

## Water To Wine

John 2:1-11

The account of **Jesus turning water into wine** is only recorded by **John**, and is the first recorded miracle of **Christ**, “*This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee*” (**verse 11**). That this is the first recorded miracle of **Christ**, makes it one of the most significant of His miracles!

The actual miracle is clearly stated in **verse 9** “*the water that was made wine*” It is not that “*the water was made to look like wine, or to taste like wine*” but “*the water.....was made wine*” It is not merely that “*Jesus made more wine, or better wine*” but “*the water.....was made wine*” HE CHANGED ONE ELEMENT INTO ANOTHER! It is not specified how He did this, but simply that He did!

In **verse 11** a twofold result of the miracle is stated. The result of this miracle was not merely that they at the wedding feast had more wine, but, **Christ** “*manifested forth his glory*” HE BROUGHT INTO VIEW HIS GLORY, and “*his disciples believed on him*” FAITH WAS STRENGTHENED!

The recorded miracles of **Christ** are meant to teach us valuable lessons about the needs of man, and the sufficiency, and efficiency of **Christ**, to meet those needs! In this first miracle, many get snagged on the issues surrounding alcohol, and miss the joy of the message of the miracle!

### I. THIS FIRST MIRACLE IS A PATTERN TO THE CHARACTER OF HIS MIRACLES

#### ① *The People Present At The Wedding Sets Forth A Pattern:*

**Mary**, “*the mother of Jesus was there*” (**verse 1**), but it was not for **Mary** to decide what **Jesus** would do (**verses 3-4**). HE WOULD DO THINGS HIS OWN WAY! This is true concerning all the **miracles** of **Christ**! **Mary**, “*the mother of Jesus was there*” but the **miracles** of **Christ** do not have their basis in who people are, but rather, His **miracles** are in spite of who and what people are! HIS MIRACLES ARE AN ACT OF GRACE AND MERCY!

#### ② *The Instruction To The Servants Sets Forth A Pattern:*

**Mary** gave instruction to the **servants** at the wedding (**verse 5**), and then **Jesus** instructed them (**verse 7**). GOD IS PLEASED TO USE HUMAN INSTRUMENTALITY! God can and God will use human instrumentality, **but He is not limited to such!** Man can fill jars with water, **but only He can turn it into something else!** We do ordinary,

common tasks, but it is CHRIST THAT TURNS THOSE TASKS INTO THE EXTRAORDINARY! This is seen throughout His *miracles*.

### ③ **The Occasion Of The Miracle Sets Forth A Pattern:**

The occasion was a wedding (*verses 1-2*). Weddings are one of the common experiences of life, and JESUS IS CONCERNED WITH, AND INVOLVED IN THE SITUATIONS OF ORDINARY LIFE. This is seen throughout the *miracles* of *Christ*. These *miracles* reveal JESUS STEPPING INTO THE COMMON EXPERIENCES OF LIFE AND MAKING THEM BETTER!

### ④ **The Place Of The Miracle Sets Forth A Pattern:**

The *miracle* took place “in Cana of Galilee” (*verse 1*). This was a inconspicuous and obscure little town that was outside of *Nazareth*, it had no social significance in its day, just an ordinary, common place. JESUS STEPS INTO ORDINARY PLACES AND MAKES THEM BETTER! This is seen throughout His *miracles*.

### ⑤ **The Use Of The Ordinary Sets Forth A Pattern:**

This miracle involved “six water-pots of stone” (*verse 6*), and “water” (*verse 7*). JESUS TURNS THE ORDINARY INTO THE EXTRAORDINARY! This is seen throughout His *miracles*.

### ⑥ **The Use Of That Which Was Used In Ritual Sets Forth A Pattern:**

Those “six water-pots of stone” were for the “purifying of the Jews” (*verse 6*). They were set apart for ceremonial cleansing, for ritual purity, and *Christ* transformed the contents of those ritual “water-pots” showing that IT IS NOT RITUAL THAT MAN NEEDS BUT CHRIST! He and He alone can turn the emptiness of “religion” and “ritual” into abundance! Throughout His *miracles* MAN’S NEED OF CHRIST IS MANIFESTED!

