

IT'S OBSOLETE! LET IT GO!

bernardpersiche



This week we launched our new sermon series Old and New Wineskins.

“Jesus said, ‘And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. For the wine would burst the wineskins, and the wine and the skins would both be lost. New wine calls for new wineskins.’”

- Mark 2:22 (NLT)

The Old Wineskins were the Old Covenant that God made with the nation of Israel, but it was now obsolete and replaced with the New Covenant that God made with the entire world through Jesus Christ!

*“So when God speaks of a “New” Covenant, it means he has made the **first one obsolete**. **It is now out of date and will soon disappear.**” - Hebrews 8:13 (NLT)*

As Christians we have a tendency to go back to the Old Testament and familiar religious traditions rather than live by Jesus’ new covenant, which is a better covenant with better promises!

*“But now Jesus, our High Priest, has been given a ministry that is far superior to the old priesthood, for he is the one who mediates for us a far **better covenant with God**, based on **better promises**.” - Hebrews 8:6 (NLT)*

Matthew 17:1-8 (NLT)

1 Six days later Jesus took Peter and the two brothers, James and John, and led them up a high mountain to be alone. **2** As the men watched, Jesus’ appearance was transformed so that his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light. **3** Suddenly, Moses and Elijah appeared and began talking with Jesus.

4 Peter exclaimed, “Lord, it’s wonderful for us to be here! If you want, I’ll make three shelters as memorials—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

5 But even as he spoke, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy. Listen to him.” **6** The disciples were terrified and fell face down on the ground.

7 Then Jesus came over and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid."8 And when they looked up, Moses and Elijah were gone, and they saw only Jesus.

1 Timothy 6:17-18 (NLT)

17 Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment.

18 Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others.

Ephesians 1:7 (NLT)

7 He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did Moses and Elijah represent on the Mount? The Voice of God said we should listen to Jesus. And soon after, Moses and Elijah disappeared leaving ONLY Jesus. What does an ONLY Jesus perspective look like in our daily life?
2. Remembering back to the story of the woman caught in adultery, The Law and Prophets prescribed stoning, but Jesus showed us all a new way to deal with one another in our humanity and brokenness. How is the Jesus approach different from our tendency to judge and condemn? And what can you learn from this difference?
3. What does it look like to realize, recognize and act like God is always with you? Because to some it's a threatening presence, but for others it's a caring, empowering presence. How do you personally experience His presence?
4. Tithing is an Old Testament perspective where the Jews were expected to give 10% of their income. How does 1 Tim 6:17-18 challenge your understanding of New Covenant generosity? And how could you apply that in your life today?
5. In Ephesians 1:7 it says that Christ forgave (past tense) us of our sins. So rather than repeatedly asking God to forgive (He already has) what could it look like if you asked God to empower and change your mindset and/or behavior that is leading you to sin?