

Week 3 Sun Sept 20, 2026: John 2 Water to Wine - Cleanses the Temple

John 2:1-12 Jesus Turns Water into Wine (Jesus does a Sign at the Wedding of Cana)

Jhn 2:1 On the (next day, being the) third day, there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.

John continued the story from a particular day (Jn 1:19-28), on the next day (Jn 1:29-34), the next day after that (Jn 1:35-42), the following day (Jn 1:43-51) and now the third day.

Correlation passage: Cana of Galilee is a little village about five or six miles from Nazareth

Jhn 4:46 So Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum.

Jhn 4:47 When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.

Jhn 4:48 Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe."

Jhn 4:50 Jesus said to him(nobleman), "Go your way; your son lives." So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way.

Jhn 4:51 And as he(nobleman) was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, "Your son lives!"

Jhn 4:52 Then he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him."

Jhn 4:53 So the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives." And he himself believed, and his whole household.

Jhn 4:54 This again is the second sign Jesus did when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.

Jhn 2:2 Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding (celebration).

Jesus performs His first miracle at a marriage celebration with His mom, family and disciples.

Jhn 2:3 And when they ran out of wine (during the celebration), the mother of Jesus (Mary) said to Him(Jesus), "They have no wine (they ran out of wine) (failure of the parents to provide for the wedding guests would bring disgrace on the groom)."

Wine (but never drunkenness) was a sign of joy and God's blessing

Pro 3:10 So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.

Mat 26:29 "But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."

Jhn 2:4 Jesus said to her, "Woman (dear woman) (Gk. gynē), what does your concern, have to do with Me (why are you saying this to me? Hebrew idiom to me to you)? My hour has not yet come (My time to act and to be revealed has not come)."

Jesus used the same word at the cross: Mother It's a very warm and endearing term.

Jhn 19:26 When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman (Gk. gynē), behold your son!"

Jhn 20:13 Then they(angels) said to her (Mary), "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

My hour has not yet come: Jesus choose not to reveal himself until it was His time

He was waiting for that God-appointed day and thus, it's early, it's premature, Mom. It isn't the time yet. My hour has not yet come. In the seventh chapter of John, we'll find Him declaring a couple of times, the hour hasn't come yet. Again in the eighth chapter, in the twelfth chapter, until we finally get, when we get to the twelfth chapter it changes a bit. He said, the hour is near. And then in chapter seventeen, as He is ready to give His life He said, Father, the hour has come. He was very keenly aware and sensitive to timing.

Jhn 7:30 Therefore they sought to take Him; but no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come.

Jhn 12:23 But Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified.

Jhn 12:27 "Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour.

Jhn 13:1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

Jhn 17:1 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You,

Reminder. Jesus only did the Fathers will

Jhn 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.

Jhn 5:30 "I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

Jhn 8:28 Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.

Jhn 8:29 "And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."

Jhn 2:5 His mother (**then**) said to the servants, "Whatever He(**Jesus**) says to you, do it."

Jhn 2:6 Now there were set there six water pots of stone (**large stone jars**), according to the manner of purification (**ceremonial washing**) of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece (**of water, totaling approx. 100-180 gallons**).

Ceremonial washing of the Jews:

Mar 7:4a When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash (**there hands ceremonially**).

Jhn 2:7 Jesus said to them (**wedding prep servants**), "**Fill the water pots with water.**" And they filled them up to the brim (**very top**).

Jhn 2:8 And (**then**) He said to them, "**Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast (headwaiter of ceremonies, banquet).**" And they took it (**to him**) (**So the servants Mary v5b and followed Jesus instructions**).

Jhn 2:9 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 (**then**) called the bridegroom.