### ⑦ **The Nature Of The Miracle Sets Forth A Pattern:**

This was a *miracle* of transformation-“water.....made wine” (*verse 9*). To “transform” is “to make over to a radically different form, to change, to transfigure” He does not merely rearrange, HE TRANSFORMS, HE CHANGES THINGS! He can change places of **death** into places of life, places of **darkness** into places of light, places of **need** into places of provision, places of **thirst** into places of refreshment, places of **brokenness** into places of mending, places of **hurt** into places of healing, places of **hopelessness** into places of hope, places of **helplessness** into places of help, places of **weakness** into places of strength, places of **distress** into places of comfort, places of **sorrow** into places of joy, places of **fear** into places of courage, and places of **defeat** into places of victory! *Christ’s efficiency* and sufficiency to bring about transformation is clearly manifested in His *miracles*.

## II. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS MIRACLE

① ***This Miracle Is A Picture Of The Radical Change And Joy That Takes Place In The Salvation Of A Soul.***

② ***This Miracle Illustrates That There Are Times Of Emptiness:***

It is stated in **verse 3** “*they wanted (lacked) wine*” It was then that **Mary** said to **Christ** “*They have no wine*” There was an **emptiness**, and a **void**, and it occurred unexpectedly! All of God’s people from time to time wrestle with the issues of **emptiness**. **THERE ARE EMPTY SPOTS**, and this is true in the physical, the emotional, and the spiritual realm. Pursuits can become empty! Dreams and goals can become empty! Marriages can become empty! Feelings of love can become empty! Feelings of assurance and security can become empty! Relationships can become empty! Prayer can become empty! Bible-reading can become empty! Worship can become empty! Those who planned the wedding feast in **John 2** **did not expect to run out of wine**, but we read “*And when they wanted (lacked) wine*” and “*They have no wine*” and many times **emptiness** can occur in areas where it is unexpected.

③ ***This Miracle Is Instructive As To What To Do In Times Of Emptiness:***

○ *Keep The Lord A Priority In Your Life:*

**Jesus** had been invited to the wedding (**verse 2**). Seek His presence, His blessing, and His guidance in every area and aspect of your life. Take Him into every place in your life. This will prepare you for the unexpected voids.

○ *When Emptiness Occurs Go To Him First:*

When the wine ran out, **Mary** went straight to **Jesus** with the need-“*They have no wine*” In times of **emptiness**, **GO STRAIGHT TO THE ONE WHO CAN MEET THE EMPTINESS!**

○ *Do What Jesus Says:*

Notice the advice that **Mary** gave to the **servants** at the wedding-“*Whatever he saith unto you, do it*” (**verse 5**). **Jesus** told them “*Fill the waterpots with water*” (**verse 7**), and without questioning or hesitation “*And they filled them up to the brim*” (**verse 7**). In **verse 8** He gave them further instruction, and they again obeyed. **EACH STEP OF THE WAY, OBEY HIS INSTRUCTION!** As long as you **keep the Lord a priority**, and **go to Him with your need**, and **do what He says** **THERE WILL ALWAYS BE SOMETHING TO DRAW!**

④ ***This Miracle Serves As A Reminder Of The Efficiency And Sufficiency Of Christ:***

HE IS ABLE TO TRANSFORM OUR LIVES, AND OUR EVERYDAY CIRCUMSTANCES! ***Jesus Christ*** was the difference that day between emptiness and abundance! **HE CAN** take mean, ugly lives and transform them into beauty! **HE CAN** take that which is filthy, and transform it into that which is clean! **HE CAN** take that which is rebellious, and transform it into that which is obedient! **HE CAN** take a desert and transform it into a garden! **HE CAN** take that which is broken and transform it into that which is whole! **HE CAN** take that which is wrecked and ruined and renew, restore, and salvage it! **HE CAN** take that which is useless and transform it into that which is valuable! **HE CAN** take the ordinary and transform it into the extraordinary! **JESUS MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**

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The ***disciples*** witnessed the miraculous transforming power of ***Christ***! They witnessed the abundance that only He could bring about! They witnessed the sufficiency of ***Christ***, and the difference that He can make! As a result **THEIR FAITH WAS STRENGTHENED AND INCREASED**, which means that **they had a greater enjoyment of *Christ***, and **greater peace and assurance!**

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