

# “Water to Wine”

## *FIRST SIGN*

JOHN 2:1-11





## MIRACLES OF JESUS

| MIRACLE                                 | BIBLE PASSAGES |            |            |            |
|---|----------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Water Turned to Wine                    |                |            |            | John 2:1   |
| Many Healings                           | Matt 4:23      | Mark 1:32  |            |            |
| Healing of a Leper                      | Matt 8:1       | Mark 1:40  | Luke 5:12  |            |
| Healing of a Roman Centurion's Servant  | Matt 8:5       |            | Luke 7:1   |            |
| Healing of Peter's Mother-in-law        | Matt 8:14      | Mark 1:29  | Luke 4:38  |            |
| Calming of the Storm at Sea             | Matt 8:23      | Mark 4:35  | Luke 8:22  |            |
| Healing of the Wild Men of Gadara       | Matt 8:28      | Mark 5:1   | Luke 8:26  |            |
| Healing of the Lame Man                 | Matt 9:1       | Mark 2:1   | Luke 5:18  |            |
| Healing of a Woman with a Hemorrhage    | Matt 9:20      | Mark 5:25  | Luke 8:43  |            |
| Raising of Jairus's Daughter            | Matt 9:23      | Mark 5:22  | Luke 8:41  |            |
| Healing of Two Blind Men                | Matt 9:27      |            |            |            |
| Healing of a Demon-possessed Man        | Matt 9:32      |            |            |            |
| Healing of Man with a Withered Hand     | Matt 12:10     | Mark 3:1   | Luke 6:6   |            |
| Feeding of 5,000 People                 | Matt 14:15     | Mark 6:35  | Luke 9:12  | John 6:1   |
| Walking on the Sea                      | Matt 14:22     | Mark 6:47  |            | John 6:16  |
| Healing of the Syrophenician's Daughter | Matt 15:21     | Mark 7:24  |            |            |
| Feeding of 4,000 People                 | Matt 15:32     | Mark 8:1   |            |            |
| Healing of an Epileptic Boy             | Matt 17:14     | Mark 9:14  | Luke 9:37  |            |
| Healing of Two Blind Men at Jericho     | Matt 20:30     |            |            |            |
| Healing of a Man with an Unclean Spirit |                | Mark 1:23  | Luke 4:33  |            |
| Healing of a Deaf, Speechless Man       |                | Mark 7:31  |            |            |
| Healing of a Blind Man at Bethesda      |                | Mark 8:22  |            |            |
| Healing of Blind Bartimaeus             |                | Mark 10:46 | Luke 18:35 |            |
| A Miraculous Catch of Fish              |                |            | Luke 5:4   | John 21:1  |
| Raising of a Widow's Son                |                |            | Luke 7:11  |            |
| Healing of a Stooped Woman              |                |            | Luke 13:11 |            |
| Healing of a Man with the Dropsy        |                |            | Luke 14:1  |            |
| Healing of Ten Lepers                   |                |            | Luke 17:11 |            |
| Healing of Malchus's Ear                |                |            | Luke 22:50 |            |
| Healing of a Royal Official's Son       |                |            |            | John 4:46  |
| Healing of a Lame Man at Bethesda       |                |            |            | John 5:1   |
| Healing of a Blind Man                  |                |            |            | John 9:1   |
| Raising of Lazarus                      |                |            |            | John 11:38 |

The number of miracles by Christ in the Gospel records can vary anywhere from 33-40 depending on the commentator and teacher you read.

The list shows that no Gospel writer includes all the miracles.

It also shows how some miracles are included in three or four Gospels, some in a couple, and some miracles are recorded only in one, such as ours this morning.



# The **MIRACLES** of Jesus

As we conduct our study we will seek to answer two questions :

1. “What does this miracle reveal about the Person of Christ?”
2. “What principle(s) does this miracle teach me for my life today?”

**Indeed, I count everything as loss  
because of the surpassing worth  
of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.**

*For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and  
count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ....*

**PHILIPPIANS 3:8**





# The MIRACLES of Jesus

Erwin Lutzer says, “A popular, but wrong, definition is to say that a miracle is a point in time in which God intervenes in the world...

“That definition fails for one good reason: It gives the false impression that God only occasionally intervenes in the world...A miracle happens when God, who is continuously active in the world, breaks His usual pattern and does something extraordinary.”



# The MIRACLES of Jesus

Charles Swindoll says, “Authentic miracles are dramatic, undeniable acts of God in which He demonstrates indisputable authority over the universe He created and continues to rule.