Quote from David Guzik on Blue Letter Bible

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| <p>i. When Jesus made wine, it was good wine. It doesn't mean that it had a particularly high alcohol content, but that it was well-made wine.</p> <p>ii. Some go to great lengths to show that what Jesus made here was really grape juice. While some find that line of thinking convincing, it is not the opinion of the author. Good wine is good wine, not good grape juice. It is true that wine in that day (as commonly served) was diluted (two parts wine to three parts water, according to Barclay) and had a much lower content of alcohol than modern wine; but it was still wine.</p> <p>iii. "As to the wine such as is commonly used in the East, a person must drink inordinately before he would become intoxicated with it. It would be possible, for there were cases in which men were intoxicated with wine; but, as a rule, intoxication was a rare vice in the Savior's times and in the preceding ages." (Spurgeon)</p> |
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Quote by Pastor Chuck Smith from 2,000 series on Blue Letter Bible

I know some of you want to know if it was real wine that Jesus made. Was it fermented wine or unfermented wine? I don't know. You want me to know things that I don't know. However, the governor spoke of the type of wine that they had to make a person drunk, and the general procedure was to serve your good stuff when everybody's taste buds are fresh and your minds are clear and when it starts getting foggy bring out your junk. They won't know what they are drinking by then. I don't know. I do know that the scriptures teaches that the wine is water and that strong drink is raging and that he who is deceived by it isn't wise. I do know that for an overseer in the church; they are not to be given to wine. A person who has been chosen for the office of the bishop or overseer in the church is not to be given to wine. So all I can do is answer for myself, and I do not and will not drink wine because of my position. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

I really love the freedom that I have in Christ, the freedom to do or even more important to me, the freedom not to do. I'm glad that I am not bound by something that you know is pulling me down and tearing me down and I can't get away from it. I'm glad that I'm not under the power of something like that. So it may be lawful to do if it can bring me under its power or bring me under its influence, which is a common term. He's under the influence, what does it mean? He's under the power of it.

Now all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of them. I don't want to be. I love my freedom. I like having a clear mind. I like having this freedom that I have. It is absolutely glorious to be so free in Christ Jesus.

So, as you well know I don't set rules for others. I only encourage you to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. Seek it pre-eminently. Seek it diligently. Seek it with all your heart. Follow after the Lord. Don't be deterred by anything. May the God of peace, may the God of love keep your heart and mind steadfast in Jesus Christ that you might grow into that perfect, complete, mature child of God.

Jhn 2:10 And he (master of the feast) said to him (bridegroom, host), "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine (best, more expensive wine first), and when the guests have well drunk (senses and palates were dulled), then the inferior (less expensive wine, is served toward the end). You have kept the good wine until now (later toward the end of the celebration)!"

Wedding celebrations in those days lasted up to seven days (sometimes 3 days, not like today 3-7 hours). Hosts intentionally put their finest resources forward during the opening days to make a spectacular first impression on the guest. Once guests had consumed wine over several days, their senses and palates were dulled. At that point, guest could no longer easily distinguish high-quality wine from inferior, less expensive wine, allowing the host to stretch his budget without anyone noticing.

Jesus did not just provide more wine to fix an embarrassing shortage for the host; He provided wine so profoundly superior, that the master of the feast was surprised and stunned and gave recognition to the bridegroom in front of everyone.

Jhn 2:11 This beginning of “signs” (**the first recording of His attesting, validating miracles, or signs**) Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and “manifested His glory” (**displaying His deity and power, showing clearly, He is the Messiah**); and His disciples believed in Him.

John will tell us that Jesus did many other signs which He did not record. But “these,” He said, “I have written, that you might believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God; and by believing have life in His name” (John 20:31). This is one of the first signs that John has chosen to prove that Jesus is the Messiah.

This miracle showed the glory of Jesus and His deity also as the provider for people’s needs.

Seven signs in the Gospel of John

- John 2:1-11 — Water into wine.
- John 4:46-54 — Healing of the nobleman’s son.
- John 5:1-15 — Healing at the pool of Bethesda.
- John 6:1-14 — Feeding the 5,000.
- John 6:15-21 — Jesus walks on water.
- John 9:1-12 — Healing of the man born blind.
- John 11:1-44 — Lazarus raised from the dead.

