

JUNE 7, 2020

LESSON 1

MIRACLES OF JESUS

WATER TO WINE (JOHN 2:1-11)

Jesus' First Miracle

While in Cana of Galilee, Jesus attended a wedding with his mother and disciples. In Jewish culture, weddings were week-long celebrations and socially important events. That's why it was especially shameful for the family when they ran out of wine.

Jesus' mother turned to him and expected him to help alleviate the problem. When he gently rebuked her by saying, "My hour has not yet come," she refused to take no for an answer. Mary said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Jesus helped by performing his first miracle. There were six stone water pots close by that were used for ritual washings. He directed the family servants to fill these pots with water, each of which held around 16 to 24 gallons. The water that would normally be used for these Old Testament rituals was miraculously transformed into sweet wine. As a result of this miracle, Jesus' disciples saw his glory and believed in him (cf. John 1:14).

Miracles of Jesus (Sunday Mornings, June–August 2020)

Date	Lesson	Title	Citation
June 7	Lesson 1	Water to Wine	John 2:1-11
June 14	Lesson 2	The Nobleman's Son Healed	John 4:46-54
June 21	Lesson 3	The Lame Man	John 5
June 28	Lesson 4	The Feeding of the 5,000	John 6
July 5	Lesson 5	The Blind Man	John 9
July 19	Lesson 6	Lazarus	John 11
July 26	Lesson 7	Jesus Produces a Catch of 153 Fish	John 21:1-11
Aug 2	Lesson 8	The Blind Man at Bethsaida	Mark 8:22-26
Aug 9	Lesson 9	A Cluster of 10 Miracles	Matt 8-9
Aug 16	Lesson 10	The Binding of Satan	Matt 12:22-32
Aug 23	Lesson 11	Jesus Heals Ten Lepers	Luke 17:11-19
Aug 30	Lesson 12	Jairus' Daughter	Mark 5:22-42; Luke 8:41-55



These 1st century A.D. stone water jars were found in Jerusalem. Stone jars were more expensive than those made of pottery, but they had the advantage of being able to be purified after ritual defilement, according to rabbinic rulings.

The master of the feast was responsible for both the quality and the quantity of the wine. No doubt, he was thankful that the supply of wine had been replenished. But then, he tasted it and discovered how delicious it was, claiming it was much better quality than before.

Application

Sometimes, people get bogged down with whether or not this was alcoholic wine. It's important, though, that we not miss the main point: This miracle is but a foretaste of great things yet to come. It represents only the beginning of Jesus' marvelous ministry.

The Old Testament prophets talked about the coming of the Messiah in terms of a glorious harvest that would include "the mountains [dripping with] sweet wine" (Amos 9:13; Joel 3:18). This miracle may have helped someone out of an embarrassing situation, but as Jesus' first miracle, it helped inaugurate the start of his Messianic ministry.

Jesus Wasn't Against Having Fun

Our Lord did more than just preach and teach while on the earth. He attended a wedding! This shows us that he wasn't against fun or having a good time. Enjoying our lives is an important part of living our faith.

Mary Didn't Tell Jesus What To Do

Jesus' mother, Mary, trusted him to do the right thing. Sometimes, it seems that our prayers turn out to be little more than long lists of what we want God to do for us or fix. We are certainly expected to ask in order to receive (Matt 7:7; 21:22; James 4:2), but we mustn't degenerate our prayers into little more than demands for his help. Instead, we must wait on God to answer our prayers—in his way, not ours (Micah 7:7).

Mary Believed Before Any Miracles

If this was Jesus' first miracle, how did Mary know he would take care of the problem miraculously? Perhaps she didn't. But Mary knew there was something truly remarkable about her oldest son, Jesus (Luke 2:51). From the time he was presented in the temple at eight days old, she knew he was destined for greatness.

Jesus Changes Us

Jesus didn't just add Kool-Aid packets to the water. Rather, he changed the quality of the substance. And he wants to do the same for us, by transforming the quality of our hearts and the direction of our lives. Our new life in Christ is a cause for celebration every day.

Not many people even knew about this first miracle (cf. John 2:9). All they knew was that the wine supply had been replenished. When people see the changes in your life, they'll wonder what happened!