

Miracles - Part 2

The Miracle of H_2O into $C_6H_{12}O_6-2CO_2+2C_2H_5OH$

John 2:1-11

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, **2** and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. **3** When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, **"They have no more wine."**

4 "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My **hour** has not yet come."

5 His mother said to the servants, **"Do whatever he tells you."**

6 Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for **ceremonial washing**, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

7 Jesus said to the servants, **"Fill the jars with water"**; so they **filled them to the brim**.

8 Then he told them, "Now **draw some out** and take it to the master of the banquet."

They did so, **9** and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside **10** and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but **you have saved the best till now."**

11 What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the **first of the signs** through which he **revealed his glory**; and his disciples **believed in him**.

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"Thus, in thinking about this miracle, in changing from water into wine, the liquid had to go from **chemically simple to chemically complex**. In order for the flavor, color, and even texture of the liquid to be sensed by the steward as 'good wine' there must have been present a **substantial concentration of complex molecules in the new wine.**"

"Water even rather dirty water, does not have the correct atoms to make wine."

"In order for the water drawn by the servants to become a liquid recognized by the steward as 'good wine,' **new atoms would have to be formed within the jars**. That is, the miracle of water-to-wine must involve the creation of new carbon atoms, new nitrogen atoms, and a number of other elements (such as a rather large amount of potassium)."

"To drop away from the chemistry for a moment, let me say it this way: In changing the water into wine, Jesus did a miracle that was **more than just a rearrangement of the stuff** of the water into something else. **It was the making of new stuff.**"

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"**Atoms always stay the same in the lab.** They can be **rearranged** into different molecules, **but they never change into something else.** Oxygen never becomes carbon. Hydrogen never becomes nitrogen. Such things **cannot** happen."

"Do you see the implications for this 'minor' miracle? Jesus caused the water to be changed into wine, apparently mostly at the urging of his mother, and to keep the bridegroom from being embarrassed about the poor provision for the celebration. **But the miracle was, in one sense, not very different from the initial creation itself. *Creatio ex nihilo*** is the Latin phrase used to describe God's creation of the universe: **Creation out of nothing. Something from nothing.** Matter and energy, **where previously** there was nothing at all."

Jesus' first miracle thus ranks with Genesis chapter 1, the creation of matter out of nothing. Water into wine. *Creatio ex nihilo*.

When Jesus turned water into wine He proved:

1. There is **nothing** he cannot **transform**
2. It's not about the **quantity** -- it's about the **quality**
3. What he can do with **NOTHING**

WHAT CAN GOD DO WITH **NOTHING**?

1. He turns darkness into light

Genesis 1:2, 3

"...and darkness was on the face of the deep...Then God said, 'let there be light.'"

2. He turns chaos into order

Genesis 1:6-10 (NIV)

And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning---the second day. And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

3. He turns barrenness to fruitfulness

Genesis 1:11-13 (NIV)

Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds. " And it was so. [12] The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and

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trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. [13] And there was evening, and there was morning---the third day.

4. He turns lack into abundance

Genesis 1:20-21 (NIV)

And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." [21] So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

5. He turns weakness into strength

Genesis 1:28 (NIV)

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground. "

HOW CAN WE SEE THIS TYPE OF TRANSFORMATION IN OUR LIVES?

1. DO WHAT JESUS TELLS US TO DO

John 2:5

His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

2. FILL THE JARS TO THE BRIM

John 2:6-7

Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim.

3. WALK BY FAITH AND NOT BY SIGHT

John 2:8

Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet."

John 2:11

What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.