

WHAT JESUS SAID – THEN AND NOW

No Repair

TEXT: Mt. 9:16-17

INTRODUCTION – New Series... We are going to examine some of the stories Jesus told, the sayings He originated, some will be familiar and some not so much. All of them bring very practical advice to our living here and now.

This is a very needful study for all of us, me as much as you.

Mt. 7:24-27 ²⁴ “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

²⁶ “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷ and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”

1. Notice Jesus is here referring to the things He says. Jesus is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. What He says is right and true altogether. He is also our Sympathetic High Priest who has lived upon this earth and was tempted in every way we are tempted.” He knows how things are.
2. The key to having a house built on the rock is doing what Jesus says. Hearing, listening, memorizing, this is not enough. The results come in the doing.
3. Notice that the results of building are not always immediately apparent. The storms reveal whether the life is built on the rock or on the sand. Although storms may be delayed, they always come. Just ask the folks on the west coast who have been in years-long drought, but suddenly are inundated with storms.

Therefore as we study some of the different sayings of Jesus, we will do so with a focus on application. This will be the question we must address each week:

How can we do His words?

Today we are going to look at what Jesus said as recorded in Mt. 9:16-17.

Mt. 9:16-17 ¹⁶ No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for the patch pulls away from the garment, and the tear is made worse. ¹⁷ Nor do they put new wine into old wineskins, or else the wineskins break, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But they put new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.”

I call this parable “No repair.”

I. WHAT WAS JESUS SAYING?

Although we want to get to seeing how we can apply the words of Jesus to our lives, we first must understand them.

Most of the time that means making note of the context.

Mt. 9:14-15 ¹⁴ Then the disciples of John came to Him, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but Your disciples do not fast?”

¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, “Can the friends of the bridegroom mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.

Jesus is speaking to the disciples of John the Baptist. Fasting was a regular part of their expression of repentance which was the message of John as he prepared the way of the Lord.

Jesus does not despise or negate fasting, but He indicates there is a time to fast and a time to refrain from fasting. But then He moves to the larger point by giving an example they all understood.

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The primary point of Jesus is **There are some things that cannot be fixed; they must be changed out.**

II. THAT IS WHY WE MUST BE BORN AGAIN!

Nicodemus – Jesus did not tell him to adjust his theology, lifestyle
You must be born again!

That is why Jesus had to be “lifted up” – hung on a cross

Whoever believes shall not perish – born again!

If any man is in Christ, he is a new creation.

Folks, some of you just keep trying to patch up the old man, to fix your flaws, to lessen your sins, be better than you were last year. But often times you end up in worse shape than you were.

You need to be born again! Made new! Made into a new creation, not the old creation with patches.

III. EVEN FOR THE CHRISTIAN AFTER MANY YEARS OF GROWING, THERE ARE THINGS TO BE PUT OFF AND PUT ON, NOT JUST REPAIRED.

Even the saved, who have the new wine of the gospel in the new wineskin of a born again believer often revert to trying to patch their lives rather than putting off things that do not belong in the life of a believer.

Colossians 3:8–10 ⁸ But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, ¹⁰ and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

PUT OFF

- **Anger**
- **Wrath**
- **Malice**
- **Blasphemy**
- **Filthy language**
- **Lying**

But not just put off.
Put on!

PUT OFF

- **Anger**
- **Wrath**
- **Malice**
- **Blasphemy**
- **Filthy language**
- **Lying**

PUT ON

- Self control**
- Soft answer**
- Returning good for evil**
- Reverence**
- Pure speech**
- Speaking truth in love**

CONCLUSION: Folks, God is not in the business of just patching sinners up to make them a little better than they were. He is in the business of making new creations whom He transforms into the very likeness of the Lord Jesus Christ.

So, what are we to do? **How do we do these words of Jesus?**

Lost man, lost woman, **quit today just trying to patch your life up. Come to faith in Christ.** Be born again.

Saved man, saved woman, **quit trying to moderate lingering sins and lifestyles and instead put them off.** Abandon them. **Forsake them for the new life that you have in Christ.**