



The Wedding of God

4th in the “Life in his Name?” Series

John 2:1-11, p. 887
September 23, 2018
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God explains the mission of Jesus and his ministry of reconciliation for the world.

The Text: John 2:1-11

- 1) The ministry of Jesus is being symbolically compared to the first week of Creation to teach us that Jesus is the Second Adam who brings forth the New Creation (v. 1).

The First Week of Jesus Ministry:

Day 1 – 1:19-28

Day 2 – 1:29-34 (“on the next day”)

Day 3 – 1:35-42 (“on the next day”)

Day 4 – 1:43-51 (“on the next day”)

Day 6 – 2:1-11 (“on the third day,” i.e. two days later)

The Genesis Imagery:

a) “In the beginning” (1:1)

b) Creation/Light (1:1-5)

c) “Behold, the Man” (19:5/ Gen. 3:22)

d) “The first day of the week” (20:1)

e) “The gardener” in “the garden” (20:15)

- 2) The mission of Jesus is clear: to do the work assigned by God the Father (vv. 1-5).

- 3) The wedding at Cana serves to depict the wedding of God, the reconciliation between God and humanity through Jesus (vv. 6-11).

Response

Do you understand how much God loves you, and how he expresses his love through Jesus?

Sunday Text Questions for John 2:1-11

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- 1) Starter Question: Why do you think the Bible uses the metaphor of marriage to explain the Christian's relationship to Christ?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Explain vv. 1-2: Why are Jesus, his mother, and his disciples at a wedding together, and why is running out of wine a problem?
- 4) Although this text alone cannot answer the question, what is a God-honoring approach to alcohol?
- 5) How is Jesus calling his mother "woman" an important distancing term and not rude or disrespectful (see the other occurrence in 19:26)?
- 6) How does the turning of purification water into wine declare that Jesus fulfills the Old Covenant and provides a better covenant between God and humanity?
- 7) What is the significance of the master of the feast's statement in v. 10 about the good wine?
- 8) What are "signs" intended to reveal and accomplish (compare with 20:30-31)?
- 9) How does the narrative use nameless characters (mother of Jesus, master of feast, and bridegroom) to contrast this miracle and this wedding with a bigger miracle/wedding story involving God?
- 10) How does this text declare God's love for you, and how he expresses his love through Jesus?

Further study this week: Ephesians 5:21-33 on Christ our Bridegroom (Mon); Mark 2:18-22 on the disciples with the Bridegroom (Tues); Revelation 22, esp. v. 17, on the invitation of the Bridegroom (Wed); 2 Corinthians 11:1-15, esp. v. 2, on the true Bridegroom vs. false husbands (Thurs); Revelation 19, esp. vv. 6-10, on the celebratory feast at the Wedding of God (Fri).