Jhn 2:12 After this (**wedding**), He(**Jesus**) went down to Capernaum, He, His mother, **His brothers**, and His disciples; and they did not stay there many days.

Capernaum was by the Sea of Galilee, served as Jesus’ home base after John the Baptist’s imprisonment (Mat 4:12–13; Luke 4:28–31). Jesus would minister throughout the Galilee region.

His brothers: Jesus' had biological half-brothers (**children born to Mary and Joseph after Jesus miraculous birth**).

Mat 13:54 When He(**Jesus**) had come to His own country (**Nazareth**), He taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished and said, "Where did this Man (**Jesus, who we know**) get this wisdom and these mighty works?

Mat 13:55 "Is this not the carpenter's son? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas?

Mat 13:56 "And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this Man get all these things?

Mar 6:3 "Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James (**later became a leader in the Jerusalem church and authored the Book of James**), Joses, Judas (**authored the Book of Jude**), and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" So they (**people of Nazareth**) were offended at Him (**the citizens of Nazareth reject Jesus because of His ordinary, familiar upbringing and refused to believe that He was Gods Messiah**)

Mat 13:57 So they were offended at Him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, and in his own house (A prophet is honored everywhere, except in his own hometown and among his own family)."

Mat 13:58 Now He(Jesus) did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

Catholic and some Orthodox view: These traditions hold to the perpetual virginity of Mary. They interpret the terms for "brothers" and "sisters" (from the Greek adelphoi / adelphai) as close relatives, or step-siblings from a previous marriage. The word for cousin (anepsios) existed in the Greek language and could have been used if needed." (Tenney) Two other passages, tell us that Jesus had half-siblings through Mary. Joseph knew her(Mary) not till she had brought forth a son. (Mat 1:25) and Jesus was Mary's firstborn son. (Luke 2:7).

John 2:13-22 Jesus Cleanses the Temple during Passover (Matt. 21:12-17; Mark 11:15-19; Luke 19:45-48)

Jhn 2:13 Now the Passover of the Jews (Jewish Passover celebration) was at hand (approaching), and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Passover:

Exo 12:11 'And thus you shall eat it: with a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover.

Exo 12:12 'For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.

Exo 12:13 'Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

Exo 12:14 'So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance.

Jhn 2:14 And He(Jesus) found in the temple (temple courts) those (merchants) who sold oxen and sheep and doves (approved to be sacrificed), and the money changers doing business (sitting at tables exchanging money).

Temple here means the area surrounding the temple itself, including the Court of the Gentiles. The vendors enabled travelers to temple to buy their sacrificial animals on-site and exchange monies, but by conducting their business in the temple grounds, they were disrupting the worship.

These vendors were charging high prices for certain approved animals for sacrifice, and exchanging foreign or pagan coins for temple currency approved for offerings.

Many commentators say the reason why foreign coins were not allowed in temple contributions was because they bore the image of the emperor or pagan gods. But “Tyrian coinage was not only permitted, but expressly prescribed (according to the Mishnah, Bekh. 8:7), and this bore heathen symbols.” (Morris).

Prophecies fulfilled:

Mal 3:1 "Behold, I send My messenger (fulfilled by John the Baptist, Mark 1:2), And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord (the Messiah), whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," Says the LORD of hosts.

Jhn 2:15 When He(Jesus) had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple (in Greek (Hieron) the word for temple means the whole Temple Complex), with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out (scattered) the changers' money (on the floors) and overturned the tables.

(Chuck Smith quote 3,000 series) They were probably the cords that they had tied around the oxen, and cords for sale and lying around. And Jesus went around and picked up these cords that were once the leashes on the oxen and He made this whip.

Jhn 2:16 And He(Jesus) said to those (dealers) who sold doves, "Take these things away (Get these doves out of here)! (Stop) Do not make My Father's house, a house of merchandise!"

Jesus' displays His authority.

Isa 56:7 Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations."

