

## New Wine in New Wineskins

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Beloved Cheon Il Guk leaders and blessed families! First I want to say, "I really missed you." Attending our beloved True Mother, we worked hard as one, offering our sincere hearts and jeongseong for the revival of the nation and continent, and since February 9 last year, when we celebrated the historic True Parents' Centenary and the sixtieth Holy Wedding Anniversary as great victories under True Mother's guidance, we have not been able to meet for a year due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic.

I miss you so much and want to see you so much. I cannot imagine how much you -- the leaders and blessed families who are True Mother's sunflower -- have missed and longed to see True Mother during this period. Just like the desperate desire of a newborn baby to find its mother, I am sure you missed our True Mother, the mother of our eternal life, and look forward to seeing her as soon as possible.

True Mother recently emphasized the phrase, "New wine in new wineskins." The term "new wine" in the Bible refers to the "new truth," the "new word" proclaimed by Jesus two thousand years ago. At that time, in Palestinian land it was customary to store water and wine in sheepskin bags. Sheepskin is very soft. If you put wine in it, the volume expands as it ferments. The wineskin stretches along with the fermented wine. However, once used, the leather becomes hard because of the sugar in the wine.

If you put new wine in such a leather bag, it will not be able to handle the expansion caused by the fermentation of the new wine and it will burst. So the wine and wineskin will both go to waste. Jesus emphasized in this parable that in order to accept his new truth and new word, it was necessary to abandon "old wineskins," "old stereotypes," and "old thoughts," "legalism", which was the model of faith at the time. In other words, in order to receive the new truth and new word, a new heart, an absolute heart that accepts the new truth and new word is needed.

The "seeding parable" in Matthew 13 has the same meaning. No matter how good the seed, if it falls along the path, on rocky places, or among thorns, the roots will not grow and it will not bear fruit, but if it falls on good soil, it will produce thirty, sixty or a hundred times more fruit. In other words, no matter how good the word is, it is impossible to bear fruit if it is sown in hearts like rocky places that have become hard from stereotypes and old thoughts called "legalism." Therefore, new wine needs to be placed in new wineskins.

However, we, like blind people, judged the new truth and new word proclaimed by True Mother based on our standards. Leaving behind her children who did not believe in restoring the nation and continent, True Mother had no choice but to go into an environment in which she could not see an inch ahead, with a body that could not take one step forward and create a miracle for us to see. For the past seven years, True Mother has been carrying us on her back, and together we enjoyed the joy of victory on the condition that we made a small contribution to True Mother's victory. We should never again repeat the mistake of assessing things from a human viewpoint. We must not let True Mother feel as if she has been left all alone in the universe after True Father's Cosmic Seonghwa.

Now, on the foundation of the victory of the "first seven-year cosmic Canaan course," heading towards 2027, which is the year of the sixtieth Heavenly Parent's Day, we have set out on another ambitious course, the "second seven-year cosmic Canaan course." In this Cheon Il Guk era, we must change into new clothes fit for the new era. New wine must be placed in new wineskins. Therefore, in this second seven-year cosmic Canaan course, with a new attitude that fits the new era, we must achieve absolute oneness with the only begotten daughter, True Mother, who is the substantial Holy Spirit, and gain victory by giving all we have toward 2027, in this last moment in the providence.