



Daily Devotional

Note for 20251231 – New Wine

1. Opening

Welcome to the Devotionals of The House of Bread. In the Word we read that we are to receive the Word of GOD by the Spirit, so I strongly urge you to pray before you receive the Devotional. Let Christ take the lead in your Spiritual Development.

Watch on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/599c9p2dUQo>

Introduction

So yesterday was quite the day for me. As I was sitting in a bit of a situation, I was talking to God about how this year has really been a trying year for those of the faith—those who walk by God's instruction, those of a pure heart.

Then God reminded me that on the 31st of December 2024, I was given the word “**Sacrifice**” for the year 2025. And oh boy, was that word true for 2025.

How many people can look back at this year and say, “Yeah... okay, I get it. There were sacrifices made”? Maybe there were things you could no longer do because the funds were not available. Maybe your health was not good during 2025. But you have made it.

Tonight, at midnight, we put 2025 behind us and move forward into a new word God has given me for the year 2026. For some, this will bring relief. For others, it will be the start of their crushing period.

The word God gave me—and that I am sharing with you—is **New Wine**.

So let’s look at the Scripture and get this straight from God.

2. Scripture Text

Matthew 9:17 —

“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.”

So if you are wondering why you had the year you had—why old things came knocking on your door, why you were tested as much as you were—it’s because a new vessel was being formed. One that finds its source not in a paycheck or in a lifestyle, but at the foot of the Throne.

Now that you are this new vessel, you can receive this New Wine. Because God will not pour New Wine into an old vessel—it would go to waste, and quickly.

I am led to share this with you.

How Wine Vessels Were Made (Biblical Times)

- **Hide selection:** Goat or sheep skins were most common
- **Tanning:** Skins treated to prevent rot
- **Shaping:** Sewn into a bag-like form

- **Sealing:** Inside coated with pitch, resin, or fat for waterproofing
- **Use:** Flexible, portable, ideal for wine transport in ancient times

This might seem strange at first, but this was the process of making wine vessels at the time when this Scripture was written.

So how does this apply to us today? Let's break it down.

HIDE SELECTION

2 Thessalonians 2:13 —

“But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.”

Here we see that God has chosen us for salvation. There is a lot of Scripture that points to this, and one that is preached quite often is this:

John 15:16 —

“Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain...”

A lot of people read this and think, “Great—so I do a bit of church on a Sunday, and then I can live for my own pleasure.” But no.

Go back to the **hide selection**. There were two animals most commonly used:

1. Goat
2. Sheep

Both goats and sheep can make wineskins.

Now, am I saying goats can be Christians? No. Once a goat, always a goat—and God decides that. The world will look after its own.

So when you see someone using God's name like a comma in their sentences while driving a nice car, remember this: **the world produces wine too—and its goats are full of it.**

Let's move on.

TANNING

Now we reach the time-consuming part—the part that must be done properly. If there is a flaw here, the vessel will not work for what it is purposed for.

Romans 12:2 —

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...”

This may not be where you expected this to go.

The tanning process is simply *living in this world*. You can either buy into it—and perhaps prosper greatly—or you can reject it and be transformed.

That transformation, that renewing of your mind, happens when the tanning process is complete. You take on a new form. Something different.

But it takes time. A lot of prayer. A lot of time before the Lord.

And yes, friends—you will fail. Daily. But if your first response is to run to God, you will be okay.

For some believers, this process seems quick. They come to faith and suddenly everything turns around. Meanwhile, you look in the mirror and ask, “When is it my turn?” The moment you stop asking that question, things begin to change.

As someone who has tasted both sides of this world, I can promise you this: the other side feels empty.

The tanning process is not quick. It's not one-size-fits-all. It is a process—and it takes time.

SHAPING

This is where things begin to look beautiful for the believer—even from an outsider’s perspective.

James 4:8 —

“Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you...”

During shaping, time is spent with God. Giving Him the first fruits of your day is a beautiful thing. In that time, He sews you together exactly as He needs you to be.

But shaping can hurt.

God will point things out and say, “Let’s work on that.”

Some carry an orphan heart—but once they give their lives to God, that disappears. They know they have been adopted and now have a Father who will never leave nor forsake them.

Others struggle with addiction—from sweets to sex and everything in between.

Do we judge them? No.

There is no scale for sin. One judgment fits all.

Our job is not to fix people. Our job is to bring them to the cross. God knows what is needed for their salvation—not us.

This is shaping: God removing what does not belong. And it is never our place to judge when that process takes longer in someone else. We are meant to support them.

SEALING

Now this is where I get excited.

This is when we are given the Helper—when God comes to dwell within us.

Ephesians 1:13 —

“After that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.” How incredible is God?

When His Spirit dwells in you, correction happens in the moment. You see it in believers—midsentence, suddenly quiet. That’s the Holy Spirit intervening.

God will never place something in you that draws you away from Him. He may give you understanding—but He will also limit how far you take it.

I am led to share one more Scripture, from one of the most frightening books for non-believers:

Revelation 9:4 —

“But only those men which have not the seal of God...”

If this makes you uncomfortable, ask God about it. He will clarify.

USE

This is the final stage.

2 Timothy 2:21 —

“He shall be a vessel unto honour... meet for the master’s use...”

Once you have gone through the process, you are ready for the Master’s use.

In 2025, you were being created, finished, and sealed—so that you could receive **New Wine** in 2026.

3. Devotional Reflection

I believe this will be a beautiful year for many. I believe the House of Bread will see growth beyond our imagination. I look forward to walking with my mentor Matt, and to spending time with you during these devotionals.

This word—New Wine—is spoken in this House and to those God sends it to. It is not for everyone. It is for those who eat from this table.

4. Verse of the Day

From the YouVersion Bible App

'And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.' John 1:5

<https://www.bible.com/bible/1/JHN.1.5> [Note](#)

[on the Verse:](#)

5. Closing Paragraph

May you find rest this year.

May you encounter God more deeply.

May peace be on your lips and God in your heart.

Welcome home.

**Written by the hand of a servant of the Living God
Son of David**

Selah. Shalom.

6. Optional Reading / Study Expansion

Background Reading:

7. Resources

Playlists:

Over the last few months and years, we have compiled a few playlists on SoundCloud. Feel free to explore it, download it and share with friends and family.

Find playlists at: <https://soundcloud.com/houseofbread4u/sets>

NEW: Download Music



We have added the ability for you to download the music you heard in the devotionals. You can listen to the song before hitting the “Download” button to know it is the right song you wanted. For now, at least, these are free downloads, and my hope is that I can keep it free. Enjoy!

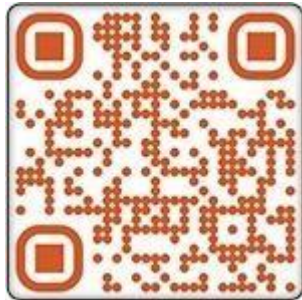
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