

“NEW WINE FROM ABOVE”

Text: Luke 5:27-39

Subject: “These Promises Are For You”

Introduction

1. Jesus has just called Levi (the son of Alphaeus the tax collector) to follow Him (v. 27).
2. This newly converted publican (with a new name, Matthew) gives a great feast to celebrate his new life in Christ.
3. Many publicans and sinners (Jews who did not follow the law) sat with Jesus at the feast (v. 29).
4. This occasion gave Christ’s enemies the perfect opportunity to criticize and rebuke Him, with two questions.
 - “Why do you eat and drink with publicans and sinners?” (v.30)
 - “Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but you and your disciples are feasting?” (v. 33)

Fact: These two questions led Jesus to explain why He had come.

Fact: This misunderstanding set the table for Jesus to reveal His ministry.

Fact: This ministry is to have a profound effect upon you and me!

(Jesus Answers The Two Objections With Three Promises)

Question: Why does Jesus answer this way?

Answer: Because Jesus wants us to understand His ministry.

- Jesus wants us to apprehend this.
- Jesus wants us to enjoy something.
- Jesus wants us to participate with Him.
- Jesus wants us to be healthy in our walk with Him!!!

(Three Promises For You To Receive And Enjoy)

(Promise #1 Is)

“Strength From Above”

Question: How does Jesus Answer?

“I Am A Physician Who Is Come To Heal” (Vs. 31-32)

- The scribes and Pharisees saw Matthew and his friends as condemned sinners, but Jesus saw them as spiritually sick patients in need of healing.
- The scribes and Pharisees were quick to diagnose the ills of others, but they were blind to their own needs.
- The scribes and Pharisees were corrupt within and guilty of the “Elder Brother” spirit; they looked ok on the outside.

Fact: But Jesus knows, “*There is none righteous, no not one.*” (Romans 3:10)

Fact: Jesus diagnoses sin and has the perfect cure.

Fact: Jesus forgives sin and gives us a brand new heart.

Fact: Jesus even pays the bill Himself, with His death at the cross.

Question: Why were the religious people critical of Jesus?

Answer: Because Jesus was associating with those who were ceremonially unclean.

- Jesus went to those socially outcast.
- Jesus knew that even religious people needed to be forgiven.
- Jesus saw behind the front, appearance and smile.
- Jesus saw that everyone needed mercy (and so He wants to heal the sick, save the sinner and bring strength to us all). **And notice v. 31**
- “Healthy people don’t need a doctor.” (v. 31)
- “I don’t spend time with those who think they are already good enough.” (v. 32)

(In Other Words)

“I share myself with those transparent”

“I heal the one who admits – I am sick”

“I give my strength to those who ask”

“I forgive the sinner who says “I need mercy”

Question: How many of you can say with me “Lord, I still need you more and more and more each day.”

(The Physician Is A Picture)

A picture of Jesus waiting for us, the patients, to let Him lay His hands upon us!!!

Truth be known – we are all under a doctor’s care – The Great Physician

Promise #2 is:

“A Song From Above” (Notice vs. 33-25)

“I Am The Bridegroom Who Is Come To Bring Joy” (Vs. 33-35)

- The Pharisees tried to cause a breach between Jesus and John.
- The Pharisees thought there was great merit in fasting. (Luke 18:12)
- The Pharisees resented the fact that other people were full of joy.
- The Pharisees’ religion of rules and regulations (not relationship) had left them enslaved, miserable and joyless.

Fact: But Jesus compares salvation to a bridegroom.

Fact: A wedding was a feast and a joy for seven days.

Fact: Not to express joy was an insult to the family giving the wedding feast.

(So Jesus Says)

This Christian life is to be a feast (not a funeral)

Question: Why so important?

Answer: Because the *joy* (of the Lord) is your strength!

Because *joy* is the magnet that draws!

Because *joy* is the prize of the redeemed!

(In Other Words)

It’s an insult not to enjoy being saved.

It’s an insult not to enjoy being at peace.

It’s an insult not to enjoy being forgiven.

It’s an insult not to enjoy being in the family.

(In verse 29) Matthew threw a party to celebrate his conversion!!!

Question: How is joy obtained?

Answer: Through the avenue of a clear conscience!

- We don't pray for joy!
- We don't have hands laid on us for joy! (**instead**)
- We fear the Lord, live transparently and the result is joy from the Lord.

Question: Are there any weeds that are growing in the garden of your heart?

Question: Any joy stealers in the vineyard of your soul?

Promise #3 is:

"The Spirit From Above"

"I Am The Transformer From The Inside Out" (Vs. 36-39)

Fact: The Pharisees wanted Jesus to receive their own religion (or law).

Fact: The Pharisees resisted change and anything new.

Fact: The Pharisees became "*preservative*" and fought the very things they needed.

