
In Matthew 9, Jesus delivers a truly timeless message regarding human’s partnership with God that is both insightful in understanding God, and helpful in our engaging of that insight.

Matthew 9:17 (NLT) - “No one puts new wine into old wineskins. For the old skins would burst from the pressure, spilling the wine and ruining the skins. New wine is stored in new wineskins so that both are preserved.”

Here’s how and why the message is ‘timeless’; therefore extremely relevant for us today.

1. The ‘**New Wine**’ spoke of the imminent revealing of the **New Covenant**.

2 Corinthians 3:8a (NLT) - “Shouldn’t we expect far greater glory under the new way . . .”

2. The ‘**New Wine**’ spoke of the imminent revealing of the **Holy Spirit**.

2 Corinthians 3:8b (NLT) - “. . . now that the Holy Spirit is giving life?”

3. The ‘**New Wine**’ still speaks of the ongoing revealing of His plan for the Church, and therefore, His plan for His people - you and I!

Revelation 21:5 (NLT) - And the one sitting on the throne said, “Look, I am making everything new!” And then he said to me, “Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.”

Study Guide

1. Think about a couple of instances in your life in which you received something substantially ‘new’. How did it affect your life? Can you recall what you did with the ‘old’ thing it replaced?
2. Carefully re-read Matthew 9:14-17 (our passage from Sunday). What are your observations? Is there anything that is unclear in your mind?
3. What is your experience with the two ‘new’ things that Jesus was introducing? Utilize the noted verses to assist you in your understanding.
 - New Covenant - 2 Corinthians 3:6
- Hebrews 8:6
 - Holy Spirit - Acts 1:8
- Thessalonians 1:5
4. Ultimately, the issues of embracing the ‘new’ things that God is doing, runs through the question of ‘trust’; can I trust God, even in times of uncertainty? Can we trust God to lead and provide, in ‘new’ ways that perhaps defy convention and tradition? Take some time to pray and ask the Lord for His help in learning to trust Him.