Jhn 2:17 Then His disciples remembered that it was written (in the Scriptures), "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up (consumed Me)."(Psalm 69:9)

Jesus clears the temple a second time toward the end of His ministry mentioned in three gospels (Mat 21:12-13, Mark 11:15-17, Luke 19:45-46). Jesus displays prophetic passion, zeal for God's house (Psalm 69:9). This sheds light on judgment coming for the Jewish leaders who had allowed a place of worship to be about business and monies.

Jhn 2:18 So the Jews (Jewish leaders) answered and said to Him(Jesus), "What sign do You show to us since You do these things (show us proof, a miraculous sign to prove your authority)?

Correlation passage: What sign do You show to us

Mat 12:38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You."

Mat 12:39 But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.

Mat 12:40 "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Jhn 2:19 Jesus answered and said to them(**Jewish leaders**), "**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**"(**In Greek (Naos), the word for temple means the sacred inner part of temple, Gods Holy Places**).

They thought that Jesus was talking about this huge addition to the building that Herod had begun to construct for the Jews. Jesus was talking about His body.

Correlation passages:

Mat 27:39 And those who passed by blasphemed Him(**Jesus on the cross**), wagging their heads

Mat 27:40 and saying, "You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross."

Act 10:39 "And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree.

Act 10:40 "Him God raised up (**to life**) on the third day, and showed Him openly,

The scriptures tell us that the Godhead: The Father and the Holy Spirit were also involved in the Jesus resurrection (see 11:25; Acts 2:24; Rom 6:4; Gal 1:1; also Rom 1:4; 8:11).

Jhn 2:20 Then the Jews (**leaders**) said, "It has taken forty-six years (**up to that point, expansion of the temple started by Herod approx. 17-20 BC**) to build this temple and will You raise it up in three days?" (**The temple was still under construction until 63-66 AD recorded by historian Flavius Josephus**),

Jhn 2:21 But He(**Jesus**) was speaking of the temple of His body (**Jesus said "this temple (or sanctuary)," He meant his own body**).

Correlation passages:

1Cor 3:16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

1Cor 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

2Cor 5:1 For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

1Pet 2:5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Eph 2:20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,

Eph 2:21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,

Eph 2:22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Col 2:9 For in Him(**Jesus**) dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;

Col 2:10 and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

Jhn 2:22 Therefore, when He(**Jesus**) had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He(**Jesus**) had said this to them; and they believed (**both**) the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.

Correlation passage:

Luk 24:6 "He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee,

Luk 24:7 "saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.' "

Luk 24:8 And they remembered His words.

Remember after His resurrection, three days later, His actual, physical body rose from the dead. It was a tangible resurrection—He explicitly told His disciples afterward to touch His hands and side to prove He was not a ghost or a spiritual vision (**Luke 24:39**).

John 2:23-25 Jesus Knew, what was in Man's Heart

Jhn 2:23 Now when He(**Jesus**) was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name (**many began to trust in him, identifying themselves with Him**) when (**after**) they saw the "signs" (**attesting miracles**) which He did (**some also had a temporary belief, based on the excitement caused by witnessing His miracles**).

Correlation passages:

Act 2:22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know--

Jhn 2:24 But Jesus did not commit (**or entrust**) Himself to them, because He knew all men (**Jesus understood man and his sin nature**)

That is that faith based upon the viewing of the spectacular event. He didn't believe in them because, He knew that it was a shallow faith. It was a faith that was predicated upon a moment of excitement. Didn't have a strong foundation, usually time will tell for us, but God knows.

Jhn 2:25 and had no need that anyone should testify of man (**his human nature**), for He knew what was in man (**that is, each person's heart**).

Mat 9:4 But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts?"

Luk 6:8 But He(**Jesus**) knew their thoughts, and said to the man who had the withered hand, "Arise and stand here." And he arose and stood.

Luk 11:17 But He(**Jesus**), knowing their thoughts, said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falls.

1Sam 16:7 But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

Rom 2:16 In the day when God will judge the secrets of men (**hidden thoughts and concealed sins**) by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

Rev 2:23 "I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.

End

Extra Scriptures:

Charts