



Made New in Christ Jesus

Mark 2:22

“And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins—and the wine is destroyed, and so are the skins. But new wine is for fresh wineskins” (Mark 2:22—ESV).

In Revelation 21:5, Jesus declared, “Behold I am making all things new.” Jesus fulfilled that promise in the life of everyone who heard Him preach and followed Him. They turned from sin and turned to Jesus. They received Jesus into their lives and changed their way of life. They believed He was and is what He said about himself. Thus, Jesus made them new and they lived like new people. As they learned more about Jesus, they grew in their faith and they opened themselves to receive more of His love, truth, and grace as He increased their capacity. Finally, all those who love and follow Jesus can be filled with all the fulness of God. In Ephesians 3:19, Paul wrote that he wanted you, his Christian reader, “to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.” This certainly is our hope, to be made completely new and filled with God as His new creation. When Jesus made a new covenant in His blood by His death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead, that became like God’s creation of a new spiritual and religious wineskin. As His follower, we no longer need to offer a sacrificial lamb or make any other sacrifices for sin, because we are forgiven for all our sins. Trying to combine a total commitment to loving and following Jesus while continuing to live in our old, obsolete, and sinful ways will never work for us. Jesus described the problem perfectly. It would be like putting new wine in an old wineskin; the wineskin will burst, and the wine and the wineskin both will be ruined. The Holy Spirit enters our lives to fill us with His fruit: “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” He makes us new, and we are indeed a new creation in Jesus Christ. Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 5:17, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” Let us live as He has made us to live.