



~ Water to Wine ~

“Jesus said to them, “Fill the waterpots with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, “Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast.” And they took it.” – John 2:7-8

Jesus and His disciples attended a wedding feast of one His relatives associated with Mary and Joseph. Jesus was always found in social functions, mingling and working among the people. Jewish wedding feasts could last several days and this feast was no exception. However, sometime during this feast, the wine ran out. This would have been considered a serious offense of hospitality and therefore was a real problem.

Mary’s first inclination was to turn to Jesus asking Him to provide a solution. She trusted Him implicitly and He responded to her faith by going to the servants who were waiting instruction. He bade them fill six large stone water jars with water. These jugs should have held the wine, but Jesus bade them fill them with water. Without hesitation, they obeyed his command. Once all the jars were filled, Jesus told them to draw some of it into a cup and take it to the steward in charge of the feast.

Again this was obeyed and when it was poured into the cup for the steward, it came out as wine. When the steward drank the wine, he found it be far superior to what had been served before. In fact, it was better than anything he had ever tasted! He turned to the bridegroom and complimented him for not only the exceptional wine, but for serving it last instead of first as was the custom. The custom was to serve the best wine first and when that ran out, they would serve a far less superior drink when the people would be less inclined to notice. Not so here.

At this time, only the servants were aware of the miracle. Most people, including the steward, didn’t even know the wine had run out. But, as the guests tasted this exceptional wine, they began to ask questions and the truth was known. This miracle of Jesus was shared all thru the region and thus began the work and ministry of Jesus.

This miracle is recorded specifically for our benefit today. Let’s look at just a few of the lessons we can pull from this beautiful miracle of Jesus.

- 1. Jesus’ “gifts” are always fresh and new.** The world offers much to please and tempt our senses, but it always proves unsatisfying. What seems to begin like fun turns into turmoil, pain, and sickness. But, not true ~ with the gifts of Jesus. The “feast” He provides for the soul

never fail to satisfy or give joy. In fact, if you abide in Him, the fact that you receive a rich gift from Him today only means that you will receive an even richer gift tomorrow!

2. **The gift of wine at the feast was a symbol.** The water Jesus used to fill the jars represents our baptism into His death – dying to self to live in Jesus. The wine represents His blood He shed for our sins. The water to fill the jars was brought by human hands, but it was the word of Christ alone that changed it into a life-giving drink sweet and good to the taste. So it is for us today. Only by the power of Christ, working thru faith, do the rites of baptism and communion have the ability to nourish and transform our soul.

3. **By personal contact and association, Jesus taught us how to reach others.** The example of Jesus linking Himself with the interests of those at the feast is an example to all of us – those who preach and those who receive of the gospel. We should not mingle with the world for mere love of pleasure nor put ourselves in temptations way. But, we should carry Jesus with us to reveal Him to others in our daily lives. We should all become witnesses for Jesus. We should never give the world the impression that Christians are depressed, gloomy people. If our eyes are fixed on Jesus, we shall receive of His peace, for wherever His Spirit lives peace abides. And there is joy also because we will have a calm, holy trust in God.

Kimberly Mills

Elijah Road Ministries Devotionals

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