

Marriage Feast At Cana

No. 153

Introduction.

I. One of the most interesting narratives of the events in Jesus's life is found in the second chapter of the gospel of John.

A. Let us read this text in its entirety.

JOH 2:1 And on the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; 2 and Jesus also was invited, and His disciples, to the wedding. 3 And when the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." 4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what do I have to do with you? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it." 6 Now there were six stone waterpots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each. 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 headwaiter." And they took it to him. 9 And when the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom, 10 and said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first, and when men have drunk freely, then that which is poorer; you have kept the good wine until now." 11 This beginning of His signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.

B. In this reading we find Jesus and His mother and His disciples and many other guests at a wedding feast in Cana of Galilee. This was a village about 6 miles from Nazareth. Nazareth is the place where He grew to manhood and likely worked as carpenter before beginning His ministry. There are many rich lessons found in this familiar narrative.

II. Let's carefully study these lessons and apply them to our hearts.

I. **Jesus Was A Social Being** - The first lesson that stands out in this story is Jesus was a social being.

A. Here we find Him going to a wedding banquet and enjoying fellowship with people.

1. Men draw a false picture of Jesus when they **paint Him as a hermit, a loner, one who did not enjoy life**. Jesus was not a hermit or a loner.
2. He was a man who enjoyed life and had much fellowship with people. Though Jesus did spend some time alone, He spent a lot of time with others.
3. He was the man who said. (Jn. 10:10). The abundant life certainly refers to the hereafter, but not exclusively to the hereafter. Christ intends for us to have the abundant life here and now.

B. There are some people **who never smile** and think something is wrong with a person who smiles and enjoys

life. To be around them is like attending forty funerals.

C. There are others **who withdraw themselves from the world** and have little or no communication with the world.

1. The Lord does not want us to be sad and withdraw ourselves from the world. He wants us to be joyful and make a contribution to the world by serving the needs of those around us.
2. The Lord only asks to give up those things which hurt us and destroy our influence for good. He does not withhold good things from us. (Psa. 84:11).

II. **Interested In The Institution of Marriage** - The second lesson that stands out in this story is Jesus was interested in the institution of marriage.

A. God is the Author of marriage.

1. God looked down upon Adam in the lovely garden of Eden and saw he was lonely, he was not complete. (Gen. 2:18).
2. So God put Adam to sleep and performed the first major surgical operation. He took a rib from Adam's side and made him a companion.
3. She was not made to be his master or his slave, but to be his loving, faithful companion.

B. **Jesus was never married**, but He had high regard for marriage and put His stamp of approval on the divine institution of marriage.

1. He manifested this by His presence at the marriage feast
2. He also manifested this by His teaching on the sanctity of marriage. (Matt. 19:6).
3. Jesus, through the Hebrew writer, said. (Heb. 13:4a).

C. **Jesus was invited to this marriage at Cana and He ought to be invited to every wedding.**

1. A couple should begin married life with Him and walk with Him to the end. There is no finer sight on this earth than to see two people joined together in a bond of love with Christ by their side. We can't build a real home if we leave Christ out. He ought to be the head of every home.
2. I like the **motto** that is seen in many homes, **"Christ is the head of this house, the unseen guest at every meal, the silent listener to every conversation."**

III. **Expects Complete Obedience** - The third lesson that stands out in this story is Jesus expects complete obedience.

A. Mary said to the servants, **"Do whatsoever he tells you to do."** These servants did not question or argue.

B. These words ought to be the motto of every Christian. We ought to say, "I will do whatsoever He tells me to do."

1. Now this word "whatsoever" is a big word and means obedience in everything.
2. Some people do what Jesus says in some matters, but not in all things. They believe a person ought to believe and be baptized and even attend Church services, but they ignore what Jesus says about giving, serving and witnessing.

3. **We must obey Christ in everything to please Him.** (Lk. 6:46; Jn.14:15; 15:14).

