

# SKYWRITER



## From the Pastor's Desk

by Rev. John Freeland

The disciples of John came to Jesus, asking, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?" <sup>15</sup>And Jesus said to them, "The attendants of the bridegroom cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. <sup>16</sup>"But no one puts a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for the patch pulls away from the garment, and a worse tear results. <sup>17</sup>"Nor do *people* put new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wineskins burst, and the wine pours out and the wineskins are ruined; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved." Matthew 9:14-17

This particular passage has sometimes been used to support doing away with old churches or old systems and replacing them with new churches or new systems. However, that is not what Jesus was saying. Jesus was simply saying do what God is doing and not something else. Jesus' disciples didn't fast, not because fasting was no longer valid, but because Jesus was physically with them. One day that would change, and His disciples would start fasting. The lesson for us to learn is that the

"system" is not important. The most important thing is whatever God is doing. Unfortunately too many times we ask the wrong questions. "What should we do about....?" or "What is the best thing for.....?" or even "What would Jesus do?" It doesn't matter what *we should* do, or what the *best thing* is, or even what Jesus *would* do. The questions to ask are "What is God calling us to do?" "How does this decision line up with the *vision* God has given us?" The correct questions revolve around what God is currently doing in our particular situation at this particular time.

I can't help but think about the errors in judgment that I have made through the years. I also know that I have a few more errors in judgment to "look forward to." But as long as I make those errors seeking to follow Him it will be OK. This is what we at Skyland must do: "seek first His **k i n g d o m** a n d His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33).

Forget about "systems" and seek God. In the past we have been concerned about unity. We may feel divided right now, but unity is *not* Skyland's *greatest* need!

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