

Water to Wine – John2 Sermon

Love – April 2012, 1st Congregational, March 2023 – Cloverdale; Prisons (Maxwell, Kilby)

And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: ² And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage. ³ And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. ⁴ Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.

⁵ His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it. ⁶ And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. ⁷ Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.

⁸ And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it.

⁹ When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, ¹⁰ And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now.

¹¹ This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.

The 3rd day of their time together, they attend a wedding. Notice, they were following him even before he ever performed a miracle. They were just following and hanging out with the Word. If you hang with Jesus, eventually you'll start seeing some miracles happen. The word and following the word and hanging out around the word often leads to experiencing a miracle from God.

- Hang around the Word because He is able. Because He's a comforter, because he is a source of blessings. He ain't got to do it right now, because if I hang around Him long enough, I know He will deliver, show up and show out.
- While I wait on Him, His grace is sufficient for me....I'm just hanging out!
- Come on, that's no different than what we used to do. We used to hang out at places waiting for something to happen....street corners, clubs, etc. I was one of the folks who would get to the club early. Before a lot of folk got in there. Just because it wasn't jumpin' at 10, I didn't leave, still hanging around cause if I waited long enough, chances are some smoke was gonna roll up in there.

Verse 2 – Jesus and his followers attend. Wedding important in that culture.

- Marriage symbolic of the relationship we have with Christ as His bride.

Verse 3 – They ran out of wine during the ceremony which lasted a week. Wine was an important part.

His mother comes to him because they ran out of something that they needed for the celebration. Tells him specifically what the problem is. Before you get your miracle, you may need to tell Jesus about the problem.

- Why tell Him? Must have been something about him that let her know that perhaps if she told him about the problem, he might provide the answer. It ain't gonna hurt to ask Him.

Verse 4 – Jesus' response seems harsh. This is not a concern of mine right now. What does them running out of wine have to do with us? That's not our problem. Their poor planning is not our fault. The timing for me to reveal power is not yet come.

- Didn't state that he wouldn't do it, but that it wasn't time yet. Don't get discouraged, it might not be time yet. Wasn't time for him to begin performing miracles.

Verse 5 – She still operates on faith. She acts like it was going to happen anyway.

- Mercy delayed doesn't mean it is denied.
- Current situation not stopping her from trusting in Him or His ability to change things around and supply what was missing.
- Even when it looks bad, even when God says no, you keep trusting and believing because faith has a tendency to release some stuff ahead of schedule.
- If she never moved by faith, stuff would still be missing in their situation.
 - Perhaps the reason things are still missing in our lives is because we ain't acting and moving by faith.
 - Notice, just being around Jesus and talking to Jesus which is good, wasn't enough to get the party started. Faith has to be a critical part of the release of the miracle.
 - You can still be in church, around the word, and praying and still be lacking what you need.
- Good word for servants; true servants follow the orders of Christ. Her instruction to others...is do whatever he says unto you. Still good advice today.
- What does He tell us to do? Then we need to do it in order to receive a miracle.

Verse 6 – 6 waterpots, fill them up. 6 is the number of man or incompleteness in the Bible. Jewish purification was a religious ceremony and tradition.

- Religion by itself, traditions alone will not fulfill all your needs. Can be doing church and all these other traditions but relationship is the key to a miracle and move of God.
- Note the pots were already there; he used what they already had to produce the miracle.

Verse 7-8 - Fill these six containers to the rim. Fill them up. Application. God wants to wash you and fill you up for the purpose of transforming you from the inside and turning you into something better, different, and brand new.

- They obey even though it seems unrelated to the need. His commandments are not grievous.
- Process starts with a word, middle is obedience, and result is a miracle. Faith and obedience is often in the middle of your miracle. It is the role you play in the miracle....obey.

Verse 8 – Draw out now. Miracle was not designed to stay in the pot. It has to be drawn out. God wants to draw out of you what he has filled you with. Draw out the change in you to bless others.

Verse 10 – Most folk set out....or every man, sets out or seeks to experience the best up front. The world will give you or place the best in front of you, but after you take it; after you get deep into it...notice it said well drunk. After you really step off into it, the world will give you the cheap stuff.

- That's how I used to party. Drink the good stuff first because it taste better and when you run out, bring out the cheap stuff because they get so drunk, so far into it, that they really won't notice when you break out the cheap stuff.
- Application: when you get caught up in the world, it will be nice and feel good at first, but after you been in it for awhile, you won't realize that the good times are over and the worse stuff just keeps on coming. No matter how hard you try or deep you get, you never get the best stuff again and it never gets any better.
 - Check your relationship. The honeymoon was great, but now that it's over it doesn't seem to be getting any better, in fact, it seems like it's worse.
- But this bridegroom is commended because after they drank up everything the best was still available. After they started, they still had the best stuff waiting in the back ready to be brought out.
- Whenever you invite Jesus to the party, to the event, to the situation, and you get your word of instructions, and you obey the word, expect first a miracle, His best is on the way.
- Now if you are not experiencing a miracle in your situation, chances are, you are missing something in the 4 step sequence to generate your miracle.

Notice: The servants knew where the wine came from.

Verse 11 – This was only the beginning or the start of the miracle season. Faith can change the timing for the release of your miracle. Faith may speed up the release of your miracle season.

- Purpose of the miracle was not to just meet their need for wine, but to bring Him glory and facilitate the disciples believing in Him. It's not about you. Your miracle is designed to bring Him glory and cause others to believe because of what He has done in you.

Application:

First miracle of Moses, turns water to blood, judgment. Christ turns it into wine as acceptance and salvation.

- Stone container, doesn't retain scent of former elements.
- 6 is the number of man.
- Fill these six containers to the rim. Fill them up. Application. God want to wash you and fill you up for the purpose of transforming you from the inside and turning you into something better, different, and brand new.



- Key point.....He won't fill you up until you completely run out. He can do the impossible, but He can't come in until and unless you make room for Him to fill you up.
- The process
 - You running on empty and recognize you're in need.
 - You turn from trusting in others and turn to Jesus.
 - He gives you a word of hope and instructions.
 - He fills you with His Holy Spirit.
 - Transforms you so that everything that comes out of you is a blessing to others.

When folks used to run into me, they got me. Now they get Him and His goodness and miracle working inside of me.

Something working on the inside of you is about to bless somebody else. He is transforming you from the inside so that your story brings Him glory. The best stuff in your life is in front of you. A miracle! What does that look like? Looks like you, when He is through.

People will wonder where the goodness coming out of you came from. They may not know, but the servants know. I know.