4. An **unknown author** has written these lines entitled “Take! Break! Make!”

Lord, TAKE me, Me, with all my selfishness, with All my pride and jealousy, All my willful disobedience, All my lack of love to Thee, Me, with all my faults and frailties, All my secret hidden sins.	And BREAK me! Break my stiff and stubborn will, Lord, Break myself with all its pride; And its dearest dreams, ambitions... Break my heart, its idols smash,-- Till in splintered, shattered fragments I lie helpless at Thy feet.	And MAKE me! With Thy tender skillful hands, Lord, Make me like Thyself to be, Moulded in Thy glorious image, Sweet and loving, humble, kind Faithful, gentle, finding pleasure Only in my Father’s will.
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IV. **The Power To Transform** - The fourth lesson that stands out in this story is Jesus has the power to transform.

A. Jesus took plain water and turned it into luscious wine.

1. This was undoubtedly highly diluted with water which was the way most of the Jews in the time of Christ drank their wine. It would take a large quantity of it to intoxicate a person.
2. The drinking of the diluted wine is not parallel to our modern liquors and cannot be used as an argument for the drinking of alcoholic beverages.

B. Not only can Jesus transform water into wine, **He can also transform our lives and make them something wonderful.**

1. He can take us poor human pieces of clay and make us fit for fellowship with the angels.
2. Jesus is the Great Transformer.
3. Millions through the ages have praised God for the marvelous changes Jesus brought to their lives. They exclaim, “Jesus has really changed my life. I have never been the same since I met Jesus.”
4. Paul wrote. (2 Cor. 5:17).

V. **Jesus Uses Others To Accomplish His Purposes** - The fifth lesson that stands out in this story is Jesus uses others to accomplish His purposes.

A. We notice here how Christ used human instruments to do His work. He never drew a drop of water. He never poured the water into the jars, He never carried the wine to the tables. He probably never moved out of His seat. He used human means to accomplish His work.

B. **Christ still uses human instruments today to accomplish His great purposes.**

1. He depends upon us to preach the gospel to the world. He depends on us to build-up the church. He depends upon us to help the poor. He depends upon us to visit the sick, the lonely and the afflicted.
2. Then when we do our part, He does His part. He blesses our labor just as He blessed the labor of the servants. Just as the labor of the servants had no value apart from Christ, our labor has not value apart from the blessing of Christ.

VI. **Jesus Always Give In Abundance** - Another lesson that stands out in this story is that Jesus always gives in abundance.

A. In this story we see Him making an abundance of wine for the wedding guests. There were six jars of water Each of the one contained 20 or 30 gallons of wine. We do not have information of the number of guests present at the wedding feast, but there must have been a very large number.

B. **Christ does everything in a big way.**

1. He wanted us to enjoy **the stars**, so He made, not a few, but a heaven full of billions of stars.
2. He wanted us to enjoy **the mountains** so He made not a few, but the Rockies and the Himalayas and the Alps and a host of others.
3. He wanted us to **enjoy flowers** so He gave us not a few blossoms, but He decked the hills and valleys with them.
4. For **water** He gave us, not a bucketful, but He scooped out the oceans and the seas and rivers. What a mighty Christ!

C. **Christ also does things in a big way in the spiritual realm.**

1. He **forgives us** not some or most of our sins, but of all our sins. (1 Jn. 1:9).
2. He gives us **peace and strength** to meet life's problems. (Phil. 4:6, 13).
3. He has **prepared for us a heavenly home** that is eternal and wonderful beyond words. The Bible describes it as a beautiful city where there is no pain, disease, sorrow, or death.
4. Yes, Jesus always gives in abundance.

VII. **With Jesus Everything Gets Better As We Go Along** - A final lesson that stands out in this story is that with Jesus everything gets better as we go along.

A. Those people at the wedding feast expected good wine at first and poorer wine as the feast continued, but they received the best wine last.

B. **Jesus promises everything better and sweeter as we follow Him.** With Him life is always climbing toward the great climax.

1. **A blind man was dying** and someone said to him, "There is one consolation, you will soon be in heaven." He replied, "Heaven, I have been in heaven all these years since I met Jesus."
2. **This is true of the genuine Christian life.** It is the best life. It grows sweeter and better every day. It reaches its climax when we meet Jesus face to face.

Conclusion.

- I. Life will become sweet for you and will grow sweeter and better for you each day if you put your complete trust in the Wonderful Savior. Jesus will cleanse you of your sins and write your name in the Lamb's book of life. He will then be with you and bless you abundantly in this life and in the life beyond the grave.

II. We urge you to come to Him and surrender your life to Him. Come as we stand and sing.

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