

# Mark 2:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And no man putteth new wine into old bottles: else the new wine doth burst the bottles, and the wine is spilled, and the bottles will be marred: but new wine must be put into new bottles.

## Analysis

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Jesus extends the new-versus-old contrast: 'No man putteth new wine into old bottles.' New wine, still fermenting, produces gas that expands containers. Old wineskins, already stretched, lack flexibility and burst under pressure. This illustrates the gospel's dynamic, transformative power that can't be contained in old covenant forms. The 'new wine' represents the Holy Spirit's energizing presence. The 'new bottles' represent new covenant structures—faith community not bound by ceremonial law but characterized by Spirit-indwelling, faith in Christ, and mission to all nations. Reformed theology emphasizes that the gospel creates new people requiring new forms.

## Historical Context

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Wine storage in first-century Palestine used leather wineskins from goats or sheep. Fresh skins were supple and expandable; aged skins became brittle. Jesus' teaching challenged the assumption that Messiah would simply restore old covenant Judaism. The early church's separation from Judaism (synagogue to church, Saturday to Sunday worship, circumcision to baptism) enacted this principle. Church history warns against fossilizing gospel structures into new legalism.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. What 'old wineskins' might you be clinging to that prevent the Spirit's fresh work?
2. How can the church honor biblical authority while remaining flexible in cultural methods?
3. What traditions have you elevated to the same level as Scripture, and how does this hinder gospel ministry?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	οὐδεὶς	βάλλει	οἶνον	νέον	εἰς	ἀσκοὺς	παλαιούς·
And	no man	putteth	the wine	new	into	bottles	old
G2532	G3762	G906	G3631	G3501	G1519	G779	G3820
εἰ	δὲ	μή	ρήσσει	ό	οἶνον	ό	νέον
G1487	G1161	G3361	doth burst	G3588	the wine	G3588	new
			G4486		G3631		G3588
						G3501	bottles
							G779
καὶ	ό	οἶνον	ἐκχεῖται,	καὶ	οἱ	ἀσκοὺς	ἀπόλοῦνται
And	G3588	the wine	is spilled	And	G3588	bottles	will be marred
G2532		G3631	G1632	G2532		G779	G622
ἀλλὰ	οἶνον	νέον	εἰς	ἀσκοὺς	καινούς	βλητέον	
but	the wine	new	into	bottles	new	must be put	
G235	G3631	G3501	G1519	G779	G2537		G992

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 119:83** (Parallel theme): For I am become like a bottle in the smoke; yet do I not forget thy statutes.

**Matthew 9:17** (Parallel theme): Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved.

**Psalms 119:80** (Parallel theme): Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed.

**Job 32:19** (Parallel theme): Behold, my belly is as wine which hath no vent; it is ready to burst like new bottles.

**Joshua 9:4** (Parallel theme): They did work wily, and went and made as if they had been ambassadors, and took old sacks upon their asses, and wine bottles, old, and rent, and bound up;

**Joshua 9:13** (Parallel theme): And these bottles of wine, which we filled, were new; and, behold, they be rent: and these our garments and our shoes are become old by reason of the very long journey.