

John 2 Pt 1 Only the Servants Knew vv 1-12

Encourage

- Andrew/John leave J the B to follow Jesus
- Andrew brings Peter to Jesus who wants to go to Galilee
- On the way in Jesus calls Philip who calls Nathaniel

Jesus/Boys on their way to Cana in Galilee
5 Miles NE of Nazareth Jesus Hometown

I. Jesus First Sign Manifestation of His Glory

1 On the **third day** there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the **mother** of Jesus was there.

- **Day One:** John declares his ministry. The voice to prepare the way for the Word
- **Day Two:** John introduces Jesus as the **Lamb of God**
- **Day Three:** John releases his disciples to Jesus
- **Day Four:** Jesus reveals Himself as the Only Way to Heaven

Now 3 Days Later the Boys come to Cana in Galilee
Jesus Meets His Mother Mary at a Wedding in Cana

2 Now both **Jesus and His disciples** were invited to the wedding.

Jesus, 5 Disciples and Mary together at the wedding...

3 And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, **"They have no wine."**

Wine once flowing freely now runs dry
Mary to Jesus: They have no wine

- **Ch. 2:** Jesus at a Joyous Occasion
- **Wine:** OT/NT Symbol of Joy

vv 1-12 Not about a Debate on Drinking Wine but a Description of the Joy of a
Wedding

Jesus: Not there to spoil a good time...but to have one

▪ **Great Joy at Traditional Jewish Wedding Ceremony:**

1. Bride/Groom: Considered **royalty** on wedding day
2. Bride sits on a **throne-like chair** as the Groom tries to read from OT
3. Interrupted by guests shouting, **"Song...song!"**
4. **Brides veil:** Indicates her true **beauty is within**
5. Groom looks at Bride before lowering the veil as **Jacob w/Rachel**
6. Bride/Groom escorted by parents to the Chuppah; i.e. Tent
7. Chuppah is open on all sides as was Abraham/Sarah's tent welcoming all
8. Bride circles groom 7 times symbolizing 6 days Creation/1 day of Rest
9. Rabbi pronounces blessing...Bride/Groom **take sip of wine**
10. Rings are placed on each other's fingers
11. Marriage contract read out loud witnessed by at least two as per OT

12. Seven Blessings recited by Rabbi...

7 Blessings: Link the couple to faith in God as Creator of the world, Bestower of joy and love, and the ultimate Redeemer of the people

1. Praise God for Joy while toasting wine
2. Praise to God for creating the glory of the world
3. Praise for the creation of human beings
4. Praise for making humans in God's image with an everlasting plan
5. Hope for the rebuilding of Jerusalem and the return of joy to Zion
6. A prayer for deep happiness, love, companionship for the bride/groom like Garden Eden
7. A prayer for future peace, gladness and sounds of celebration in the streets of Jerusalem

Groom Shatters the Wine Glass under his Foot
Symbol of Destruction of Temple...

Also, a reminder to the couple that life is full of sorrow and joy; a symbol of the fragility of relationships. For wedding guests, the sound of breaking glass means it time to shout "**Mazel Tov!**" [congratulations] **and get the party started.**

Yihud: Seclusion Ritual during which the couple retreats to a private room where they can have a moment together to reflect on their new partnership as husband and wife.

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Jesus: Not there to spoil a good time...but to have one

Picture of Christ Loving His Bride the Church/Joy of Both. Eph 5

- People drank wine till it ran dry
- Mary wants Jesus to step in

What did Mary know about Jesus?

Luke 1:46 And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 And my spirit has rejoiced in **God my Savior.**

Luke 2:16 [Shepherds] came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. 17 Now when they had seen Him, they **made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.** 18 And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. 19 But **Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.** What things?

Good tidings of great joy which will be to all people
There is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord

- Does Mary seek exoneration before others after 30 yrs of humiliation?
- Those taunting who is His father? Son, the ran out of wine...

4 Jesus said to her, "**Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.**"

- **Woman:** Respectfully Jesus implies a new relationship must begin

- You gave Me physical birth...I give you Spiritual birth

Mary had a little Lamb
The Lamb of God who came to take away the sin of the world

- **My hour has not yet come:** Crucifixion would be on schedule

John 7:6 My time has **not yet fully come.**

John 7:30 His hour had **not yet come.**

John 8:20 ... His hour **had not yet come.**

- **The hour would come:** Ch 13-21 or 40% of Gospel of John dedicated death/resurrection

John 12:23 ...the **hour has come** that the Son of Man should be glorified.