“And they usually remedy problems that are ‘impossible’ within the normal framework of life. Miracles remind us, as the angel reminded Mary, that ‘with God nothing shall be impossible’ (Luke 1:37).”



Cana was a village in the hills of Galilee about 8 miles north of Nazareth.



# WEDDINGS AT THE TIME OF CHRIST



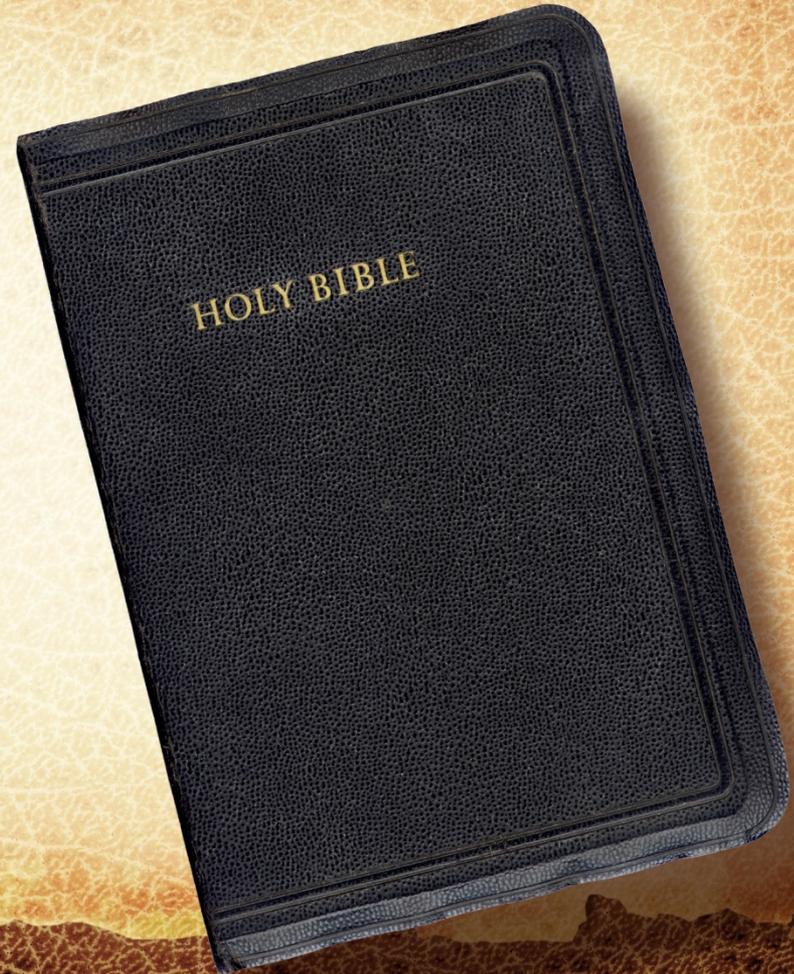


There was no such thing as a honeymoon, as the couple then kept an open house where family and friends feasted at their home for as long as a week! Weddings were a community celebration.



The groom's family was expected to provide all the food and refreshments for this week of festivities. To inadequately provide for and run out of food or wine would subject a married couple and their families to social disgrace and embarrassment.

Matthew 11:19:  
“The Son of man  
came eating and  
drinking, and they  
say, Behold a man  
gluttonous, and a  
winebibber, a friend  
of publicans and  
sinners.”







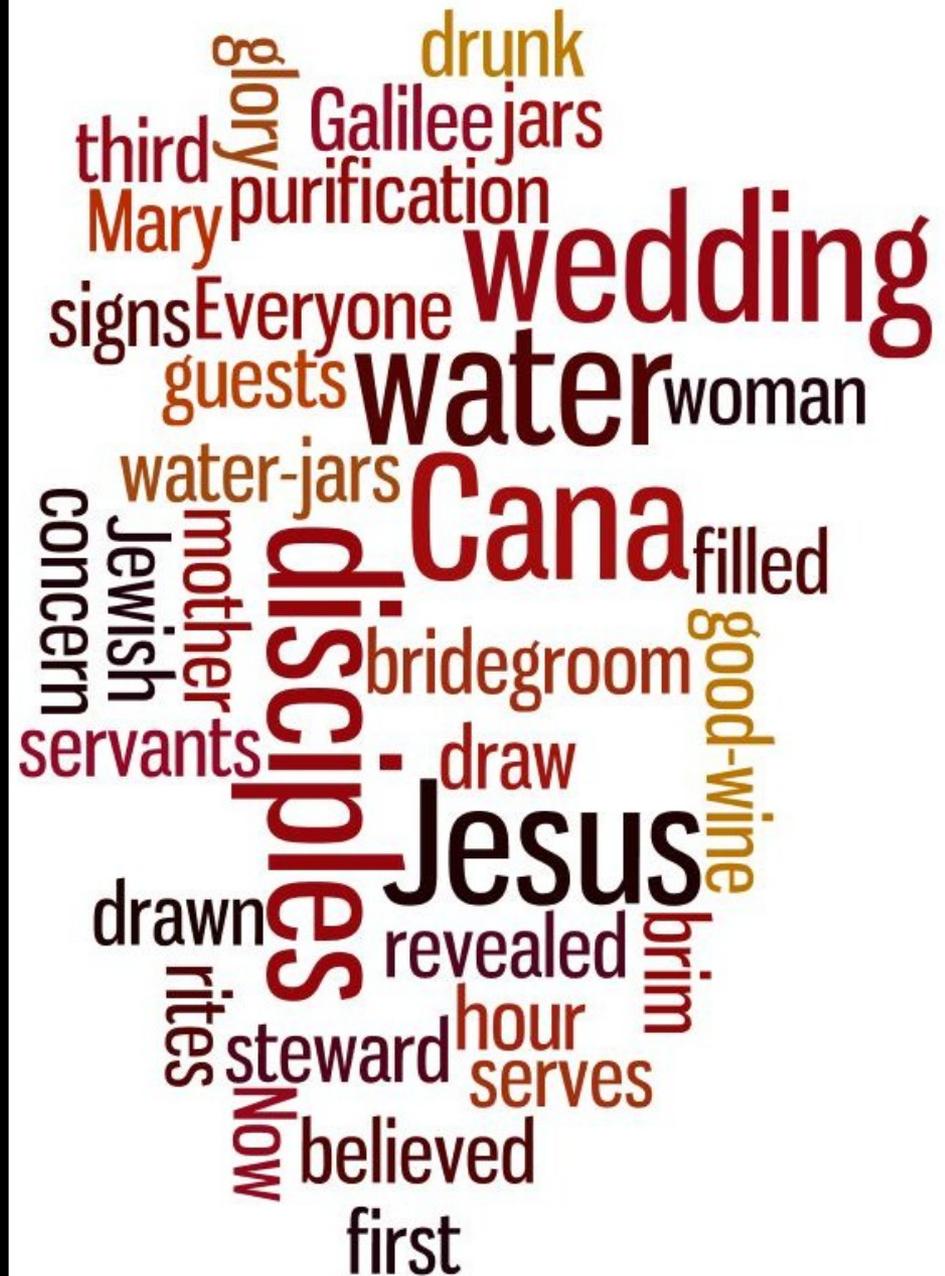


In the midst of this great celebration “they wanted wine,” or ran out of wine. This was like Burger King running out of hamburgers. It was an unthinkable thing!

## John 2:3,4:

“And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto Him, They have no wine.

“Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.”



**From the Cross:**  
“Woman, behold  
thy Son!”  
(John 19:26).





Five times Christ says in John that His “hour” had not yet come (2:4; 7:6,8,30; 8:20). Three times He declares that this “hour” had come (12:23; 13:1; 17:1). The “hour” that He refers to, is the “hour,” the time of the Cross.

We can't understand the life of Christ apart from the death of Christ.

*Mary said to the servants,  
"Whatever He says to you,  
do it."* — John 2:5

*If you love me, keep my commandments.*  
— John 14:15

“Whatever He says  
to do, do it.”

Good advice for life!





Verse 6 tells us there were 6 stone waterpots at the wedding, “after the manner of the purifying of the Jews.”

I.e., it was the usual Jewish custom to have waterpots at meals, for the purpose of pouring water over and washing their hands before and after eating, and for the washing of dishes.



Each of these pots contained “two or three firkins apiece.”

