SERMON **MARK 2:18-22** Everything Changes with Jesus T Neumann

Set up / Accusation (v18); Response (v19-22)

**Point 1: A Question About Fasting**

**Point 2 – The New Has Come**

God as a bridegroom in OT - **Ezekiel 16:8**; **Hosea 2:20**; **Is 62:5**

**IS 61:10**

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord;
    my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
    he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
    and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

**Ps 13:5**

But I have trusted in your steadfast love;

my heart shall **rejoice** in your **salvation**(!).

**Is 53:8-**

By oppression and judgment, he was taken away;
    and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
    stricken for the transgression of my people?

**Rev 19:6-7**

**6**Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude,

like the roar of many waters and

like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

“Hallelujah!
For the Lord our God
    the Almighty reigns.
**7**Let us rejoice and exult
    and give him the glory,
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
    and his Bride has made herself ready;

Reflect and Discuss

1. How would you respond to a friend who asked if there were

several roads that lead to God? How does this passage speak to a new way of relating to God?

1. If you had a close acquaintance or good friend, and you later learned that

he or she was Jewish, how would you encourage them to consider the claims of Jesus as the way to be forgiven of their sins and reconciled to God?

1. Some Pharisees fasted to show they were deeply concerned about spiritual

matters. How is this commendable? How were they mistaken?

1. Some people fast to earn God’s favor or to get Him to act on their behalf.

How is that conception mistaken from this passage?

1. How can Christians demonstrate joy to family and friends that we are celebrating with the living bridegroom, rather than continuing to mourn His death?
2. How does rejoicing - bring saved by grace through faith -with the living Savior ﬁt in with fasting and praying for Jesus’ return?
3. What aspects of Old Testament Judaism are represented by the “old gar-

ment” or the “old wineskins” that must be discarded now that they have been fulﬁlled in Christ? (hint- think discarding pursuing forgiveness from God through obedience to God by keeping the law of God….)

1. How is the gospel like a new garment and like new wine?
2. How is your life before salvation like an “old garment” that cannot be merely patched up?