Fact: The Pharisees wanted to be transformed by an external code of Jewish Law.

Fact: The Pharisees wanted Jesus to mix law and grace (thus the parable of the cloth and the wineskins).

A. The Cloth (v. 36)

Fact: The Jews had no preshrunk cloth for their clothing.

Fact: When someone sewed new patches on old garments already washed, the patch would shrink and ruin the patch and the garment.

Fact: The "patch job" would only last until the next washing.

(What Is Jesus Saying Here?)

1. Salvation is not *partial* but *complete*.
 - Jesus does not do a partial job.
 - Jesus does not "*patch up*" our lives.
 - Jesus instead gives us life that transforms us from the inside out.
2. Salvation is not *temporary* but *lasting*.
 - The patches were okay until the garment got dirty and needed to be washed.
 - Then, the patches fell apart and destroyed the garment.
 - The law of the Jews was only a temporary system awaiting the fulfillment in Jesus. (Matthew 5:17)
 - Jesus' life from within will enable you to withstand any storm of life. (Matt. 7:24-27)

B. The Wineskins (Vs. 37-39)

Fact: The Jews kept much of their liquids in skins.

Fact: If new wine was poured into dry, brittle skins, the pressure from the gasses fermenting would break the skin and the wine would be lost.

Fact: Thus, the new life of the Spirit could not be forced into the old wineskins of Judaism.

Fact: The ancient Jewish religion was old and soon to be replaced.

Fact: All the ceremonial laws would be fulfilled by Jesus (doing away with the sacrifices, priests, temple and ceremonies).

(What Is Jesus Saying Here?)

1. Salvation is not **external** but **internal**

- Transformation comes from the inside out.
- Change comes from divine life within, not force from without.
- The tables of law have been replaced with the tables of our heart where God is writing His Word and making us like Jesus (II Corinthians 3:1-3 & 18)

2. Salvation is not **stale** but **fresh**

- “Newness of life” (Romans 6:4) means that we can experience a fresh, living touch of Jesus, day by day.
- New wine means that the Holy Spirit can be poured and poured into any vessel available to God.
- To the extent that the “new wine” is flowing through us, to that extent we will be walking in newness of life and putting off the old man of sin. (Galatians 5:16)

Never Forget The Secrets Of The Wineskin

1. Wineskins required **the death of an animal**

- The skin usually came from a sheep or a goat.
- The animal had to die to be used!
- Death to self is one requirement to be close to God.

Fact: Everyone wants power (the New Wine) but not everyone wants to die!

2. Wineskins required the **removal of the flesh from the skin:**

- To the degree I allow God to purge my flesh, to that degree I will contain new wine. (His Spirit)
- Let’s allow God to extract and remove what needs to go.

3. Wineskins required **the skin to be soaked in water:**

- This involves daily washing in the Word of God for us.
- It also involves the soaking and filling of the Holy Spirit continually. (Ephesians 5:18)

4. Wineskins **were dried over fire:**

- Before God can trust us, He first must test us.

“For Thou, O God hast proved us, Thou hast tried us as silver is tried.”
(Psalm 66:10)

“God shall be as a refiner’s fire and purifier of silver.” (Malachi 3:3)

“I will bring them through the fire and refine them as silver.” (Zechariah 13:9)

(Fire Secrets As God Prepares You)

- Refined silver requires **just the right furnace**, not just any oven will do.
- Refined silver requires **just the right care**, and your Father knows what He is doing and his grace will sustain you.

- Refined silver requires **just the right heat**. God will not give you more than you are able to bear.
- Refined silver requires **just the right timing**. God makes all things beautiful in His time and what you're going through, you're going through to one day rejoice over.

5. Wineskins were anointed with oil:

- The purpose of the smearing of oil was to keep the skin from becoming hard, dry and brittle.
- Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be broken.

6. Wineskins were finally filled with new wine:

- The purpose of the wineskin was to house the presence of something else.
- The purpose of our existence is to house the presence of God!!!

Jesus Reveal to All At Dinner

- The Mosaic system was ready to vanish away (Hebrews 8:13)
- Jesus would establish a new system with His blood. (Luke 22:19-20)
- The Law would be written on our hearts, not on stone. (Hebrews 10:15-18)
- The indwelling Holy Spirit would enable all believers to fulfill the righteousness of the Law. (Romans 8:1-4)

(His Salvation Would Bring)

- Healing to all those spiritually ill.
- Joy to all who are married to Him.
- Transformation from the inside out.

(This Salvation Is To Be)

- Complete, not partial
- Lasting, not temporary
- Internal, not forced outwardly

A **Strength** from Jesus!

A **Song** from Jesus!

The **Spirit** from Jesus the transformer!

Amen!
Bill Kirk