

*New Wine Skins**Mark 2:18-11*

*"With these metaphors, Jesus was saying, in essence. 'You cannot take the new and force it into the old structures because the old structures cannot bear it.' He was not condemning the Old Testament law of God. He was condemning the old traditions that had developed among the scribes and Pharisees. He was warning them that their King had come, and they would not be able to deal with this King unless they get rid of the structures that made it impossible for them to receive Him. Something so transcendently new had happened that they could not receive Christ into their lives without being made new themselves. It would be impossible to be a Christian and keep the old ways.*

*In short, He was warning the Pharisees that, when the heavenly feast came, they were not going to be ready because they were rejecting their King. They were rejecting the Son of God.*

*The Message for us is that if we indeed have embraced Christ in all of his newness, we may look eagerly to the future, when people from all over creation will sit down with Him in His Father's house, celebrating the marriage feast of the Lamb."*  
*Sproul*

- I. Jesus presence in our lives brings to the heart an intimate interaction with God himself. His presence brings the kind of joy that celebrates the eternal bond of his covenant love toward those of us who know him. The church, his bride, will never feel complete until the day she can fully embrace him in the presence of all his glory at the wedding supper of the Lamb. Meanwhile, let us rejoice and live well for him as we wait for our Bridegroom to appear.

Mark 2:18-20

Rom. 2:3-4

Lev. 16:29-31

Luke 18:11-12

Acts 13:2

Acts 14:23

Isa. 54:5

Rev. 19:9

2 Cor. 11:2

***Philippians 4:4*** *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.*

*"There is a match that God has made in heaven between his people and his Son. Jesus Christ is the faithful bridegroom. He is the lover of our souls, and our destiny is to be united to him forever."* Ryken

- II. Jesus presence on earth brought to mankind a completely new approach to God. He introduced a new spiritual paradigm that has no room for those who reject his kind of ministry, his kind of approach to man, and his kind of interaction with sinners desperate for the healing power of his love, grace, and mercy. His grace is depicted as new clothing that replaces the old, rotted clothing of trying to earn favor with God. The clothing he puts on us creates us in the likeness of God by making us righteous and holy. No other clothing can do that.

Mark 2:21

Eph. 2:8-9

**Ephesians 4:22-24** 22 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

- III. You can't accept what Christ has to offer and expect to remain the same. You can't call yourself a Christ follower and continue to conform to the pattern of this world ((Rom. 12:2). You can't bring the ways of the world into the church. You can't say I am a believer and not change. You can't apply Christ to your old way of life because if you do, he could say to you, "*I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness*" (Matt. 7:21-23).

Mark 2:22

John 15:18-19

James 4:4

1 Jn. 2:15-17

*"Jesus insists on giving sinners the new clothes of his righteousness, and the new wineskin of his grace, filled with the new wine of his Spirit. If you do not know Jesus for sure, you really ought to try him!" Ryken*

**2 Corinthians 5:17-18** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation;