

*the Gospel according to*

# JOHN



SESSION 04:

John 2: “Jesus in Cana & Jerusalem”

# JOHN 2

## Overview:

In this chapter we will see Jesus' first miracle ever performed. We will see how he performs it and for what purposes he performs it as these will set the tone for the rest of his miracles in his ministry. We will also see Jesus' first visit to the temple during his ministry. We will notice his dramatic actions and bold statements in the face of corruption. Lastly, we will see Jesus' response to his new found popularity and favor among the people. This is important to note as it will set the tone for the rest of his ministry and what he is really looking for in man.

# READ JOHN 2:1-11

Getting the Facts straight:

- Where was the marriage?
- Who was present at this marriage?
- What was the urgent need at the marriage?
- Who brought this to Jesus' attention?
- What was Jesus' response?
- What was Mary's command to the servants?
- What commands did Jesus give?
- How did the servants respond?
- What was the wine called twice?
- What was the governor's response to this wine?
- What did this miracle accomplish spiritually?

# Going Deeper

- What can we imply about Jesus' view(s) on marriage based on his presence and miracle at this marriage?
  - What can we imply about Jesus and Mary's relationship once he began his ministry?
  - What can we learn about Jesus & his works through considering his instructions to the servants?
  - What lessons can we learn from the servants?
  - What can we learn about Jesus' ways compared with man's ways based on vs 10?
  - What can we discern about the type of wine Jesus created based on the usage of the word "good" in connection with who Jesus is?
- ❖ BONUS: What might the 6 waterpots of stone represent?

# KEY POINTS:

- **Jesus is preeminent over Mary.** His ministry has begun. He is not under Mary's authority anymore. But Jesus is gracious and willing to help fill a need. Mary commands the servants to obey Jesus.
- **Jesus uses the available resources.** Jesus doesn't create wine out of nothing. He takes the available resources and people to work with. He directs people to action to be part of the miracle. He has them do simple, everyday tasks: Fill the waterpots with water; go serve.
- **Obedience to the word of Christ.** It is the power of Christ's word and obedience to his word that makes this miracle happen.
- **Wonderful results!** Jesus can take our everyday problems and show himself so gracious to us. He can take "crises" and create JOY! This was the best wine they ever tasted!

# READ JOHN 2:12-22

Getting the Facts straight:

- Why did Jesus go to Jerusalem?
- What did he find in the temple?
- What did he make? And what did he do with what he made?
- What did he say to them?
- What did his disciples remember?
- What was the Jews response/request to Jesus' actions?
- What was Jesus' response to their request?
- What did the Jews think he was referring to?
- What was Jesus actually referring to?
- When did his disciples finally understand Jesus' statement?

# Going Deeper

- What do you find interesting about the fact that this was Jesus' first passover during his ministry in relation to Jesus' last passover during his ministry?
  - When you consider what Jesus "made" and did here as well as what he "made" in his first miracle, what things can we imply about Jesus' identity, authority, and work?
  - What do verses 16 & 17 say to you about Jesus, his Father, and the house of God?
  - What can we discern about Jesus' words based on vs 19?
  - What New Covenant truth can we discern from vs 19-21?
  - What vital truths can we gain from verse 22?
- ❖ POWER: Malachi 3:1-6 & Hosea 5:14 – 6:3

# KEY POINTS:

- **Jesus comes to his Father's House.** As the Son he has absolute authority and responsibility to drive wickedness and evil out of his Father's house. Just as Phinehas (the priest of God) took the javelin to the fornicators in the act, so too does Jesus here!
- **Jesus does get angry and fired up about certain things.** You can't personally offend Jesus. He knows who he is. But you can certainly make him angry and bring his wrath upon you if you transgress in areas pertaining to his Father and his people.
- **An evil generation seeks a sign.** The unbelieving prideful Jews will be seeking signs from Jesus. No matter what he says or does, it will never be enough for their evil hearts.
- **Jesus came to bring a sword!** His first visit to the temple is extreme, controversial, and public for all to see. Christ will not be here to entertain or appease man. He is here to cut with a sword and divide the light from the darkness.

# READ JOHN 2:23-25

Getting the Facts straight:

- What did many believe in?
- What caused them to believe in his name?
- What was Jesus' response to their "faith"?
- Why did he respond this way?
- What did Jesus not need?
- What did Jesus know?

# Going Deeper

- Why do you think Jesus responded the way he did in verse 24?
- What might Jesus' response and understanding imply about the type of "faith" that the crowd had in Jesus?
- What does the first phrase of verse 25 imply about their "faith" and excitement?
- What might we be able to assume about the rest of Jesus' ministry based on the last phrase of verse 25?
- When considering this passage with Matthew 27:15-23; what important things can we learn and discern regarding Jesus and "popularity" and "easy faith"? What irony do you see?

❖ VITAL: "STONY GROUND" Mark 4:16-17 & Luke 8:13

# KEY POINTS:

- **Many people love miracles and controversy!** Loving miracles and loving to see corrupt people put in their place is not the same as loving Jesus Christ for who he is.
- **Jesus is not looking for shallow faith and superficial followers.** Even though these people “believed” on Jesus, he didn’t waste much time with them. Jesus is not going to pander to a bunch of half-committed selfish people. He will invest most of his time and energy into HIS SHEEP.
- **Jesus KNOWS what is in man.** You might fool your boss; you might fool your spouse; you’ll probably fool yourself... but there is not fooling Jesus! He searches the reins and hearts...

# CONCLUSION & MOVING FORWARD

Jesus loves people and loves his creation. He is kind and good. However, he is also the Judge of all the earth. Jesus is not here to dance to man's tune. Men have all kinds of twisted motives and desires. Jesus did not come to create hype and excitement and entertain sinful man. He came here to fulfill the will of his Father so that men who truly repent to God might be saved. As we see more of Jesus moving forward, we will see that he will do nothing but speak the truth and do the works of his Father. His truth and works will not cater to man, but rather, will reveal what is truly in man and who Jesus truly is and who is in HIM.