Restoration of the Gifts (Part 2)

by Kenneth Hagin

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Luke 5:36-38: *And he spoke also a parable unto them; No man puts a piece of a new garment upon an old; of otherwise, then both the new makes a rent, and the piece that was taken out of the new agrees not with the old and no man puts new wine into old wineskins; else the new win will burst the bottles, and be spilled, and the bottles shall perish. But new wine must be put into new bottles; and both are preserved.*

You must understand the illustration Jesus is using. These wine bottles were made of skin. Once wine was put into them, they would swell up and change shape. As the skin became old, it became brittle, and if wine were put into an old skin, it would burst. Therefore they would renew those old wineskins. First, they'd soak them in water for a long time. Second, they'd take olive oil and rub it into the skin until it became soft and pliable again; they could put new wine into them and they wouldn't burst.

Jesus was saying that individuals, local churches, or denominations often are just like those wineskins: old, empty, dead, and brittle. How can we be soaked in water to be renewed? Paul, talking about the Church, said in Ephesians 5:26, *"That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word!"* So there must be a fresh saturation of the Word of God. And is these last times, God has raised up the teaching ministry for this very purpose. Many of us, praise God, have been saturated with the Word of God. Others need to be. Unless they are, they'll never be able to hold the new wine.

We know that after they soaked skins in water, they rubbed olive oil into them until they became soft and pliable. Oil is a type of the Holy Spirit! The Psalmist said, *"I shall be anointed with fresh oil"* (Ps. 92:10). Fresh oil! That's what we need today: a fresh anointing of oil – the Holy Spirit – and it's coming. A Pentecostal minister from England visited me several years ago here in my office on the Rhema campus. He's now in his 70's. Smith Wiggelsworth held a weeklong meeting in his church the week before he went home to be with the Lord. This brother told me what Wiggelsworth had told them that week before his homegoing in 1947: "There is coming a move of God, but I'll not live to see it." The English brother continued, "Wiggelsworth said that the greatest move of God yet will come in the '80s." (I always had the same conviction.) He told me that Wigglesworth said, "In our day, in this revival, we've had a move of the gifts of the Spirit, but very little teaching of the Word. There is coming a revival of the teaching of the Word of God, and after that revival comes, there will come that fresh anointing of the Spirit. And the combination of the two revivals will bring the greatest move we've ever seen!"

Is a new wave coming? Some people are looking for something brand new; something that has never happened before. In that sense, there's never going to be a new wave. God's going to do everything He's ever done before. Go down by the ocean and watch the waves come in. You may say, "That's a new wave." Yes, it's a different wave from the one that came in before, but it's still the same water, even though it's higher than the first wave. The move of God often comes in gently. But it keeps pushing in until, before you know it, it covers a whole territory. The truth is, the new wave started in 1982. It's here now! It's gathering momentum. It's going to continue to sweep in, in even greater power, authority, and character of God. There's even a move of God going on in some of the Communist countries. I believe there's going to be a tidal wave of glory that's going to seep all Nations right into the kingdom in these last days! You can receive a fresh anointing right now!

CONFESSION: Thank you, Lord, for the rain – the outpouring of the Holy Ghost – the early and the latter rain. Thank You, Lord, for the harvest – the precious fruit of the earth. The revival is not coming. The new wave is not coming. The revival – the refreshing – is here now! And I'm in it. And I walk in it. And I'm part of it. And I'll continue to be a part of it. And the work of God will be done.

"Yea, says the Lord of hosts, do not expect the enemy to come in like a flood and overtake you; but expect the glory of God to rest upon you. Expect the Spirit of God that resides within you to function as the Holy Scriptures declare that He will function. And He'll rise up in you and give illumination unto your mind and direction unto your spirit. For it is written, "He'll show you things to come." And you'll not ever be left in the dark, for you're not children of the darkness; you're children of the light! And you'll walk in the light every single day. And the work of God shall be accomplished. And the glory of the Lord shall shine upon thee. And oftentimes men – That is, natural men, men in darkness – will see the glow upon thee. They'll even see the glory upon thee. They'll even see the light shining forth from thee, and come and walk with thee and be blessed forevermore.

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