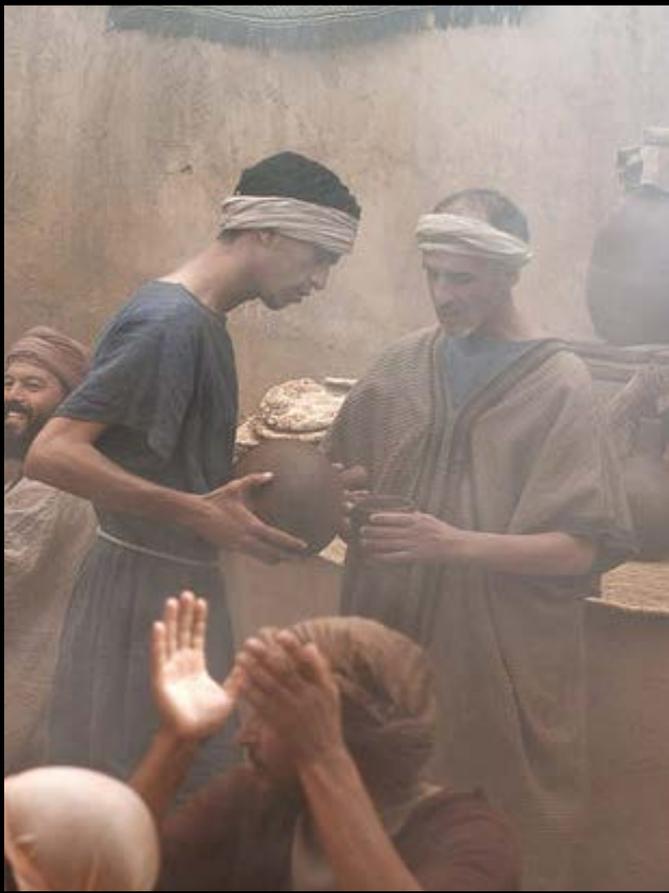
A “firkin” was a unit of measure equaling about 9 gallons.

So the pots could hold 18 to 27 gallons each. This would provide more than 150 gallons of wine, enough for 2400 one-cup servings!



John 2:7 “Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.”



