

The First Miracle of Jesus | John 2:1-12 | 6/23/19

- The miracles or signs demonstrated by Jesus
 - Scripture has recorded for us 35 different miracles that were performed by Jesus.
 - There are far more if you count incidents that were miracles like the birth of Jesus and His resurrection.
 - There are 35 that are recorded by the Gospels that Jesus directly performed.
 - There were various types of miracles:
 - Healing, calling something into existence, casting out evil spirits, walking on water, raising the dead and calming storms.
 - These were not the only miracles or signs performed by Jesus, but just what is recorded for us in the Scripture.
 - **John tells us they were so numerous that the world could not contain the books required to record them.**
 - John 21:25
 - “Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.”
 - This verse tells us that throughout Jesus's ministry on earth that He did many things that were not recorded.
 - **But what we do know for certain, is that what has been recorded is precisely what God wanted us to know.**
 - **What do you think these “other things” were?**
 - **The miracles were a sign to show His deity, to show His relationship with God the Father.**
 - John refers to the miracles as signs. They were to show just who Jesus Christ was, to prove His deity and that He is the Son of God.
 - **To show the world that Jesus was not an ordinary man. He did things that no ordinary man could do.**
 - To heal with His words, to multiply bread and fish to feed thousands, to walk on water, and to raise the dead was not something a normal person could do.
 - **This would have set him apart as being different than anyone who had ever walked on the earth.**
 - **They showed that God the Father, and Jesus were one.**
 - John 10:37-38
 - “If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.”
 - It was vital that Jesus show the world that He was the Messiah. That He and Yahweh were one and the same.
 - That He is who was foretold by the prophets long ago.
 - **Would those who witnessed the miracles of Jesus, have noticed the similarities with the miraculous works that God performed in the Scriptures (Old Testament)?**
 - **Burning bush, speaking donkey (Balaam’s), water from a rock, God raised a child from the dead through Elijah, Daniel in the lion’s den, floating axe head, walls of Jericho.**
 - **Why do you think God chose to demonstrate who Jesus was through miracles?**
- Jesus turns water into wine | John 2:1-12
 - **Read John 2:1-12**

- John records the first miracle that Jesus performed, which demonstrated His deity.
 - **While most of Jesus's recorded miracles had to do with healing, His first was to create.**
 - **Here at this wedding, Jesus turns water into wine. A miracle that shows He has the power to take something that does not exist and command it into being.**
 - This is similar to what Jesus did with the loaves and fishes.
- This miracle took place at a wedding in Cana and was witnessed by His disciples, Mary, and the servants.
 - Jesus after calling Philip and Nathanael travels to Cana in Galilee to attend a wedding in which He was invited. It is here that His first miracle takes place.
 - **This first miracle was not made widely known, the only witnesses to it would have been His disciples, Mary, and the servants.**
 - The disciples that attended were likely the five that were previously called in chapter 1.
 - Andrew, Simon Peter, Philip, Nathanael and John (presumed to be the unnamed disciple).
 - The Gospel of John is the only one to have recorded this event.
 - **Why do you think Jesus's first miracle was directed to such a small audience who were primarily His disciples? What was significant about this time in His earthly ministry?**
- **The wedding**
 - Who this wedding was for we do not know, Jesus apparently knew them so it could have been an earthly relative or a friend.
 - These circumstances do not matter, except for the miracle that was recorded for us.
 - These wedding feasts would typically last for seven days and were put on by the family of the groom.
 - It was a week-long celebration of the union with lots of eating.
- **Mary tells Jesus that the wine ran out.**
 - John tells us that during the wedding that the wine had run out, and Mary told this to Jesus.
 - **To run out at a wedding was not a good thing socially.**
 - It was necessary in Jewish weddings for the groom to provide a proper amount of food and wine. **In fact, one could even be fined for not fulfilling this obligation.**
 - **When we read this, a couple of questions come to mind regarding Mary's intent when she told Jesus they were out of wine.**
 - **Did Mary ask Jesus, knowing that He could perform a miracle? Or was it more of a statement that "hey they ran out of wine"?**
 - There are essentially **two different perspectives** on this passage depending on who you ask with what Mary meant by telling Jesus that "they have no wine."
 - **The different perspectives hinge on whether this was Jesus's first miracle.**
 - There is no question that this was the first miracle recorded in Scripture, but was it indeed His first? Not everyone agrees on this.
 - **One perspective is that Mary was expecting a miracle.**
 - Many believe that Jesus had performed miracles before, while not disagreeing with the first miracle recorded in Scripture but that Jesus had shown this ability prior.

- For example, the movie (Young Messiah) which depicted Jesus at the age of 7, showed Jesus performing three different miracles. They felt from consulting with their chosen theologians that this was possible.
 - **However, Scripture does not give us any indication that He had done so.**
 - The director of this movie felt that how Mary told Jesus about the wine that she had already witnessed miracles.
 - **The other perspective is that she was telling Jesus of their problem of having run out of wine but wasn't expecting a miracle.**
 - That she was telling Jesus "they are out of wine," that this wasn't a plea for Jesus to miraculously resolve the situation.
 - Or no different than you telling your spouse, hey we are out of punch.
 - It could still imply that Mary was seeking resolution, but as simply as Jesus going somewhere to get it
 - **What do you think?**
 - Regardless of Mary's intent in making this statement to Jesus, what is truly important is that Jesus used this opportunity to perform a miracle in front of His disciples, which gave them faith.
 - This also was God intentionally recorded for us in Scripture that we too would have faith.
- **Jesus answers Mary as the Messiah.**
 - While Mary is the earthly mother of Jesus, we see that His response to her in this passage as the Messiah.
 - John 2:4
 - "And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come."
 - Jesus didn't answer Mary with "yes, mom. I'll go get it!".
 - **Jesus had begun His earthly ministry and his time of growing up and living as a man had passed.**
 - All things now pointed to His upcoming sacrifice upon the cross.
 - **Jesus did not disrespectfully respond to Mary.**
 - When we read Jesus's response to Mary, we might see this as being offensive.
 - **To call your mother or wife "woman" in our modern day** would remove the elevated status of being a mother or spouse.
 - **But this was in no way disrespectful as Jesus used it. He spoke in this way on other occasions.**
 - John 4:21
 - "Jesus said to her, Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father."
 - John 19:26
 - "When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, Woman, behold, your son!"
 - **Jesus told Mary that His hour had not yet come**
 - Jesus, speaking to Mary as the Messiah, made it clear that He was intent on the work that He came to do.

