



# The WAR CRY

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**For I know the plans I have for you,  
declares the Lord, plans to prosper you  
and not to harm you, plans to give you  
hope and a future.** *Jeremiah 29:11*

2026



# STEP INTO NEW BEGINNING

**A**s we welcome the New Year, we are reminded that every season carries a gentle invitation, a sacred moment to pause, reflect, and step forward with renewed hope. The beginning of a new year is more than a change in date; it is a gracious reminder that life offers us another chance. God, in His compassion, opens the door for us to begin again no matter what the previous year held for us.

For some, the past year may have brought challenges, loss, or unexpected difficulties. For others, it may have been a season of growth, new opportunities, or answered prayers. Yet today, we all stand together at the threshold of 2026, welcomed by God into a fresh beginning. With hearts of gratitude and faith, we can trust that every new season carries the possibility of growth and grace.

New beginnings do not always arrive dramatically. Sometimes they come quietly, like the soft glow of morning light spreading across the sky. At other times, they come with clarity that redirects our lives in significant ways. However they appear, the invitation remains constant: trust God for what lies ahead and step forward with courage.

**"Behold, I am doing a new thing..."**  
**Isaiah 43:19**

past successes that keep us too comfortable. Scripture reminds us that God makes "all things new," not by repairing what is old, but by giving us a fresh start. When we release our burdens to Him, He replaces heaviness with hope, confusion with clarity, and weakness with strength.

A new beginning also invites us to evaluate our vision and align it with God's purpose. It is a moment to prayerfully ask: What is God calling me to do now? How can I grow in faith, service, and love this year? The Holy Spirit does not simply guide us to repeat what we have done before; He leads us to rise higher in dedication and faithfulness. New beginnings refresh our hearts, helping us see others with kindness, face challenges wisely, and serve with renewed passion.

Hope is the foundation of every fresh start. It reminds us that God has already gone before us. We are not stepping into the unknown alone; we walk on a path prepared by His loving hands. Even in uncertainty, hope assures us that God's plans are good, His timing is perfect, and His grace is always enough.

As we step into 2026, may we accept the gift of a new beginning with joyful hearts. May we walk boldly into God's promises, strengthened by His presence. The road ahead may be new, but the One who leads us remains faithful. "Behold, I am doing a new thing..." Isaiah 43:19

May God bless you with new strength, renewed hope, and His guiding presence throughout the New Year 2026



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# "I HAVE PLANS FOR YOU," SAYS THE LORD



**J**eremiah 29:11 is one of the most quoted verses in Scripture: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." These words are a beacon of hope, but to truly grasp their depth, we must understand their context and meaning.

As we enter the year 2026 let's focus on God who is the Alpha and Omega, the Creator, Preserver and Governor of the Universe. He is very loving and intentional God. As we commence the New Year every community and individual will have lots of hopes and plans drawn to implementation during the year. But the assurance is God is the ultimate control.

**God's Plans Are Intentional:** "I know the plans I have for you." God's plans are not random or reactive; they are deliberate and purposeful. He is the Master Planner who sees the end from the beginning. While we may struggle to understand our present circumstances, God's perspective is eternal. His plans aim for our ultimate good, even when the path feels challenging.

**"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."**

**Plans of Prosperity and Peace:** The word "prosper" here does not simply mean material wealth. It refers to well-being, peace, and wholeness—what the Hebrew word shalom conveys. God's desire is for us to flourish spiritually, emotionally, and relationally. His plans are never to harm us but to lead us into a life filled with hope.

**God is the source of Hope:** Hope is powerful because it looks beyond the present. For the Israelites, hope meant trusting that God would bring them back to the promised land. For us today, hope

means believing that God's promises are true even when life feels uncertain. This hope is not wishful thinking; it is anchored in the character of God—faithful, loving, and sovereign.

Jeremiah 29:11 is not a promise of a trouble-free life, but of a hopeful future. It invites us to surrender our plans and embrace His will. As we do, we discover that His ways are higher than ours and His thoughts far greater.

So, if you are in a season of uncertainty, remember this: The same God who spoke these words to exiles speaks them to you today. He knows the plans He has for you—plans to prosper you, not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.



**Commissioner John Kumar Dasari**  
International Secretary  
South Asia, IHQ-London

Trust Him, your story is still unfolding, and the best is yet to come. As it is coming from the Loving Father who loves you and gave His one and only begotten son to save the world which is broken by its disobedience and failure.

**COMPASS:** As the Salvation Army is focussing more on Compass: People, Mission and Legacy, Growing and Enduring Army let us remain steadfast in our commitment to this Goal. To Achieve it, every Soldier, Local Officers and commanding officers must direct their collective focus toward the guiding compass that unites our efforts.

**May the Almighty God bless you all throughout this year 2026 with His Abundance of Grace, Love and Hope.**



# BLESSINGS OF FLOWING RIVER



**Commissioner Mani Kumari Dasari**  
International Secretary, South Asia, IHQ-London

**G**eneral Lyndon Buckingham addressed the people who gathered world to make sure they are fully immersed in the river of God's love, grace and Holy Spirit refreshing in Together 2025 gathering at Birmingham, United Kingdom & Ireland Territory.

In Christianity, rivers symbolize life, abundance, and the flow of God's blessings, serving as powerful metaphors for His presence and provision. Rivers in the scripture carry deep spiritual meaning they're not just physical streams of water, but symbols of God's life-giving presence, renewal, and blessing. A flowing river can speak to each one of us several truth such as:

#### **Source of Life:**

Just as a river sustains the land it touches, God's Spirit sustains our souls. "Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb, through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations". (Revelation 22:1-2) In Revelation, the "river of the water of life" flows from God's throne, reminding believers that true life and refreshment come only from Him.

Jesus Himself declares in John 14:6, "*I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*" Here, Jesus identifies Himself as the

exclusive source of eternal life and the means by which humanity can be reconciled to God. The water is frequently used in Scripture to symbolize life and sustenance. In John 4:14, Jesus offers the Samaritan woman "*living water*," saying, "*Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst*". Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a fountain of water spring.

#### **Continuous Renewal:**

Rivers also symbolize purification and spiritual refreshment. A river is always moving, cleansing, and bringing new life wherever it goes. This mirrors how God's grace continually washes over us, renewing our hearts and guiding us forward in faith. This is the river of the Holy Spirit, the "*living water*" Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me as Scripture has said rivers of living water will flow from within them (John 7:37-38). It is the presence of God infilling and indwelling the believer so they might be fully alive to his work in the world, released to participate in his work of redemption, renewal, grace, love, mercy and forgiveness.

#### **Overflowing Blessings:**

In Ezekiel's vision, the river from the temple grows deeper and wider, bringing healing and abundance. This reflects how God's blessings often start small but grow as we walk with Him, touching more lives along the way. There's this beautiful picture that comes to us in an Old Testament book from long ago. The prophet Ezekiel sees a river flowing from the throne of God and where this river flows, it brings healing, it brings restoration, it brings life, it brings transformation (Ezekiel 47:1-12). Wherever the river flows, there is evidence of God's love, God's grace, God's renewal and God's creativity.



#### **Hope and Restoration:**

The message of hope and restoration is a powerful reminder of God's unwavering commitment to renew and heal. It is a message of comfort and assurance, encouraging individuals to persevere with the belief that better days are ahead. Isaiah 43:19 says that "*I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland*".

God is able to bring hope and restoration to the people who are in the hopeless situations. As we step into the new year God calls the believers to have a faith to deeper trust, surrender, and intimacy with him in this new year. May the New Year enable every one of you to find peace within yourself and connect with your soul. I wish you a blessed New Year 2026.





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