

Second Sunday After the Epiphany – 2022
Saturday, 1/15 at 4:00 | Sunday, 1/16 at 9:00



Text: John 2:1-11 NAS 1995

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: It's the season of Epiphany, so *everyone should be amazed by Jesus:*

- When Jesus was an infant, wisemen from the east brought Him extraordinary gifts!
- When Jesus was 12, He was found listening to the teachers in the temple and asking them questions.
- When Jesus was 30, He was baptized, anointed by the HS, and the Father said, "[You are my beloved Son....](#)"

Each of those items could be called a "sign" – because they were all extraordinary ways in which **God the Father** was making it known that Jesus is the Promised Messiah.

In John chapter 1, **the apostle John** wrote about Jesus and **John the Baptist** testified about Jesus. Today, in John chapter 2, **Jesus Himself** gives His own extraordinary sign by turning water into wine.

1. **Setting:** ¹ **On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there;** ² **and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding.**
 - a. **Disciples:** Only days before the wedding, Jesus had called His first six disciples (*James and John, Andrew and Peter, Philip, and Nathanael*); those men ▶accepted Jesus' instruction and ▶applied it to their lives (*if we trust in Jesus for eternal life, we will accept and apply His instruction*).
 - b. **Third day:** The final scene in chapter 1 records Jesus going to Galilee and calling Philip and Nathanael, *so the third day seems to mean two days after those callings*.
 - c. **Mary:** She was a relative or close friend of the bride or groom, *so she was helping with the wedding*. Jesus was an honored guest; His disciples were invited because of their connection to Jesus.

2. **Problem:** 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 that have to do with us? My hour has not yet come."** ⁵ **His mother said to the servants** [*διακόνοις, not slaves, but volunteer helpers*], **"Whatever He says to you, do it."** // Now that Jesus has begun His ministry, note two significant changes: *Mary and Jesus* are no longer *mother and son*, the relationship has changed:
 - a. **Us:** When Jesus said, **"what does that have to do with us?"** He really said, what do we have in common with this matter, *it is entirely my problem!*
 - b. **Woman:** It sounds harsh in the translation, *but not in the original language*. In one sense, Mary is His mother, but, *in a greater sense*, He is the Lord, and she is a woman. Think about the cross: **"Woman, behold,**

your son!” (John 19:26), as Jesus entrusted her care to John.

c. Whatever He says: Jesus was a guest, *not in charge*, so Mary gave the order to the helpers – *and they did it!*

3. **Solution**: 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.” So they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ And He said to them, “Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter.” So they took it to him.

a. Much wine: About 25 glasses of wine can be poured from one gallon, *so the quantity was HUGE!*

b. Honoring Mary: Jesus certainly did not need the servants, *but He used them to honor Mary’s order.*

c. Imagine the servants: Obeying Jesus, *but possibly smiling at each other and shrugging their shoulders.*

4. **Miracle**: ⁹ 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 *the people have drunk freely, then he serves the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now.*”

a. Limited awareness: Only Mary, Jesus, and the helpers knew the source of the wine and the reality of the miracle; *others certainly found out in time!*

b. Drunk is overdone: The wine previously drunk had made it difficult to determine the quality of the wine,

but the people were certainly not to the point of losing their abilities to function; Jesus would not have participated in nor added to such things.

5. **Faith:** ¹¹ **This beginning of His signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.**
- a. A sign: It points beyond itself to something else. If you miss your sign, *you can miss your turn and your destination.*
 - b. A call: When Jesus did the first of His signs – *turning water into wine*, it became a call for ▶Jesus’ disciples, ▶the wedding guests, ▶us, and ▶everyone to ☞**think**, ☞**repent**, ☞**believe**, and ☞**obey**. Lenski wrote, **“Unbelief and disobedience... become the great crime against the signs”** (199). When it is obvious that Jesus is God in human flesh, and yet we ▶are not sorry, ▶refuse to believe, and ▶do not obey. *The consequences will be horrible and eternal!*

Conclusion:

- **Truth** – Jesus is the Promised Messiah!
- **Relevance** – It is vital to repent, believe, and obey!
- **Inspiration** – Heaven is open for everyone through Jesus!

Let Us Pray: Dear Jesus, help us ponder Your work to make us, live for us, and die for us; then move us to respond with continual repentance, growing trust, and willing obedience!

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