

## **“The Holy Spirit: The New Wine”**

**Text:** *Luke 5:37–39 (NIV)*

“And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins.”

### **Intro: A New Season of Renewal**

Church family, we serve a God who makes all things new—not just better, but new. In Christ, we don’t just get patched-up lives—we become **new creations**. And in this passage, Jesus offers a vivid picture of transformation.

He speaks of **new wine**—and we understand this new wine to represent **the outpouring of the Holy Spirit**, the very life of God poured into the hearts of believers.

The term "spirits" is used for distilled alcoholic beverages because of the historical connection to the distillation process itself, which was seen as capturing the "spirit" of the original liquid. Distillation separates alcohol from a fermented liquid through evaporation and condensation, and this process was likened to releasing and capturing a "spirit"

We believe not only in salvation but in **entire sanctification**—a second, deeper work of grace where the Holy Spirit fills the believer with holy love. **This filling is the new wine.**

WHEN a person is drunk, we say they are under the influence. The influence of alcohol on the brain affects their movement. A drunken person doesn’t walk like they normally walk. They stagger. A person under the influence will exhibit changes in their personality. They think they can sing when they can’t. Their speech and coordination are impacted. Something else has taken over the brain. The filling of alcohol leads to control by alcohol.

## I. The Holy Spirit: God's Promise of New Wine

The Bible is filled with imagery of wine—especially *new* wine—as a sign of **God's blessing, abundance, and joy**.

But in Jesus' teaching, it comes to represent something more: The **transforming power of the Holy Spirit**.

At Pentecost in Acts 2, the disciples were so overwhelmed by the Spirit's power that some thought they were drunk with wine. But Peter declared:

*"These people are not drunk, as you suppose... This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: I will pour out my Spirit on all people." (Acts 2:15-17)*

This **Holy Spirit outpouring** wasn't a one-time event. It's the same Spirit Jesus promised, and the same Spirit who sanctifies, empowers, and indwells His Church today.

Hebrews 10:14-16 NIV

"For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says: "This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.""

## II. New Wine Requires New Wineskins

Jesus said in Luke 5:38:

*“New wine must be poured into new wineskins.”*

This is a call for **inner transformation**. The **old wineskin** represents the old self—our sinful nature, religious formalism, or even spiritual complacency.

But the **new wineskin** is a life made ready by grace—a life **cleansed, yielded, and entirely consecrated to God**.

**Entire sanctification**—when the believer, already saved by grace, comes to a point of full surrender and is filled with the Holy Spirit. This isn’t just emotional; it’s transformational:

- Our **motives** are made pure.
- Our **hearts** are filled with holy love.
- Our **wills** are bent toward obedience.

The Holy Spirit cannot fully fill a vessel that is half-committed. That’s why He seeks **new wineskins**—hearts wholly surrendered to Christ.

### III. The Effects of the New Wine

When the Holy Spirit fills us, something changes. Ephesians 5:18 says:

“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,”

The contrast is striking. As new wine changes behavior, so does the Spirit:

- Our **language** changes—we speak with grace and truth.
- Our **relationships** change—marked by love and unity.
- Our **desires** change—we hunger for holiness, not the world.
- Our **mission** changes—we move from comfort to calling.

This is what entire sanctification looks like: a life filled to overflowing with holy love. Not perfection in performance, but **purity of heart** and **Christlike character**.

#### IV. Be Ready to Receive the New Wine

Jesus ends with a warning in Luke 5:39:

*“And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for they say, ‘The old is better.’”*

Church, the greatest danger isn’t rebellion—it’s **resistance**. Some are so used to “old wine”—old habits, old thinking, old religion—that they reject the very thing they’ve been praying for.

But we are a people of renewal. We believe in a **second work of grace** that cleanses, empowers, and enables us to live a holy life in this present world. Let me ask you:

- Have you settled for a faith that’s dry and contained?
- Have you been trying to pour the Spirit into old patterns?
- Are you willing to be made new?

#### Conclusion: A Call to Be Filled

The Holy Spirit is not a luxury for the Christian life—He is the source of it.

Today, the Lord is offering **new wine**—the fullness of the Spirit, the power to live holy, and the joy of intimacy with Christ.

Illustration:

When a drunk leaves the bar dissipation occurs! He starts to lose his inebriated state until the alcohol is all out of his system.

We are commanded to be filled with the Spirit! But you could be between fillings! Maybe you need to be topped off!

