

A New Thing
[Mar 2:13-22 ESV]

I. Intro

- A. We have seen the Authority of Christ in our study through these early verses of Mark.
 - 1. Authority over the unclean Spirit
 - 2. Authority over sickness and disease
 - 3. Authority over that which was deemed unclean
 - 4. Authority to forgive sins
- B. Today we see the worst of the people and the other group that's the worst both having interaction with Jesus.
- C. He is showing authority to usher in a NEW COVENANT, that we will see in fullness later in the gospel, but will see the clear contrast with that which He is fulfilling.
- D. He fulfills the old covenant, and He BECOMES the new covenant!

II. Text

A. Verses 13-14

- 1. The call of Levi/Matthew
- 2. Matthew immediately dropped everything and followed Jesus
- 3. Tax Collectors had a complicated relationship with Jews:
 - a) Jewish men, but serving the purposes of Rome
 - b) Many times, gained great wealth from taxing the people more than even Rome required and pocketing the difference (see Zacchaeus)
 - c) They were constantly doing business for Rome, so they were considered ceremonially unclean by the Jews.
 - d) SO...
 - (1) They were traitors, thieves, and outcasts
 - (2) They were protected by Rome, and exploited their own people

B. Verses 15-16

- 1. Jesus had dinner with a group of outcasts who were unclean and to be avoided according to Jewish custom.
- 2. The Scribes once again said...We've never done it this way before
- 3. By their interpretation of the law, Jesus was in violation, but that was not the law. They added to the law
- 4. Jesus was feasting with sinners, while the Pharisees and John were fasting.

C. Verse 17:

- 1. Jesus heard them and responded regarding His mission
- 2. [Luk 19:10 ESV] 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."
- 3. No one goes to a wedding fast, we go to a wedding feast!
 - a) There is a great contrast here, Jesus is feasting with tax collectors and sinners
 - b) Then he confronts their self righteous fasting.
 - c) The teaching was to fast for spiritual reasons, they perverted this truth

D. Verse 18

- 1. Another perceived legal/cultural violation
- 2. John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting, Jesus and His disciples were not.
- 3. This fasting was a regular occurrence for the Pharisees and many other Jews.
 - a) Twice a week
 - b) This fast was in preparation for the coming messiah.
 - c) This would have been a normal thing to do, since John the Baptist and the Pharisees were both practicing...But Jesus was leading His disciples in reality and truth.
- 4. [Mat 6:16-18 ESV] 16 "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 17 But when you fast, anoint your head and

wash your face, 18 that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

E. Verse 19

1. Jesus answered the question directly, but through an illustration
2. He was saying there was no need to fast because what they were fasting for was Him.

F. Verses 20-22

1. More allegory to teach the point
2. Fasting is represented here by the old, Jesus represents the new
3. In order for the new to be received, the environment must match.
4. New wine must be matched with a new wine skin
5. A new patch on an old piece of fabric didn't make sense, and Jesus isn't fixing any garments with preshrunk pieces, He is giving NEW ROBES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS!
6. Our old self, like that of the pharisees, could never contain the new life in Christ!
7. [2Co 5:17 ESV] 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

III. Points

A. Tax Collectors and Sinners

1. The unclean, the outcasts, the unworthy...Jesus went to these people on purpose.
2. The people that Jesus was eating with were the worst of their pious society.
3. Those that thought they were righteous were also sinners, but they didn't see themselves that way.
4. What we need to note here: all were sinners, some knew it, some thought they were good.
 - a) Jesus deals most directly with the self righteous
 - b) Jesus deals gently but directly with those who were in the struggle.
 - c) We are better to recognize where we are in reality, and let Jesus make us NEW!
5. The outcast from society is contrasted here with the scribes and pharisees.
 - a) Unclean can only be made clean by Jesus
 - b) Outcast can only be made acceptable by Jesus
 - c) Sinners can only be made saints by Jesus
 - d) LOST can only be SAVED by JESUS!
6. Whether you are a tax collector or a pharisee, you are a sinner that would never be able to hold the new covenant.

B. Old and New

1. The paralytic was restored, and didn't stay on the old mat
2. The new overwhelmed the old.
3. Make no mistake, much contrast is being drawn
4. Wedding feasts happen because the bridegroom and bride are celebrating, not a time of sorrow and longing.
 - a) Jesus's feast with the tax collectors and sinners happened while the pharisees were fasting and the scribes were questioning.
 - b) It would be absurd to FAST at a CELEBRATION of NEW COVENANT RELATIONSHIP
5. The NEW PATCH didn't belong on the OLD GARMENT
 - a) This is not an instruction manual to correct poor tailoring,
 - b) this was marking the fact that new and old would not mix
6. New wine, old wineskin:
 - a) New wouldn't work in the old
 - b) New wine was fermenting and processing, gas build up would have burst the wineskin.
7. The new and the old are completely incompatible

C. Religion vs. Relationship

1. Religion, ritual, will not do the work of relationship (The OLD way is overwhelmed by the NEW)
2. Jesus is bringing a new thing in our story, a new thing that is in contrast with the old thing.
3. First illustration: bridegroom
 - a) Jeremiah prophecy
 - (1) [Jer 7:34 ESV] 34 And I will silence in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, for the land shall become a waste.
 - (2) [Jer 16:9 ESV] 9 For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will silence in this place, before your eyes and in your days, the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride.
 - (3) [Jer 25:10 ESV] 10 Moreover, I will banish from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the grinding of the millstones and the light of the lamp.
 - (4) [Jer 33:11 ESV] 11 the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voices of those who sing, as they bring thank offerings to the house of the LORD: "'Give thanks to the LORD of hosts, for the LORD is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!' For I will restore the fortunes of the land as at first, says the LORD.
 - b) Matthew 22:1-14: The parable of the wedding feast
 - c) We are the bride of Christ!
 - (1) The bride needs to fast from time to time, but its different now, its new!
 - (2) The bride is now anticipating the soon return of the bridegroom
4. Second illustration: robe
 - a) That which we are clothed with is the righteousness of Christ
 - b) Jesus was teaching them that the new cannot be attached to the old, the patch won't hold
 - c) We carry with us a ragged robe of sin and self-righteousness, it cannot be patched, but must be made new.
 - d) He is not patching up the old, he is making us new
 - (1) Isaiah 61:10: for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness
 - (2) [Rev 7:9 ESV] 9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,:
5. Third Illustration: wineskin
 - a) The old and the new do not mix, and will not have its effect.
 - b) New wine in a new wineskin would ferment and stretch, and eventually settle in, as it was designed.
 - c) You can't take the old covenant and simply pour the new covenant into it and expect it to work.
 - d) The new Covenant requires something new altogether.
6. In these illustrations we see our need for:
 - a) Being clothed in righteousness
 - b) And filled with the new covenant
7. We must be in relationship under the new fulfillment of His plan, not the old legal plan

IV. Close

- A. [Isa 61:10 ESV] 10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of

righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

- B. Jesus changed their ritual into life giving relationship by His presence
- C. He can make you new today!