time, in place and in rank! He is your corner, or your cornerstone. He is the first brick in the foundation of the greatest days of your life. He is the cornerstone for your destiny. He is first. He causes you to be the first and not the last. He causes you to be the head and not the tail; blessed and not cursed. He is your magistrate, ruling on your behalf. He is your power, your principality, your principle and your rule. He is the final say on your life. The devil will speak many destructive words over you but when God is your beginning, He is your end as well. He is the authority. He is the rule. All things must be measured by and against Him. And anything less than the success and fulfillment of His purpose in your life is unacceptable!

Declare this with me. "God, I am yours, spirit, soul and body. You are my New Beginning in 2008, the year of New Beginnings. You are my commencement! You are my chief. You are my corner, my cornerstone for the building of the rest of my life. You are my first, first in my life. You are my magistrate, ruling on my behalf. You are my power, my principality, my principle One,

**and my rule. All things that come to the doormat of my life must be measured by and against You. Anything less Your perfection for me in any area is unacceptable. I am who You say I am! I can do what You say I can do! I will be all You've called me to be. This is my year of New Beginnings! In the name of Jesus Christ, amen!"**