



NEW WINE

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WINESKIN

Jesus' parable of new wine in old wineskin can be seen in three out of the four gospels. It can be found in Matthew 9:17, Mark 2:22, and Luke 5:37. Jesus uses the concept of wine and wineskin to illustrate the need for openness and flexibility for the new gospel message that He comes to bring. Because wine is a fermented drink, when placed in a wineskin, it begins to expand and change the form of the wineskin. Jesus uses this example to say that the old traditional religious practices of Judaism are like an old wineskin, and they can not contain the new message He comes to bring. If new wine is placed in an old wineskin, the wine will burst the seams of the old wineskin, because it is already being stretched to its limit.

NIMSHAL



The purpose of Jesus sharing this parable can be seen as a warning to those who are caught up in traditional practices of Judaism. He invites us to have an open and flexible mind, to make room for the new gospel message he's bringing. Through His parable, His message conveys that the new message He's bringing can't be contained in the framework of the old traditional legalistic ways people like the Pharisees and other religious leaders have been following for a long time. As an acorn transforms into an oak tree, Jesus takes what's old and fulfills it, transforming the old into something new.

"And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. For the new wine would burst the wineskins, spilling the wine and ruining the skins." Luke 5:37

APPLICATION

There can be many ways this parable can be applied to our everyday lives. It can be seen as one of transformation. Jesus can take our self, and our old nature, and transform our inner being into a character that reflects the likeness of Jesus.

