

## New Wineskin

### All scripture in NKJV

Luke 5:36-39

<sup>36</sup> Then He spoke a parable to them: "No one puts a piece from a new garment on an old one; otherwise the new makes a tear, and also the piece that was taken out of the new does not match the old. <sup>37</sup> And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine will burst the wineskins and be spilled, and the wineskins will be ruined. <sup>38</sup> But new wine must be put into new wineskins, and both are preserved. <sup>39</sup> And no one, having drunk old wine, immediately desires new; for he says, 'The old is better.' "

(also in Mark 2:22, Matthew 9:17)

When asked about why the disciples of Jesus didn't fast, while the disciples of John (the Baptist) did, Jesus begins to talk about how

1. **new unshrunk cloth is never sewed on old cloth** – this will make the tear worse
2. **pouring new wine into old wineskins** is a bad idea because new wine ferments to expand. A wineskin, a container made of animal skin used to store wine, if old would have lost its capacity to expand further. Old wineskins are rigid and might burst to spill the wine they are holding.

On the other hand, new wineskins are pliable and can absorb the expansion of the fermenting process.

Old wineskins are unyielding to the process of fermentation of new wine...while new wineskins are ready to accommodate this.

What was Jesus pointing at?

1. He wasn't saying that fasting was unnecessary (Jesus fasted – Mat 4, Jesus taught about fasting – Mat 6)
2. Jesus was referring to His teachings as the new wine and some of the rigid teachings of the Jewish law as old wineskin. What He was saying is that one cannot try to accommodate the new revelation along with the contrary teachings of the law. Both cannot coexist together.

Jesus came as one to uphold the law (Mat 5:17)

But, people of His times could not receive what He was teaching about:

1. Personal relationship with God vs legalism
2. Authentic spiritual life vs ritualism
3. God's sacrifice that brings us salvation vs points man can earn by his good works.
4. The Kingdom of God and its principles

Jesus himself was rejected as the Messiah, as people had expectations that He didn't meet.

In a nutshell, Jesus and His teachings were too radical for His times.

So radical that the Jews could not receive the new message He brought.

## **GOD RELEASES NEW WINE**

'New'

We serve a God who is creative.

Fresh new ways are part of His personality

He speaks a new Word into our hearts. (Hebrews 1:1)

*(We are not suggesting that the standard of His Word changes)*

He specialises in doing a new thing –makes us a new creation (2 Cor 5:17) release a new anointing (Psalm 92:10), brings new revelation, does new things in our lives (Isaiah 43:19)

New Wine refers to the new or fresh work of the Holy Spirit, new revelation, new ideas, new way of doing things and new anointing that God is releasing into the lives of His people.

What does the work of God look like in our lives today?

Even a vehicle is in need of new oil to keep its engine in good condition.

New carburettors, new engines, new vehicles and in our generation, we understand upgrades like no one else. Apple debuts new iPhones every few years, and apps have frequent updates. We are an upgrade generation!

How much more, we as God's people need a fresh anointing of God released into our life and ministry?

**Reason we need a new anointing:** Without this cannot bring forth His plans and purposes with His strength and power, to bless people.

## **FINDING THE OLD 'BETTER'**

**Luke 5:39**

*<sup>39</sup>And no one, having drunk old wine, immediately desires new; for he says, 'The old is better.'* ”

Embracing the new means coming out of our comfort zones

Walking in the fresh & new requires faith.

Most of us find this the most challenging as people

- Find change difficult, people get set in their ways
- People become comfortable with the familiar, what we have experienced thus far
- Resist change

- Unwilling to change (requires coming out of our comfort zones, walking in a greater level of faith)

*Some examples*

But, God wants to renew us (2 Cor 4:16)

## **NEW WINE CAN ONLY BE POURED INTO NEW WINESKIN**

***New wineskin*** is our readiness to receive what God is releasing

- Being unprepared will prevent us from the very purpose why God is releasing it.
- We need a new attitude and a new character to receive, develop and grow what He is releasing

New wine is poured into new wineskin

- We need to come to God in a new way
- Go before God with a willingness to change
- Don't apologise for the new thing that God is doing in you

### **What will prepare us to be New Wineskins?**

1. *Intimacy with God* – John 15:5

Expect in a new way from God

Beyond Christian activity to really pursuing an authentic encounter with God.

Hunger after God (Isaiah 44:3, 4, Mathew 5:3,6)

Prioritise seeking God.

All revivals in church history broke out through men and women who were on a similar journey.

Azusa Street Revival

2. *Yielding to the new anointing* –

New anointing will cause us to be a new person (1 Samuel 10:5-6)

Encounter with the Holy Spirit made Saul a different man.

We may begin to do things differently, with more boldness, develop new ways of doing things, minister in ways that we were not used to before, attain new levels, release new gifts, see new manifestations etc.

*Some examples*

Yield to the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

We must depend on the work of God in us, not of ourselves (Gal 3:3)

3. *Accommodate* the positive change that God is bringing

1 Cor 3:1-3

Plan for the new - new schedule, new lifestyle

Be ready to be stretched

There is a price to pay

4. *Renew our minds* with the Word (Romans 12:1-2)

Reset pattern of thinking according to the Word

Apply the Word in practical living

5. *Pursue Purity*

Become a vessel of honour (2 Tim 2:21)

Get rid of the old wineskin – restore God’s order for personal life, family life, in ministry and in every other aspect.

Make room for the more that God is pouring out

Lay aside sin (James 1:21)

6. *Attitude of meekness*

James 1:21 – receive with meekness, be eager to learn and receive the new way in which God is working

7. *Commit to growth*

Eph 4:13

To receive the new wine, we must become new wineskins

*Response prayer:*

Dear Lord, open my heart to the new thing that you are releasing into my life.

Thank you for the new wine and fresh anointing.

Renew me and cause me to become a new wineskin that I may receive all of what you have for me.

Cleanse me from familiar, easy, yet ungodly ways.

Holy Spirit, I yield to your work in me.

Salvation Call

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