

<sup>4</sup> **Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.” (Jn. 2:4)**

## I. INTRODUCTION

A. The first public miracle that Jesus performed took place at a wedding, in Cana.

***On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup> Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. (Jn. 2:1, 2)***

B. The Lord loves weddings. Jesus is called the Bridegroom (Mt. 25:6; Mk 2:9; Lk. 5:34; Jn. 3:29) showing the intent of God to have bride that is joined to Him in spiritual union. This is a mystery that Paul spoke of (Eph. 5:23). However, it is no mystery that Jesus would begin His ministry at a wedding since we are destined to participate in a *wedding* when He returns.

***<sup>7</sup> Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready. <sup>8</sup> And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’” (Rev. 19:7-9)***

C. The Lord was attending a wedding, not as the town carpenter but as the Son of God, Messiah. The wedding would serve both as a time of rejoicing in the new life that two that would be married would embark upon, and yet point forward to the looming mission of Cross.

## II. JESUS HONORED FATHER AND MOTHER

A. The Spirit was seen resting upon Christ after the baptism and the voice of His heavenly Father spoke over Him, ***“This is my Beloved Son.”*** The Father in heaven knew who the Son was; His *identity* was established before His *ministry*. So too, the mother of Jesus knew who the Son was (Lk. 1:35) and it was through the affirmation of *both* the Heavenly Father and Mary that Jesus began His ministry.

B. Through the intercession of Mary, Jesus would be prompted to begin His mighty works. Mary knew that His time had come to show that He was the Son of God.

***...the mother of Jesus said to Him, “They have no wine.” (Jn. 2:2)***

C. There is a principle we can gain in understanding the confirmation of the *identity* of Jesus before His *works*. This ought to be the same with us. We must know *who we are* before we know what we are to do.

## III. THE HOUR

<sup>4</sup> **Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.” (Jn. 2:4)**

A. Jesus wasn't simply holding back His power to produce more wine. He knew that public miracles would show His deity (identity as Son of God), and would catapult Him toward the cross, His mission on earth.

- B. When *the hour* is mentioned nearly 15 times in the gospels it almost always refers to the Cross, Resurrection and Ascension. The hour at the wedding where the guests needed more wine would begin the hour of the sacrifice and suffering on the cross.
- C. Mary is not at all deterred by His response, for she knew that *His hour had come*. What she had known since her youth was going to be displayed before all of Israel for the salvation of the world. She knew that the blood of her precious Son would pay for the sins of the world.

**<sup>5</sup> *His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it.” (Jn. 2:5)***

1. What a glorious evangelistic statement Mary makes here. In it, she points to the revelation of Jesus and sums up the needed response of the world, *“Whatever He says, do it.”*
  2. These words would be the last that we hear from Mary. And what a statement they leave in our minds. When we too, encounter the miracles of the Son of God, there is one needed response, *“Whatever He says, do it.”*
  3. *Do it.* Do the words of Jesus and you will see the wisdom in them (see Lk. 6:47); you will see the power of God and the glory of God. If you ignore His words you will not taste of the delight that comes after doing them.
- D. The mother of Jesus called Him to His hour of public life. The Father would later call Him to His public hour of death.
- ...“Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You. (Jn. 17:1)***
- E. In both cases Jesus yielded. *At the wedding the water would be changed to wine, at the cross the wine would be changed to blood.*<sup>1</sup>

#### IV. THE BETTER

**<sup>9</sup> *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. <sup>10</sup> 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!” (Jn. 2:9-10)***

- A. As Jesus’ miraculously changed the water to wine, the Hour began. Yes, it would be an Hour of suffering, but it wouldn’t end in suffering it would end in rejoicing. The hour didn’t end at the cross; Christ would be resurrected in power and glory, taking forever the keys of death and the grave. So too, the wine that was made was shockingly better than the first wine served to the guests.

**<sup>10</sup> ... *“Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine...then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!” (Jn. 2:9-10)***

---

<sup>1</sup> F. Sheen

- B. Wine often represents rejoicing and joy (See Ps 4:7; 104:15; Zech. 10:7). This better wine would be given at the end of the wedding, rather than at the beginning as was customary.
- C. Through this miracle a beautiful principle is established. In Christ, the better comes after. The better wine comes after the inferior. The better pleasure comes after marriage. The beauty comes after ashes. The resurrection after the cross. The crown of victory comes after patient endurance. The wedding supper after the tribulation.
- D. The world serves its best pleasures on the front end. But God is not like the world. He seeks not only to satisfy our delights but also to save our souls. How often do we skip the waiting because it is too painful, going right to the pleasure? This is not the way of God.

#### V. THE BETTER SEED WOULD CRUSH THE SERPENT

- A. God spoke the first prophetic word given to indicate that a Christ would come.  
***<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity between you (serpent) and the woman, and between your (Messiah) seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.” (Gen. 3:15)***
- B. The serpent all throughout history offers momentary delight and pleasure on the front end with the suffering and cost on the back end. The Son of God however offers eternal pleasure and delight on the back end of the momentary cost.  
***For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, (2 Cor. 4:17)***
- C. He would indeed strike the “heel” of the Messiah through the suffering of the cross, but it would not be enough to destroy Him. The Messiah would resurrect and will *crush* that deceiving serpent. The crushing of the head is the crushing verdict that no one can survive. The serpent cannot recover from such a fatal blow because he is not willing to lay down his life in suffering. He has never suffered. But he will.  
***<sup>10</sup> The devil...was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (Rev. 20:10)***
- D. There can only be one victor and it's He who is able to endure the suffering for the glory that follows.