



## Gospel of John 1-12

### Wedding Miracle

This first miracle of Jesus symbolizes the ultimate transformative power of salvation. It also introduces the ‘supernatural’ nature and ministry of Jesus. In the Gospel of John the historical Jesus of Nazareth and the divine Christ (Messiah) are inseparably linked as the one and same person.

#### A. The Scene *John 2:1-2*

**1. A wedding:** A wedding celebration could last as long as a week. Unlike modern weddings, the groom was responsible for the expenses of the celebration. The wedding marked the culmination of the betrothal period which could last for several months.

**2. Invited guests:** Jesus and the disciples were invited but Mary was already there—possibly in a ‘helping’ role.

#### B. The Situation *John 2:3-5*

**1. The wine:** A staple drink in the ancient Near East—usually diluted with a least one part water. The wine ran out because the supply was insufficient. See *Phil 4:19*

**2. My son the Messiah!** Jesus abrupt and startling reply to his mother signals a major change in their relationship. Jesus continues to be Mary’s son—but now He will also be her Messiah. Mary’s reaction is to simply say, “Whatever He says to you, do it.”

**3. My hour has not come:** This does not refer to the start of His ministry but to the Messiah’s death on the cross. At the moment His mission was to do the will of the Father.

#### C. The Supply *John 2:6-10*

**1. The waterpots:** The stone waterpots held the water used for ritual purification. They contained twenty or thirty gallons each, an amount needed to accommodate the guests and other ceremonial activities.

**2. A transformation miracle:** The pots were filled to the brim so that there would be no question about wine being added to the water. All of water in all of the pots were changed to wine—the best wine ever. It is unlikely that the guests could consume all of the ‘new wine’ and the left over was a gift to the bride and groom.

**3. The best for last:** The meaning here may be Messianic in that the Messiah is better than the old—and ushers in the Messianic Kingdom.

#### D. The Significance *John 2:11*

**1. A sign:** John never uses the word ‘miracle’ in his Gospel. Instead all the miracles are ‘signs’ of the glory of the Messiah.

**2. Manifested glory:** This means that Jesus ‘put His deity on display.’ Jesus miraculous signs were not just displays of His power and compassion they revealed who He really was.

**3. Seeing and believing:** Amazingly Jesus left Cana with only the disciples that came with Him. Everyone else who saw the ‘sign’ missed the point: The old water pots were a picture of ‘ritualistic Judaism’ and the new wine was the New Wine of the Messianic Kingdom.

***“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”***

*Philippians 4:19*

#### *John 2:1-11 (NKJV)*

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

**2** Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding.

**3** And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, “They have no wine.”

**4** Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.”

**5** His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it.”

**6** Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece.

**7** Jesus said to them, “Fill the waterpots with water.” And they filled them up to the brim.

**8** And He said to them, “Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast.” And they took it.

**9** When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom.

**10** And he said to him, “Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!”

**11** This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.