

GOSPEL PEARLS

Merciful patience

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And they said to Jesus: "The disciples of John fast often and offer prayers, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink." And Jesus said to them, "Can you make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days." He also told them a parable: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and puts it on an old garment. If he does, he will tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled,

and the skins will be destroyed. But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. And no one after drinking old wine desires new, for he says, 'The old is good.'" (Luke 5: 33-39)

Jesus responds with merciful patience to the questions of the scribes and Pharisees He meets while walking. Often, they were sincerely convinced that they were following the Law. Some did so in good faith, while others with malice and hypocrisy. So, Jesus shows us here that He gives everyone a chance. What chance will you have today to do God's Will? Pay attention especially to your good intentions and try to put them into practice.