

## John 2:1-11

- 1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.
- 2 Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.
- 3 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."
- 4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come."
- 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
- 6 Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.
- 7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim.
- 8 He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it.
- 9 When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom
- 10 and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."
- 11 Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

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1 *On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.*

2 *Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.*

- On the third day... echoes of the resurrection of Jesus.

- The exact dating of the wedding feast denotes an eye-witness account.
- Cana, a small village about five miles northeast of Nazareth.
- Mother Mary and the others were obviously known to the wedding party, and, might have been kinfolk.
- Joseph is nowhere mentioned.
- The followers of Jesus are first referred to here as disciples, as "learners."
- Did Jesus travel here for the wedding, or was he invited along with his disciples because he was in the vicinity? If they were last-minute additions to the guest list, perhaps this would explain why Mary felt responsible for the host running out of wine. Certainly Mary was accustomed to Jesus upsetting family plans!
- Do you suppose Jesus enjoyed the wedding feast? Did it remind him of the joys of heaven? Did he identify with the bridegroom, as he is for us the bridegroom of the church?!

3 *When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."*

4 *And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come."*

- Running out of wine at a wedding feast was a serious breach of etiquette. It was a scandal to run out of wine!
- Was Mary asking for a miracle?
- Notice that, just as with mothers to this day, Mary does not directly ask Jesus for help, but prefers that he infer it from her statement that "they have no wine."
- Jesus is rather dismissive!
- Jesus refers to Mary as "woman" rather than "mother." Is he drawing a necessary boundary because of his emerging Messianic ministry?

- Here Mary learns that the role of Messiah, in which her mother's heart so rejoiced, came with a consequence. This would be the first of the swords which were to pierce that mother's heart of hers.
- Jesus does not wish to have people begin speculating about him. It isn't time yet.

5 *His mother said to the servants,  
"Do whatever he tells you."*

- Don't you love the sweet trust she has in her son?! She doesn't tell him what to do, she just leaves "salvation" in his hands.
- She still believes and expects.
- This is the first recorded miracle of Jesus. Do you suppose Mary had witnessed other previous miracles?

6 *Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.*

7 *Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim.*

- Another eye-witness detail!
- Leftover wine in the jars? No! This is not a parlor trick!
- This is a new age!  
The "Logos" supersedes the old order!
  - > The Jewish waters of purification give way to the wine of the Messianic feast!
  - > Animal sacrifice will give way to the sacrifice of the "lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!"
  - > The temple will give way to the body of Christ!

8 *He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it.*

9 *When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom*

10 *and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."*

- A surprise! Fine wine at the end of a feast!
- *"The modest water saw its God and blushed!"*
- Many scholars believe that the water only became wine when drawn.
- Those of us who are older can take heart that God very often saves the best wine until later in the day!

11 *Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.*

- Even without his intentions, Jesus revealed a "glimpse of glory."
- The disciples did not yet have a developed faith, but they were beginning to realize that Jesus was something special.