

**Scripture Reading: Luke 5:33-39**

**Sermon Title: The Narrative: The Bridegroom, Wine, & A Dangerous Nostalgia**

**The bridegroom & the better covenant He brings are a cause for celebration but will also be a cause of rejection.**

And they said to him, “The disciples of John fast often and offer prayers, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink.” <sup>34</sup> And Jesus said to them, “Can you make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? <sup>35</sup> The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days.” <sup>36</sup> He also told them a parable: “No one tears a piece from a new garment and puts it on an old garment. If he does, he will tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old. <sup>37</sup> And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. <sup>38</sup> But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. <sup>39</sup> And no one after drinking old wine desires new, for he says, ‘The old is good.’”

Luke 5:33-39

*The Bridegroom:*

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“The disciples of John fast often and offer prayers, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink.”

**Spiritual practices detached from their meaning, or a sincere heart are filled with emptiness.**

<sup>34</sup> And Jesus said to them, “Can you make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? <sup>35</sup> The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days.”

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, <sup>32</sup> not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 31:31-32

**In the scriptures, a covenant is a formal arrangement between two or more parties that is rooted in a relationship of love & trust.**

**The Old Covenant is rooted in the ongoing work of God’s people. In the Old Covenant, right relationship with God is maintained by the efforts of God’s people; the promises & blessings of God are sought after by the efforts of God’s people; the removal of sin & its**

**effects** is temporarily achieved through the ongoing efforts of God's people & their sacrifice.

Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. <sup>22</sup> But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

Galatians 3:21-22

And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, *he broke it and gave it to them*, saying, "*This is my body, which is given for you*. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>20</sup> And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "*This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood*."  
Luke 22:19-20

The New Covenant is rooted in **the finished work of Jesus Christ**. In the New Covenant, right relationship with God is maintained by **the love & grace of Jesus Christ**; the promises & blessings of God **are secured** by the love & grace of Jesus Christ; the removal of sin & its effects is permanently and progressively applied through the sacrifice of Jesus & **the renewing work of The Holy Spirit**.

The New Covenant is better, it has **a better message**.

For *by works of the law* no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin  
Romans 3:20

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for *it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes*, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. <sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."  
Romans 1:16-17

The New Covenant is better, it has **a better mediator**.

*The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death* from continuing in office, <sup>24</sup> but *he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever*. <sup>25</sup> Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since *he always lives* to make intercession for them.  
Hebrews 7:23-25

And every priest stands daily at his service, *offering repeatedly the same sacrifices*, which can never take away sins. <sup>12</sup> But when Christ had *offered for all time a single sacrifice* for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God,  
Hebrews 10:11-12

The New Covenant is better, it comes with **better blessing**.

But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all **sons of God, through faith**

Galatians 3:25-26

And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “**Abba! Father!**” <sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and **if a son, then an heir through God.**  
Galatians 4:6-7

**The New Covenant is better, it comes with better conditions.**

**Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.** <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”  
Matthew 11:28-30

**Receive & rest in who Jesus is & what He has done.  
Be with Jesus**

*Old & New Wine:*

**We don't force Jesus to fit in, we allow Jesus to take over.**

<sup>36</sup> He also told them a parable: “No one tears a piece from a new garment and puts it on an old garment. If he does, he will tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old. <sup>37</sup> And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. <sup>38</sup> But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.

**Trying to force the covenants to work together ruins both.**

<sup>38</sup> But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.

*A Dangerous Nostalgia:*

<sup>39</sup> And no one after drinking old wine desires new, for he says, ‘The old is good.’”

**The same heart that resists change is often the same heart that is addicted to it, it's the heart that refuses to let Jesus be Jesus.  
We refuse to let Jesus be Jesus & instead we seek to replace Him.**

**“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance:  
we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.”**

<sup>33</sup> For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon.’ <sup>34</sup> The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ <sup>35</sup> Yet wisdom is justified by all her children.”

Luke 7:32-35

Consider the ways & the reasons **I'm holding what God wants to do in the present & the future hostage**, by what God might have done in the past.