

# Luke 5:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he spake also a parable unto them; No man putteth a piece of a new garment upon an old; if otherwise, then both the new maketh a rent, and the piece that was taken out of the new agreeth not with the old.

## Analysis

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No man puts piece of new garment upon old if otherwise then both new maketh rent and piece taken from new agrees not with old. Parable. Piece epiblema patch. New garment himatiou kainou new cloth. Upon old palaion. Both new and old ruined. New cloth shrinks tears old. Principle mixing old new systems incompatible. Cannot patch old covenant with new. New wine new wineskins required. Jesus teaching represents new paradigm not patch on Judaism. Gospel not add-on to law but fulfillment replacement. Reformed theology sees discontinuity between covenants. New covenant superior Hebrews 8. Cannot mix law grace works faith.

## Historical Context

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Jewish leaders wanted to fit Jesus into existing system. Cannot be done. Christianity not reformed Judaism but new covenant. Mixing law grace produces hybrid that satisfies neither. Galatians Paul fights Judaizers wanting to add law to gospel. Mixture ruins both. Early church struggled with this Acts 15 Council affirmed Gentiles not under Torah. Reformation recovered this truth salvation by grace through faith apart from works. Cannot be half grace half works. Modern church sometimes mixes merit grace performance acceptance. Gospel is pure grace.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. What does impossibility of patching old with new teach about incompatibility of law and grace?
2. How does this parable warn against syncretism mixing gospel with other religious systems?

## Interlinear Text

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Ἐλεγεν δὲ καὶ παραβολὴν πρὸς αὐτοὺς ὅτι Οὐδεὶς  
he spoke And also a parable unto them G3754 No man  
G3004 G1161 G2532 G3850 G4314 G846 G3762

ἐπίβλημα ἴμάτιον καινοῦ ἐπιβάλλει ἐπὶ ἴμάτιον παλαιῶ  
a piece garment of a new putteth upon garment an old  
G1915 G2440 G2537 G1911 G1909 G2440 G3820

εἰ δὲ μήγε, καὶ τὸ καινοῦ σχίζει καὶ τῷ  
G1487 And G3361 also G3588 of a new maketh a rent also G3588  
G1161 G2532 G2537 G4977 G2532

παλαιῶ οὐ συμφωνει ἐπίβλημα τὸ ἀπὸ τοῦ  
an old not agreeeth a piece G3588 that was taken out of G3588  
G3820 G3756 G4856 G1915 G575

καινοῦ  
of a new  
G2537

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Corinthians 6:16** (Parallel theme): And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

**Deuteronomy 22:11** (Parallel theme): Thou shalt not wear a garment of divers sorts, as of woollen and linen together.

**Leviticus 19:19** (Parallel theme): Ye shall keep my statutes. Thou shalt not let thy cattle gender with a diverse kind: thou shalt not sow thy field with mingled seed: neither shall a garment mingled of linen and woollen come upon thee.

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