

I. Introduction: signs and weddings. 2:11 1:14 20:30-31

II. Your earthly enjoyments are good, but limited in value. v. 1-3a

A. There is a time to celebrate. v. 1-2

1. Jesus honors marriage. Heb. 13:4 I Tim. 4:3 I Cor. 9:5 Mark 1:30
2. *The Son of Man came eating and drinking.* Mt. 11:19 Ecc. 3:4

B. Jesus made wine for a celebration.

1. Wine is a symbol of the blessing of God and the abundance of His kingdom.
Dt. 7:13 Ps. 104:15
2. Scripture does not forbid all alcoholic beverages. Ecc. 9:7 I Tim. 5:23
3. The Bible condemns drunkenness. Pr. 20:1 23:29ff Eph. 5:18 Gen. 9:21 I Ti. 3:8

C. Human provision for joy in this life is limited in its ability to satisfy. v. 3a Isa. 55:1-2

III. Trust Jesus to meet your need. v. 3b-5

A. It is possible to appeal to Jesus in the wrong way – Mary learns her place. v. 3b-4

1. Why did she approach Jesus about the wine problem? v. 3b
2. Her relationship with Jesus must change. v. 4a Lk. 2:51 Mt. 12:46-50 Mk. 3:31-35
3. The hour for the public display of Jesus' glory has not yet arrived. v. 4b 7:6 8:20
12:23,27 13:1
4. People today must understand Mary's proper place. Luke 1:46 11:27ff I Ti. 2:5

B. Mary puts all things in Jesus' hands. v. 5 I Pet. 5:6

IV. Jesus will abundantly bless you. v. 6-11a

A. Jesus meets the need of the hour. v. 6-10

1. He enters into our distresses and makes our concerns His own.
2. He demonstrates His divine omnipotence. 1:2 Heb. 1:2
3. Is this a "luxury" miracle?

B. What does this sign signify? v. 11a 1:14

1. The old water pots of the Jewish system are incapable of purifying or satisfying. v. 6a 1:17 3:25 Mark 7:1-23
2. Jesus brings the kingdom with new wine of purification, joy and Satisfaction.
 - a. Wine is a symbol of His blood: the means of our purification. 1:29 6:55,53
He. 9:14,22-28 I Jo. 1:7 Rev. 7:14
 - b. Wine is a symbol of the rich abundance of the Kingdom of God. Isa. 25:6
Amos 9:13-14 Jer. 31:12 Luke 5:37ff
 - c. The wedding feast also a symbol of the messianic kingdom. Mt. 22:1f 25:1f
Mk. 2:19 Isa. 62:4-5 Rev. 19:7,9
 - d. Jesus is our bridegroom. 3:29-30 Eph. 5:25ff
3. Jesus miraculously transforms us just as He did the water. II Co. 5:21

V. Conclusion: v. 11b

- A. Respond to Jesus' sign with faith. v. 11b 20:29-31
- B. God saves the best wine until last. v. 10 I Co. 13:12

Discussion questions

- 1. What does this passage have to do with Christmas?**
- 2. Why and when is celebration appropriate?**
- 3. How does Jesus honor marriage?**
How do people today dishonor marriage?
- 4. How is the wine shortage typical of what happens with earthly joys and pleasures?**
- 5. What was wrong with Mary's initial approach to Jesus?**
- 6. Why is it wrong for people today to ask Jesus to intercede for them with God?**
- 7. Why does Jesus perform what appears to be a "luxury miracle"?**
- 8. What is the significance of this miracle?**
- 9. What is our proper response to such a sign?**