John 13:1b ... Jesus knew that **His hour had come** that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

John 17:1 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, **the hour has come.**"

How much did Mary know?

Luke 1:35 [Before birth] And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be **called the Son of God.**"

Luke 2:34 [Dedication] Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against 35 yes, **a sword will pierce through your own soul also**, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Mary [*as later Peter*], asks Jesus to act apart from the Father's timing
Mary submits to Jesus...

5 His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."

Whatever He says to you, do it
Last recorded words spoken by Mary in this Gospel

- Some try to bypass Jesus by going through Mary

To deliberately go through Mary to get to Jesus is to regard Jesus as hardhearted, and Mary as tenderhearted. This concept "is totally alien from the Bible. It comes from mother-son ideas prevalent in pagan religions. [Barnhouse]

Mary to the Servants
Whatever Jesus says to you...Do it! Good plan

6 Now there were set there **six waterpots of stone**, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece.

6 Pots w/a Capacity of 120-180 Gallons Each. 720-1080 Gallons Total. Now empty...

7 Jesus said to them, "**Fill the waterpots with water.**" And they filled them up to the brim. 8 And He said to them, "Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast." **And they took it.**

God draws near to the Humble...Repels the Proud
As Mary Humbled Herself before Jesus...He grants her request

- **Instructions:** Fill/Draw/Take

Note the Faith of Servants to Obey the Lord w/out Hesitation
What would happen if they brought water to the Master of the Feast?

9 When the master of the feast had tasted the water **that was made wine**, and did not know where it came from (**but the servants** who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. 10 And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. **You have kept the good wine until now!**"

Jesus did it/Groom got Credit/ All had joy but...
Only the Faithful Servants knew the Secret of the LORD...

Amos 3:7 Surely the Lord God does nothing, Unless **He reveals His secret to His servants** the prophets.

Genesis 18:17 ...the Lord said, "**Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing...?**"

Daniel 9:22 [Gabriel] **informed me**, and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to **give you skill to understand**. **23b...**I have come to **tell you**, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and **understand the vision...**

God reveals His plans to His humble Servants
Even more so to His faithful friends...

John 15:15 No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father **I have made known to you.**

Jesus uses New Wine to Demonstrate a New Thing...
He came to bring New Life to what had become Empty Religion

Matthew 9:17 Nor do they put new wine into old wineskins, or else the wineskins break, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But they put **new wine** into **new wineskins**, and both are preserved."

- Warning: With the Devil the **best comes first...**

I shall bid you look within the doors of the devil's house, and you will find he is true to this rule; he brings forth first the good wine, and when men have well drunk, and their brains are muddled therewith, then **he bringeth forth that which is worse.** [Spurgeon]

- **Principle:** For God's people the best is always **yet to come**

New Wine of the Indwelling Holy Spirit

- Ch 2 not about wine but let's deal w/it...
- Good wine is good wine not grape juice.

Jesus turned Water to Wine. So, What about Wine?

1. Generally, drinking wine is **not prohibited** in Scripture...generally
2. Getting drunk is **always prohibited** and is sin. Period. No hard drinks
3. If you can't drink w/out getting drunk...don't drink at all. Drinking **is sin to you**
4. If you can't drink apart from it being self-medication Drinking **is sin to you**
5. If you can't drink in faith [w/out conviction/guilt] Drinking **is sin to you. Ask...**

1. Can you worship?
2. Can you read the Word?
3. Can you counsel others?

Way Better...Be Consumed/Motivated by the Holy Spirit alone
Especially Important in these End Times to be Sober/Alert

Ephesians 5:15 See then that you **walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the time**, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 And **do not be drunk with wine**, in which is dissipation; but **be filled with the Spirit**, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Happy is our condition when the glory of God fills both heart and tongue! Oh, to swim in a sea of gratitude, to feel waves of praise breaking over one's joyful head, and then to dive into the ocean of adoration, and lose one's self in the ever-blessed God! [Spurgeon]

- **We are not** to judge those w/freedom to have a glass of wine
- **We are never** to have a glass of wine if there is a possibility of stumbling someone

1 Corinthians 8:12 ...when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. 13 Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, **I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.**

Romans 14:13 ...let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way. 14 I know and am convinced by the Lord Jesus that there is nothing unclean of itself; but to him who considers anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean. 15 Yet if your brother is grieved because of your food, **you are no longer walking in love.** Do not destroy with your food the one for whom Christ died.

