

“NEW WINE MUST BE PUT INTO NEW WINESKINS”

“TO GO BACK TO THE OLD THINGS”



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WOOD FOR THE ALTAR:

It's a new season, it's a new day and new wine must be put into new wineskins.

I hear the Lord speaking this: I have new wine that I am ready to pour out, but your old wineskins can not hold what I am desiring to do in this new season. They are inadequate and imperfect for what I am wanting to do at this time. They served a purpose, however, they will not be able to contain all that I am desiring to do and pour out these days. I am birthing a new thing, but my church keeps returning to their old ways, their old methods and traditions. My church is entering into a new season, a new year, a new decade, it's a season of harvesting. There is an acceleration coming. The season of sowing and the season of harvesting will overlap each other. (**Amos 9:13**) It's time for my church to prepare the barns for the harvest, the barns are not more buildings. I am seeking out those who are willing to let go of the old wineskins and become the new wineskins by making themselves wholeheartedly available to the new, so I can pour my new wine in them. There are heavenly designs for equipping the

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saints for the work of ministry. The “new” is not actually just something new, it’s that we are returning to God’s original design.

I believe this is the message the Lord has been speaking to the church today and for some time now. However, it seems that most of us, including myself, haven’t fully understood what this means and how to completely walk in it. I truly believe we are being confronted by God and our mindset is needing to be renewed and baptised. Our minds and way of thinking must be cleansed and we must put on the mind of Christ.
(Romans 12:1-2)

The GOSPEL of JESUS CHRIST hasn’t changed, however the way we “DO” ministry is changing! In a blink of an eye, everything seemed to change during the month of March 2020. What we have experienced over the past month, most of us have never seen or experienced in our lifetime. Our lives were disrupted and have been completely turned upside down. Our routines and the way we have ministered came has completely changed. Many churches and ministries have been left scrambling to figure out how to continue forward. It was like someone had pushed the pause button on the world. Our beliefs were being challenged and for many church goers, their Faith and Trust in God (Jesus) was being shaken down to the core.

This is the bible verse the Lord spoke to me this morning as I got up:

Mark 2:18-22 (NKJV)

18 The disciples of John and of the Pharisees were fasting. Then they came and said to Him, “Why do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?”

19 And Jesus said to them, “Can the [a]friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. **20** But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days. **21** No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; or else the new piece pulls away from the old, and the tear is made worse. **22** *And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins.*”

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A few things I believe are being tested:

1. *The “who” of ministry.*

- a. To whom is our ministry about? Worship is not about me. It's all about Him. We have turned worship services into nothing more than live concert performance as we play the latest songs. We've become more worried and concerned about pleasing the congregation, rather than seeking what He pleased with our worship. It has become more about what we like and our needs, than it has been about surrender, trust, faith in the Father. Please don't take me wrong, there are still many who offer to the Lord an unadulterated pure worship, a sweet sacrifice of praise and true worship to the Father. There still is a remnant who has not bowed down to the idols of Babylonia, the system or industries of this world.

2. *The “why” we do ministry.*

- a. Why do we do ministry? The Lord spoke to me the other day that this shaking was being allowed and it would sift out if our motives were pure or judge their impurity. I believe it's a season where we will begin to see those who are truly called into ministry versus those who are hired workers. **John 10:11-18** This sounds harsh, but everything is tested by fire and none one is excluded. **1 Corinthians 3:11-13** God is testing us with His refiner's fire.

3. *The “where” we do ministry.*

- a. Where will we do ministry? Now that's an excellent question. For so many years and even more lately many ministries, churches, etc have placed so much attention and financial resources in their buildings and equipment that we may have lost the real meaning of what ministry is all about. Today as I write this 6th of April 2020, most churches in America and around the world are sitting empty and have been now for several weeks. So much time, effort and resources have been invested in buildings and structures that we have lost the meaning of what God called His church to do and to be. The church is called to BE ALIVE, LIVING, not just a place where we go and attend for a few hours during the week. The church is called to make disciples of Jesus Christ, proclaim the Good News, the Gospel of Jesus Christ into all the nations, lay our hands on and heal those who are sick, bind up the broken hearted, cast our demons and set the captives free. **Isaiah 61:11-11, Matthew 28:18-20, Ephesians 4:11-16** The where and how we do ministry is changing. This is where the Lord is preparing His church. It's a new season, it's a new day and new wine must be put

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into new wineskins. I believe God is going to give some of the most creative ideas and incredible heavenly strategies for ministry in these next days, months and years. Something we have never seen or could have imagined.

The greatest harvest of souls is about to be ushered into the church in the coming years. The best days are ahead! We must be prepared and keep in alignment what the Lord is speaking to us.

ADDITIONAL BIBLE VERSES:

Ephesians 4:11-16 (NKJV)

11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, **12** for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the [a]edifying of the body of Christ, **13** till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; **14** that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, **15** but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— **16** from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

Romans 12:1-2 (NKJV)

1 I beseech[a] you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your [b]reasonable service. **2** And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV)

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **19** Go [c]therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” [d]Amen.

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John 10:11-18 New International Version (NIV)

11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. 13 The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

14 “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. 17 The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

1 Corinthians 3:11-13 (NKJV)

11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is.

Isaiah 61 New International Version (NIV)

The Year of the Lord's Favor

61 The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,[a]
2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise

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