

Old and New

MATTHEW 9:14

Discipleship

- ▶ Jesus Christ is the same
 - ▶ yesterday, today, and forever.
 - Heb. 13:8

Discipleship

- ▶ John's disciples
 - ▶ How is it that we and the Pharisees fast,
 - ▶ but your disciples do not fast?

Discipleship

- ▶ The question:
 - ▶ Pharisees fast twice a week
 - Monday and Thursday
 - ▶ John lived in the wilderness and ate locusts and honey.
 - ▶ You guys are feasting?

Principles

- ▶ No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment.
 - ▶ the patch will pull away
 - ▶ making the tear worse.

Principles

- ▶ Neither do men pour new wine into old wineskins.
 - ▶ If they do,
 - ▶ the skins will burst,
 - ▶ the wine will run out
 - ▶ and the wineskins will be ruined

Principles

- ▶ No, they pour new wine into new wineskins,
- ▶ both are preserved.

Principles

- ▶ Old and new are not always compatible.

Principles

- ▶ “New” is not necessarily better.
- ▶ “New” is not always progress.

Principles

- ▶ “Old” is not always worse.
- ▶ “Old” is not necessarily wrong.

Principles

- ▶ We do not follow tradition for its own sake.
- ▶ We do not do what's new for the sake of novelty.
 - ▶ We do what the situation calls for.

Proper Response

- ▶ John's disciples are trying to make Jesus fit into their paradigm.
 - ▶ Jesus is ushering in a new age.
 - ▶ There is continuity, but there is also discontinuity.

Proper Response

- ▶ How can the guest of the bridegroom mourn
 - ▶ while he is with them?

Proper Response

- ▶ The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them;
 - ▶ then they will fast.

Proper Response

- ▶ Jesus' presence is cause for celebration!
- ▶ The inauguration of the kingdom is cause for rejoicing!

Proper Response

- ▶ There is a time for feasting
 - ▶ and
 - ▶ there is a time for fasting.

Proper Response

- ▶ Changes in the current situation require new responses.

Proper Response

- ▶ What is Christ doing?
- ▶ What does the situation call for?

Old and New

- ▶ Do not get stuck on "newness" or "traditions."
- ▶ Be attentive to the presence of Jesus.
- ▶ Respond to his calling.