

## Abundant Joy 2018-11-25

### John 2:1-11

*On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2 Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. 3 When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."*

*4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."*

*6 Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8 And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast." So they took it.*

*9 When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom 10 and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now."*

*11 This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.*

Strange account: Nothing about bride, groom, families, response to miracle.

- Focus on sign...a miracle (water>wine) w/message.... Jesus Christ is Messiah/Savior, an inexhaustible, abundant source of never failing joy.
  - Not explained: interpret with understanding Jewish culture and gospel.

John 1:1-5, 11

Mary seems have role in facilitating (ordered servants) so wine is gone (major social blunder...sued) she made veiled request to Jesus for help....Catholic doctrine.

- Trusted Jesus for perfect solution like past problems....Joseph probably dead. Not rude/dismissive/unkind then but an expression to distance two parties
- 30 year mother-son relationship was now being replaced with believer-Savior relationship. John 19:26, Matthew 12:46-50, Luke 11:27
  - Focus on spiritual not physical relations....Followers, not family.
- Different priorities: Mary concern wine at party and Jesus already focused on cross
  - "hour" = usually time suffer/die but here asserting He, not Mary, determines earthly ministry timetable. John 7:30, 8:20, 12:27, 12:23-24
- without violating Father's will, Jesus quietly manifest His glory with first miracle. John 2:6-10

Filled with water...no room left to dilute with wine. All was water changed to wine.

- Not +/- Word or twist Greek for sake of personal conviction. Ephesians 5:18, Luke 7:33-34
- Bible strongly condemns drunkenness but not command total abstinence.

- I believe wise to abstain: easy addicted, crutch rather than Jesus Christ, cause brother to stumble, and societal effects. 1 Corinthians 8:4-13, 10:23-33, Romans 14:20, 21
- New Testament allows for difference of conviction and practice on this issue.
  - Don't judge other Christians according to your personal convictions.
  - Examine eat/drink/do for motive and harmful/loving effect on self/others.

Focus is on meaning of miracle not specifics: Jesus Christ is Savior, an inexhaustible, abundant source of never failing joy. Luke 22:20, Joel 2:19, 24, John 1:17, Isaiah 25:6-9

- Wedding celebration picture of salvation Jesus came to offer.
- Jewish purification rituals (water jars) replaced by ultimate purification for sins, Jesus' death.
  - Beautiful picture of superiority of grace over law and works.
- Joy @ wedding picture of Christians enjoying blessings of salvation Jesus brings.
  - Abundance of wine (120-180 gals! 1920-2880 servings) emphasized greatness of Jesus' gift and lavish blessings/joy of Gospel!

One who supplies so bountifully in physical realm is not less generous in spiritual.

- Death sentence lifted, captive freed, poor/made rich, and best yet to come!
  - Jesus transformed water to wine and sinners to saints. 2 Corinthians 5:17
    - Wants to change water of dead religion into joyous, abundant wine of relationship with Him.....Gospel

Purpose recorded: believe in Jesus Christ, an inexhaustible, abundant source of never failing joy.....regardless of circumstances. Romans 14:17, Galatians 5:22, Psalm 16:11, John 15:10-11

- Jesus wants to give joy: fruit of Holy Spirit, attractive/draws lost, glorifies Jesus.
  - Christianity not joyless religion of rituals/works but joyful relationship with Jesus Christ
    - Rejoice in abundant blessings of your salvation.