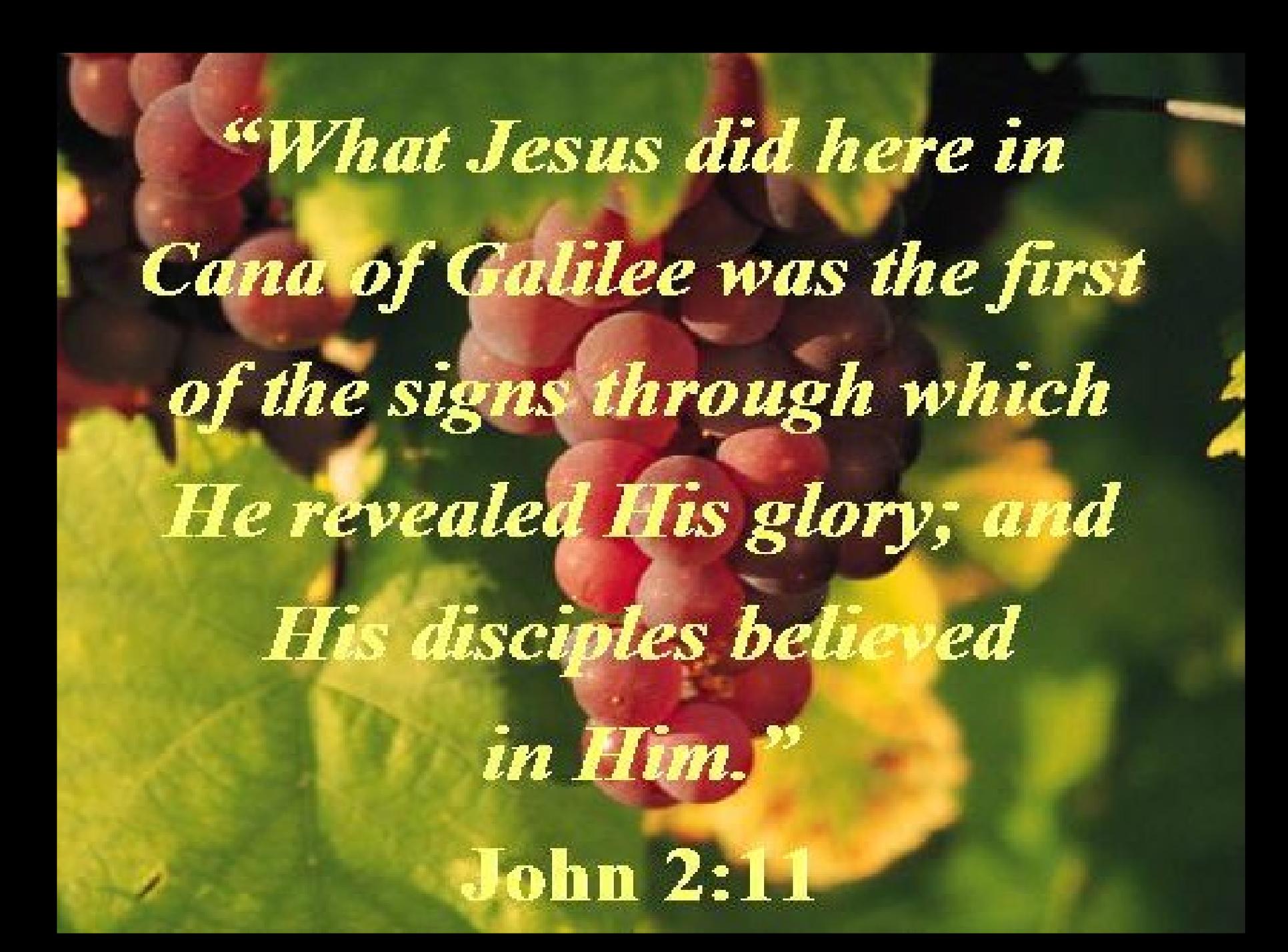


When the governor of the feast tastes the wine, he is shocked. He had never tasted wine so good. Christ didn't just doctor the water so that it tasted like wine. The water in those pots was transformed into the finest wine the governor had ever tasted.



The governor states that in contrast with the normal custom of serving the best wine first and inferior wine later, at this wedding the best wine was served last and he praises him for it.

This was not actually done, the best wine was served first, but in comparison to the wine Christ produced, it made even the best wine appear inferior and poor quality!



*“What Jesus did here in  
Cana of Galilee was the first  
of the signs through which  
He revealed His glory; and  
His disciples believed  
in Him.”*

**John 2:11**



The fact that Jesus works to remedy this situation at a wedding reminds us that He is concerned with the everyday things in life that we face.

So we should not compartmentalize our lives when it comes to Christ and think of Him only on Sundays in Church. He wants us to remember Him constantly and include Him in weddings, and in every part of our lives, and look to Him for any problem.

The first miracle, symbolized what Christ had come to do: to “transform” those who believe in Him. It pointed to the transforming ministry Jesus would have.

He had come to bring about conversion: water to wine, sinners to saints, bring people from death to life, from darkness to light.

And like this miracle illustrates, Christ in His transforming ministry takes the ordinary and does the extraordinary.

# TRANSFORMED

GALLONS

150.

Grace

The miracle also teaches us that when Christ gives, He gives more than you will ever need. The provision of wine was abundant.

He provided 150 gallons of grace for the wedding feast!

The reason He gave so much wine is because when He gives, He never gives just enough; He always gives superabundantly.

# PENTECOST

Wine is a symbol of the Holy Spirit in Scripture.

At Pentecost, and as a foretaste of the kingdom to come, Christ put the new wine of the Spirit in the kingdom believers at that time, and they were filled “to the brim” with the Spirit, as Acts 2 says “And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost.”

Wine is also a symbol of joy in the Bible (Psa. 104:15). When they ran out of wine at this wedding it was a symbol of how Israel was *out of joy*.

But when Christ turned the water into wine, He made a lot of it, and so by His coming to Israel it shows He came to bring her overflowing, abundant joy. Christ is where Israel's joy is based, and where ours is too!

The word "JOY" is rendered in large, bold, red 3D block letters. The letters are positioned on a light-colored surface, and the background is a warm, golden-brown gradient with soft, glowing light spots, suggesting a stage or spotlight effect. The letters have a slight shadow beneath them, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.



# THE MILLENNIUM CHRIST'S RULE ON EARTH

Wine is also associated with the kingdom when Israel will have her *greatest* joy. The prophets characterized the kingdom as a time when wine would flow liberally.

Amos 9:13,14, “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the...mountains shall drop sweet wine. I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, & they shall build...cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, & drink the wine thereof.”

The newlywed couple and their family faced possible shame and embarrassment when the wine ran out, but Christ in His kindness, grace, love, and power, instead met the need, and turned it, so that the bride and groom were now instead exalted and highly praised.





# SALVATION

At salvation the same thing happens. Because of our sins, we faced the shame and embarrassment of our sins at the Great White Throne judgment.

But Christ in His kindness, love, grace and power, came to do what we were unable to do, satisfy God's requirements and judgment against our sins, and He met our spiritual need, and provided for and paid for our sins, and He took our shame away by His Cross, and when we place our faith in Him alone.

And as the shame of the  
bridal family was turned to  
joy, so our shame is turned  
to joy, and instead we are  
exalted and highly praised  
in Christ.

