

John 2

Encourage

- Jesus on his way from Bethsaida to Galilee

I. Jesus First Sign: Jesus the Creator of Joy

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

- **3rd Day:** 3 day trip from Bethsaida to Cana in Galilee
- Jesus meets Mary in Cana

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

- Jesus and disciples invited to wedding?
- Jesus, disciples and Mary go to a wedding...

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

- **Wine Dispensed/Wine runs out...**

Mary to Jesus **"They have no wine."**

- **Vv 1-12 not about drinking but about joy**

1. Wine is symbol of Joy in Word
2. Chapter begins with Jesus at a joyous occasion
3. Jesus not there to spoil good time but to have good time; He made marriage

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

1. Bride/Groom considered **royalty** on wedding day
2. Bride sits on **throne** like chair while Groom tries to read from OT
3. Interrupted by guests shouting **"Song...song!"**
4. Brides veil indicates that her true **beauty is within**
5. Groom looks at Bride before lowering the veil as **Jacob with Rachel**
6. Bride and 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 seven 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 witnessed by at least two
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 our faith in God as Creator of the world, Bestower of joy and love, and the ultimate Redeemer of our people.

13. Groom shatters wind glass under his foot: Symbol of destruction of Temple

Breaking of Glass: 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.**

14. **Yihud:** I.e. "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.
15. **Jesus:** Picture of Christ loving His bride the Church

Vv 1-12 not about drinking but about great joy

People were drinking wine until it ran out...Mary wants Jesus to do something

- Mary seeks vindication after her 30 years of humiliation?

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

- **Woman:** Respectfully underscores a new relationship beginning
 1. You gave physical birth to Me
 2. I have come to give you Spiritual birth

What is your motivation in asking me to intervene?

- **My hour has not yet come:** Crucifixion would happen as scheduled in God's time
- **Revealing Himself too quickly would lead to His untimely death**

John 7:6 ...Jesus said to [his bothers who wanted Him to go to Jerusalem] , "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready...**7:8** You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, for **My time has not yet fully come.**"

John 7:30 [Religious leaders] sought to take Him; but no one laid a hand on Him, because **His hour had not yet come.**

John 8:20 ... no one laid hands on [Jesus], for His **hour had not yet come.**

- **His hour would come right on time...**

John 12:23 [Before predicting death on cross]...Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified."

John 13:1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when 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."

- May unknowingly tries to usurp God'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 words spoken by Mary in Gospel
- Good word for us! **"Whatever He says to you, do it."**

NOT whatever I say. His will and not mine.

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]

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. 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.**

- Notice after Mary humbles herself before Jesus. Jesus grants her request

Important: God draws near to Humble...Distances Himself from the Proud

- **Jesus Gives Instructions:**

1. Fill pots with water
2. Scoop it out and take it to the Wedding Steward
3. NOTE: Faith of servants bringing "water" to Steward

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!"

- **Servants knew:** Servants got to be involved in the joy of Jesus miracle
- **Good wine is here:** Jesus bringing a new thing to the people [Hippies]

Jesus came to bring New Life to dead 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."

- **This was wine...not grape juice.** Picture of Great Joy

**Water to Wine. What about Wine:
Undisputable Biblical Facts Regarding Drinking Alcohol**

1. Generally, drinking wine is **not prohibited** in Scripture...generally
2. Getting drunk is always prohibited and is sin. Period.
3. If you can't drink without getting drunk...don't drink at all. Drinking **is sin to you**
4. If you can't drink in faith [without conviction/guilt] then drinking **is sin to you**
5. Better to be consumed by HS than alcohol especially in end times; be sober and alert

Alcohol a inadequate substitute to being filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit

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]

6. We are not to judge those who have freedom to have a glass of wine
7. We are never to have a glass of wine if there is *any possibility* of stumbling someone

In most cases the Law of Love will prevent us from drinking publically *because in today's society* more so than 2000 years ago...non-believers will view it as sin

Is drinking more important to you that a person's soul?

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.

- We are not to judge others freedom in Christ [Pride/self-righteousness sin of devil]
- We are not to use our "freedom" to stumble others...

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.

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

Nothing on earth is more important than a person's soul

Can I drink? I don't know...can you/should you?

- **Jesus turns Water to Wine**

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

- **Beginning of signs:** Those things that point to Jesus as Messiah
- **Jesus First sign:** More here than meets the eye

Jesus manifested His glory by turning water into wine?

- Evolution biggest complaint in your earth is indications/signs of age
- **Let there be light:** Light takes time to get from star to earth; light years

1. **Q.** How is wine made
2. **A.** Fermented
3. **Q.** What do you need for the fermentation process
4. **A.** Time

Jesus turned water into *fermented* wine:

This first sign gave *appearance of age* without *any time passing*

- 6000 year old earth is what the Word teaches; next 1000 Millennial reign of Christ

- IMO Jesus anticipated great lie of Evolution/debunked it by proving Himself Creator

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
- **Stayed a few days...**
 1. Jesus and Mary with No Joseph
 2. Unbelieving brothers
 3. Disciples

Mary has been watching /waiting for 30 years to see Jesus revealed

- Angel told Mary she would be pregnant by HS and give birth to Savior of World
- Shepherds told Mary what angels said to them About her Son being Savior

There is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

...But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

- Later at Jesus baby dedication Simeon spoke to Joseph and Mary
- Simeon waiting all his life for this moment...

