

SERIES: Gospel of John
The First Sign: Water Into Wine
John 2:1-12

The First of Many Signs

- After calling his disciples, Jesus performs his first public miracle at a wedding.
- These miracles are often called **signs**, and Jesus performs them for two primary reasons:
 - To attest to Jesus' identity as the Messiah and Son of God.
 - To lead unbelievers to **faith**.
- These signs are not simply acts of divine power, but are meant to reveal deeper spiritual realities.
 - *Turning water into wine* (John 2:1-12) – Jesus is the source of **life**.
 - *Healing a nobleman's son* (John 4:46-54) – Jesus is master over distance.
 - *Healing a lame man at the pool of Bethesda* (John 5:1-17) – Jesus is master over time.
 - *Feeding 5,000 hungry people* (John 6:1-14) – Jesus is the **bread** of life.
 - *Walking on water and calming a storm* (John 6:15-21) – Jesus is master over **nature**.
 - *Healing a man blind from birth* (John 9:1-41) – Jesus is the light of the world.
 - *Raising Lazarus from the dead* (John 11:17-45) Jesus has power over **death**.

Jesus Reveals His Glory at a Wedding in Cana (2:1-12)

Jesus is an obedient Son to his Father. (4-5) (He is not swayed by family ties.)

- Jesus' response "Woman" politely but firmly distances himself from his mother.
- Jesus made an important point about his mission: his hour had not yet come.
 - The "hour" referred to Jesus' impending death.
 - Jesus was on a divine schedule that no man could thwart.
- No earthly relationship will control Jesus or force him to act.
 - Not even the mother of Jesus or his family had special advantages for salvation.
 - Spiritual relationships of **faith** are more important than physical relationships of family.
 - It is no advantage to be the **mother** of Jesus. (Luke 11:27-28)
 - It is no advantage to be the **brother** of Jesus. (Mark 3:32-34)
- Jesus is bound to His Father's will in heaven rather than anyone's will on earth.
 - Jesus exalts his sonship to his Heavenly Father above his sonship to his earthly mother.
 - Jesus shows radical allegiance to his Father's will above his mother's will.
- Faith, not family, makes you Jesus' **friend**.
 - In verse 3, Mary approaches Jesus as his mother and is rebuked.
 - In verse 5, Mary approaches Jesus as a believer and her faith is honored.

Jesus is the Ultimate Purifier of sin. (6-9) (He is not moved by religious ritual.)

- At the wedding were 6 stone jars used for ceremonial cleansing and purification.
 - This water was not for drinking.
 - This water was for **washing**.
- By changing the purification water into wine, Jesus demonstrates a parable about his death.
 - Jesus takes the purification rituals of Israel and replaces them with a new and far superior way of being purified through his **blood**. (John 6:53)
 - Jesus shows how his death, his blood, and his hour will be the ultimate purification of sin.
 - There is no ritual anymore for cleansing.
 - There is only one way to be **clean** before God. (Revelation 7:14)
 - We don't turn to ritual. We turn to **Jesus**.

Jesus is the All-Providing Bridegroom. (10-12) (He never, ever fails to give us what we need.)

- The first miracle of Jesus is to complete what the bridegroom at a wedding could not do.
 - Jesus is the perfect **Husband** to the Church. (Ephesians 5:25-27)
 - Jesus will host a greater **wedding** for us in eternity. (Revelation 19:6-8)

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