

Sermon outline notes: John Chapter 2 verses 1– 11

Introduction

The Chinese have a proverb - 'One showing is worth a hundred sayings!'. Jesus' life was a showing of the truth about God within a human personality. When you ask a Christian what God is like, he or she has the simplest answer to give you— God is like Jesus.

John is selective in his choice of biographical material about Jesus (see John 20 verses 30–31 and John 21 verse 25) and he has carefully chosen those parts of Jesus' life which most clearly show the divine glory of Jesus. John chooses 7 miracles (signs) and those miracles (signs) are meant to direct our eyes to the person of Jesus. They are meant to reveal to us the glory of Jesus. John 2 verses 1–11 is not really about water into wine its about who Jesus really is!

1) Jesus as the master of a domestic crisis.

- Jesus is not a 'killjoy'. He attends a wedding, probably of a relative, for we find Mary had some authority in the wedding celebrations.
- The wine running out would have been a social 'disaster'.
- Jesus chose to reveal his divine glory by producing an abundance of wine for the joy of a young couple in a humble home in an 'out of the way' place called Cana in Galilee.

2) Jesus the 'King of Creation verses 6–8

- "Miracles are only thought to be miracles by us because of the time factor. To ferment alcohol takes many weeks but if we ran time faster wine would ferment in a moment. How fast can time be made to run by an eternal timeless God?" G.K. Chesterton
- In this story we have Jesus reflecting the glory of God, emulating his father's creative power. He is the Word by which the world was made; here is the Word displaying his creative power.

3) Jesus the bringer of new wine verses 9–10

- John never records unnecessary detail. All the things he mentions are meant to be noticed.
- Verse 4. The Son of God coming with a mission and there is an hour, a time when the divine glory will be supremely seen: the hour, the time of the cross.

- Verse 6. Jewish water pots—a symbol of the Old Mosaic Covenant but now something new has happened .
- Verses 9–10 new wine - 'the insipid water of the old law has now turned into the wine of grace and truth ' that John says came with Jesus.

Conclusion

John is showing us a God who wants our homes to be happy places; he's showing us a God who makes and sustains the world; he's also showing us a God who wants to transform religion into the rich, exhilarating, abundant wine of new birth. All these things are there in the details, if we have eyes to see.

NOTES