

# WHO DO YOU SAY HE IS?



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**Mark 2:18-22**

*<sup>18</sup>Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, "How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. <sup>20</sup>But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast. <sup>21</sup>"No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. <sup>22</sup>And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins."*

Feasting instead of fasting (v. 18)

Why the question about fasting?

- Because Jesus has been feasting!

'Why Jesus aren't you & your disciples fasting?'

- Jesus answers with 3 object lessons.

Object lesson #1: Wedding banquet (v.19-20)

- Why aren't y'all fasting, Jesus? Because there is a wedding going on right now!
  - Fasting at a wedding shows you have misunderstood the moment at hand.

- Moment at hand?... *the arrival of the kingdom of God* in Messiah Jesus.
- Weddings are a celebration of:
  - New life/new family [?] new covenant family of Jesus
  - Things long hoped for [?] the great messianic banquet

▪ **Isaiah 25:6-9**

*“<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples,*

*a banquet of aged wine— the best of meats and the finest of wines.*

*<sup>7</sup>On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples,*

*the sheet that covers all nations; <sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.*

*The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces;*

*he will remove his people’s disgrace from all the earth. The Lord has spoken.*

*<sup>9</sup>In that day they will say, “Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us.*

*This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”*

- Point of the lesson: The messianic banquet is being made ready. That’s why we’re feasting!

Object lesson #2: Old garments, new patches (v. 21)

- Fasting requirements in the O.T. vs in Jesus’ day.
- Religion vs the gospel are colliding... Jesus says they don’t match up.
  - Religion (or moralism) says, “I obey, therefore I am accepted by God.”
    - Serves the idols of self & pride
  - The gospel says, “I am accepted by God through Jesus, therefore I obey/follow.”
- Point of the lesson: Jesus hasn’t come to ‘patch up’ the old. He has come to make us new!

Object lesson #3: Old versus new wineskins (v. 22)

- Symbolism:
  - New wine – God’s offer of grace/kingdom invitation
  - Wineskins – two responses to God’s offer of grace/kingdom invitation
- The Parable of the Prodigal Son [**Luke 15:11-32**]
  - Two sons – the younger & the elder son
  - Portrait of God’s grace
  - Portrait of two ways to respond to God’s grace
- Accept or resist – will you accept God’s grace & join the party?