Luke 2:29 [Read] "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, According to Your word; ³⁰ For my eyes have seen Your salvation ³¹ Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, ³² A light to *bring* revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel." ³³ And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. ³⁴ 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."

- **Prophesied to Mary:**
 1. This Child will cause the piercing your soul?
 2. This Child will reveal where every person is at with God
- Mary did not realize the implications her desire for validation at the wedding
- The more Jesus revealed Himself the closer He moved to the cross

SUMMARY Jesus First Sign: Water Turned to Wine. Jesus the Creator of Joy

II. Jesus Cleanses the Temple

13 Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

- **Passover: Celebrating God's deliverance from Egyptian bondage**
- **Looked forward Jesus the great Deliverer...**

Colossians 2:16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, ¹⁷ which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. Jesus observed Feasts that looked forward to Him

All of OT Ceremonies speak/look forward to Jesus
OT Ceremonies [shadow] obsolete after Jesus 1st Coming

- We don't come home and kiss a picture of our wives...we kiss our wives
- Jesus celebrates/good time with the people until...

14 And [Jesus] found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business.

- Doing business? **Selling sacrifices for a prophet**
- **Jesus sits down and watches. Righteous anger rising. Grabs leather kit...**

15 When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables.

- **Tables turned:** Cleansing was part of Passover Celebration. Jesus was "celebrating"
 1. Sits down and takes time to "make a whip"
 2. Drives merchants out
 3. Drives animals out
 4. Flips tables over

16 And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" 17 Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up."

- **Psalm of David 69:9: David** was both king and prophet
- **NOTE:** Jesus will have to do this again...beginning and end of earthly ministry

Luke 19:45 'My house is a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.'"

- What business is to be done in Temple
 1. House of prayer
 2. House of Learning God's Word

Luke 2:47 [Joseph/Mary lose 12 yr. old Jesus for 3 Days and find Him at Temple speaking] And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers. 48 So when [Joseph/Mary] saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously." 49 And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that **I must be about My Father's business?**" 50 But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them.

- What business is to be done in House of God?
 1. House of prayer
 2. House of Learning God's Word

What kind of funny business is done in churches today?

- Bingo

- Fund Drives
- Thermometers
- Guilt trips

Jesus turns the Tables on Presumptuous Rebellion Hint of Millennial Kingdome ruling with Rod of Iron

John began with a miracle of conversion (changing water into wine). Then he showed Jesus performing a work of cleansing (the cleansing of the temple). This is always how Jesus works in His people: conversion first, then cleansing. [Guzik]

18 So the Jews answered and said to Him, "**What sign** do You show to us, since You do these things?"

- What authority do you have to do this?

19 Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days **I will raise it up.**" 20 Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?"

- Destroy this Temple and in three days **I will raise it up:**
- His own words would be used to crucify Him...

The irony is that the religious leaders themselves would be the means by which the prophecy was fulfilled. When Jesus said, "Destroy this temple," He knew that they would in fact do their best to destroy it. [Guzik]

1. **At trial:** Matthew 26:61
2. **At cross:** Mark 15:29
3. **Later to Stephen** before stoning him to death Acts 6:14

- **I will raise it up:** Jesus had the power within Himself to rise from dead

21 But He was speaking of the temple of His body. 22 Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.

- Holy Spirit would illuminate Jesus Words after Resurrection

Luke 24:6 [Angels to women at Tomb] He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, 7 saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'" **8 And they remembered His words.**

John 12:16 His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then **they remembered that these things** were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him.

- **Jesus to Apostles:** You guys aren't ready for this yet...

John 14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will

teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

**Same happens to us when we don't understand the Word
Jesus will bring It to Light when we need it**

23 Now when [Jesus] was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, **many believed in His name** when they saw the signs which He did. 24 But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men

- **Believed in His Name when saw signs:** Not yet a "saving faith"

"If belief is nothing more than admiration for the spectacular, it will create in multitudes applause; but the Son of God cannot commit Himself to that kind of faith." [Morgan]

- Jesus knew repentance come before saving faith.

If we don't believe we need to be saved we don't have a Savior and thus are not saved

- Jesus "Knew all men" **The Discerner of Hearts/Living Word of God**

Hebrews 4:12 ... the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

- God knows everything about us and still loves us...

Knowing what was and is in humanity, Jesus *still* loves. He knew and knows the worst; yet also sees the image of God, even upon fallen men and women. [Guzik]

- **Jesus knows all men completely...**

25 and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.

- Jesus knew who He was...did not need platitudes from men

John 13:3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, 4 rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself.

- Paul knew who he was and did not take to heart the insults of me

1 Corinthians 4:3 ...with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. 4 For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord.

- Don't dwell on what you think of yourself
- Don't dwell on what others think of you

**Dwell on what God thinks about you and walk in victory
Jesus loves you and has joy in you!**