Romans 14:23 But **he who doubts is condemned** if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for **whatever is not from faith is sin.**

IOWs Some things that are sin to you are not sin to others
Some things that are sin to others are not sin to you.

1 Peter 2:15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men— 16 as free, yet not **using liberty as a cloak for vice**, but as bondservants of God. 17 Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

Galatians 5:13 ...you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only **do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh**, but through love **serve one another.**

Refer to the Law of Love: Optics Matter
IOWs Is drinking more important to you than a soul? Guard your Heart

The chief joy of life is to be right with yourself, your neighbor, your God. [Spurgeon]

Q. Can I drink wine? **A.** I don't know...can you/should you?

1 Corinthians 10:23 All things are lawful to me but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful to me but **not all things edify** [lit. build up]. Let no one seek his own but each one the other's well being

Nothing on earth is more important than a soul/Your relationship w/Christ

Jesus turned Water to Wine
Brought Glory to Himself/Joy to His Servants

11 This **beginning of signs** Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and **manifested His glory**; and His disciples believed in Him.

- **Beginning of Signs:** First of 7 Signs in John pointing to Jesus as Messiah
- **Why turning water to wine Jesus first sign:** More here than meets the eye

Jesus manifested His glory by turning water into wine
By this His Disciples Believed in Him. Why this?

The Theory of Evolution fails w/out the one key component if most relies upon
Time.

- **Let there be Light:**

1. Nearest Star is the Sun: 93 Million Miles. 8.3 Light minutes from Earth
2. Nearest Star beyond Sun is *Proxima Centauri* 4.24 Light yrs away
3. IOWs It's light traveling at 186,282 m/p/sec would take 4.24 yrs to reach earth
4. Farthest Star is **Earendel**

Earendel is currently about 28 billion light-years away from Earth due to the expansion of the universe. However, the light we now see from it took 12.9 billion years to reach us, meaning it was emitted when the universe was very young. [NASA]

Thus the Universe seems to be at least 12.9 Billion yrs old. But is it?
The Speed of Light is considered a constant...But has it always been constant?

- IOWs Was the speed of Light constant at Creation as God said **Let there be Light...**

[BTW The following is beyond my pay grade] While standard modern physics treats the speed of light in a vacuum as a universal constant, a few theoretical physicists propose that it could have been much faster in the early universe. This idea, known as Variable Speed of Light (VSL), helps solve cosmological puzzles like the *horizon problem* proposing that light *traveled much faster in the early universe*. This rapid speed allowed distant regions of space to exchange heat and reach a uniform temperature before slowing down to its current constant value (c)

- *Did God speak and there was Light from stars to earth? Why not?*
- *Do we take the miraculous into consideration?*

Jeremiah 10:12 He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, And has **stretched out the heavens at His discretion.**

- **Let there be Man...**

1. **Adam:** Created w/the appearance of age
2. **Eve:** Taken from Adam w/appearance of age

- **Let there be Wine...**

1. **Q.** How is wine made? **A.** Fermented
2. **Q.** What is required for fermentation? **A.** Time

In order for wine to be produced, we have the growth and ripening of the grape; the crushing of it in proper vessels; the fermentation; -- but here all these are **in a moment brought about by their results**, by the same Power which made the laws of nature, and created and unfolded the capacities of man. [Alford]

Jesus: Water to Fermented Wine/Anticipated the Great Lie/Proved Himself Creator
His first sign manifested His glory/*Appearance of age w/out passing of time*

Only the servants knew/experienced the *joy of knowing* by bowing to God's Word in obedience. Humbling themselves they walked by faith, not sight/were greatly rewarded. [NJC]

Jesus First Miracle is more Applicable Today than 2000 yrs ago
In Summary: Creator's Sovereignty over Creation/Time is Revealed at a Wedding

Mark 4:37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. 38 But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" 39 Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "**Peace, be still!**" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. 40 But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?" 41 And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another...

"Who can this be, that even the Wind and the Sea obey Him!"

12 After this He went down to Capernaum, He, His mother, His brothers, and His disciples; and they did not stay there many days.

- **Capernaum:** Would become Jesus home-base
- **Few days...** Jesus/Mary [w/out Joe] but w/ Unbelieving Bros/Now Believing Disciples

Leave/Head for Passover in Jerusalem
Jesus will be taking care of business at His house