

## "Standing at the Crossroads"

Jeremiah 6:16

This is what the Lord says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. But you said, 'We will not walk in it.'"

**Background on Text: Judah is getting ready to be conquered by Babylon (in 605 B.C. and 586 B.C.).**

God wanted them to stand at look at their lives and reflect...how they were living...in order to change before it was too late.

He wanted them to ask themselves **"Where having I come from and where am I headed?"**

**1. New Years can be an opportunity for a "crossroads" moment in our lives.**

**2. New Beginnings are built in to the Scripture. They are God designed**

**Weekly: The Sabbath to begin new week**(Reflect and Reorient)

**Monthly: New Moons to begin new month** (Reflect and Reorient)

**Yearly: Every 7 Years let the land rest**

**Every 7th Month of each year: The Day of Atonement** (A new beginning morally...forgiveness of sins)

**Every 50 years: The Year of Jubilee** (Any past mistakes, or slaves, or debts of land would reset)

**Creation: A Beginning**

**The Flood: A new beginning for mankind**

**Abraham: A new people** (He's gonna be my guy...turning away from polytheism to serve me)

**Moses and the Exodus:** A new beginning for Israel

**King David:** A new kingdom with a guy after my own heart...Messiah will come from him.

**Return of the Exiles after Babylon:** A new beginning for Israel in the promised land...rebuild the Temple, etc.

**New Covenant:** [Jeremiah 31:31-34](#)

**Fulfilled in [2 Corinthians 5:17](#) - A New Life:** THE ULTIMATE NEW BEGINNING IN SCRIPTURE. To be "Born Again".

**The Last New Beginning is Coming:** [Revelation 21:1-5](#) (Foretold in [Isaiah 65:17](#))

(God is in to new beginnings: They're at the beginning of the Bible, middle, and even at the end of it.)

(Each day is a new beginning after the death of night) **GOD HAD MADE NEW BEGINNINGS ALL AROUND US TO SHOW US**

Daily, Weekly, Monthly, Yearly, etc.

**3. How do I access Biblical New Beginnings?**

- **Faith** (Hebrews 11:6) We must believe New Beginnings are actually possible...that they can be obtained. That God wants change in my life, marriage, family, church, etc.

- **Repentance:** The turn around and changed our minds.

- **Obedience:** No matter what God says...I'm gonna do it.

"Stand at the crossroads and look;

ask for the ancient paths, (the ways of God that human beings have forsaken)

ask where the good way is, and walk in it,

and you will find rest for your souls.

This New Year do something more than the usually New Years Resolution: Re-assess your life before God... (Do something more than trying to quit smoking or drinking coke, etc.)

Insanity by definition: Doing something over and over again expecting a different result. (Some people are the same at 80 as they were at 8...they never changed)

The essence of successful Christianity is change (a learner's heart).

**Close: What New Beginning might God want for me personally (inwards), spiritually (upwards), and relationally (outwards) this year?** (What change might I endeavor to make in myself, with people, and with God.)