

Remnant Life Church  
October 2, 2016  
**The Parables of Jesus:**  
**New Patches and New Wineskins – Pt 2**  
Mark 2:19-22

- **READ – Mark 2:19-23**
  
  - (Review) Jesus is being questioned about fasting and why His disciples did not fast in the same way John the Baptist’s disciples and the Pharisees did
    - The Pharisees cultivated and fiercely defended their image of piety and righteousness
    - But Jesus knew better because He saw the heart
      - God knows the hearts of every person
      - We cannot allow the evil, meanness, and unfairness of those without God to control our emotions
      - The same is also true within the church
        - People hurt other people within the church
        - Those who would say that doesn’t really happen ignore **Matthew 18** that tells us how to deal with sin and conflict in the church
    - In all of this Jesus is saying, once again, it is not what happens on the outside that is most important it is the condition of the heart
- (Third element of the Parable)
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- New Wineskins
  - Jesus uses an everyday item to explain an eternal truth
  - In the Palestine region of Jesus’ day there were no bottles to carry liquid
    - The English word for bottle comes from the Spanish root “bota” which means boot; leather carrier or small wineskin
  - The animal, usually a young goat was used, and after the hide was carefully removed in one piece it would be cured and then sewn with one leg or the neck whole remaining open which the liquid would be poured into.
  - After time as the skin aged it would grow rigid and stiff
    - While it would still hold the liquid it was no longer pliable and able to stretch
    - If new wine (still fermenting and giving off gasses) were placed in the old skin it would burst and both the wine and skin would be lost
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- Jesus was using this teaching to tell the people about Himself and what He had come to do
  - The legalistic Judaism of the day could not hold the new teachings that Jesus had brought
  - The church of that day in Israel had become too rigid and inflexible (through the Pharisaical law) to hold the new teachings of Jesus
  - What was true then is still true today
    - When God pours His Spirit into the old wineskins of a church built on law alone without the love, mercy, and grace of God it will burst

- This same account of Mark 2 is also found in **Matthew 9** and he includes one other statement by Jesus at the end of vs 17 “and both will be preserved”
  - Meaning both the new wine and the new wineskin
  - Jesus’ message was not contrary to the teachings of the OT but the legalistic system of the religion of the day could not comprehend and embrace it
  - Jesus did not come to preserve and patch up the old He came to introduce something wondrous and brand new
  - What was that new message?
    - It was the Gospel (or good news) that Jesus Christ, God’s Son, came to earth to offer all people forgiveness of sins and reconciliation with God the Father
    - Then – Jew and Gentile; Today – no one out of reach
    - This message will always be new because God’s love is alive and must be accepted by every generation
  
- In the 3 parts of this parable (the bridegroom; the patch; the wineskin) what has Jesus given to us?
  1. He has given a new relationship for us to live in
    - a. Jesus used the wedding feast a time when all those who attended were exempt for that time from religious observances
    - b. The disciples were living in the time prior to the cross and resurrection – a person’s actions, regardless of the motivation, is what mattered most
    - c. Jesus said I have come to give you a new relationship with my Father and with each other
      - i. *(Matt 22:36-40) Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”*
      - ii. It was not based on the works of the law but on the condition of the heart made new by believing and accepting Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross and His resurrection
    - d. The time of the bride (the church) with the bridegroom (Jesus) is one of celebration
    - e. We should celebrate the new life given to us as the bride of Jesus and the children of God
  
  2. He has given us a new garment to wear
    - a. But it is a garment that does not fit
    - b. We must grow into it as we come to a greater understanding of what it means to have the mind of Christ and demonstrate that mind in our actions and words to one another
    - c. The garment of our walk with Him will always be too big but God desires for us to continue to grow into it throughout our lives

- d. This is what many of our trials and struggles are designed to do – help us grow
  - i. We should ask ourselves a few questions when in the midst of those times
    - 1. Am I doing something wrong? Is sin causing this?
    - 2. What does God want me to learn right now?
    - 3. How can I glorify God through this time?
  - ii. Carefully guard against ever believing that your time of growth is complete and you have “arrived”
  - iii. Pride will take over your walk and your witness if you present an attitude of “no one can teach me anything else”

3. He gives us a new drink to share with others

- a. To the woman at the well - **John 4:10** *Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."*
  - b. **John 7:37-38** *"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'"*
  - c. The water in a well does not benefit the well; the water in a facet does not benefit the pipes
  - d. The water is only beneficial when it is shared and used to give someone a drink
  - e. Every great man or woman of God down through the centuries came to know Jesus Christ through the influence of someone else
  - f. Someone gave them a cup of living water
- Who is thirsty in your life that God is telling you “give them a drink”?
  - One last point - notice that in the case of both the garment and the wineskin something is destroyed. God does not just *mend* our hearts; he does not blend our hearts to other things; he gives us brand new ones. *"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh"* (**Ezek. 36:26**).
  - That promise is not for us to keep for ourselves but to share with others in our life
  - Be that person who is willing to share with others about a new relationship; demonstrate a new garment; and offer a drink of living water