



\* Prayers Anchored in the  
Gospel of John

Monday Feb 3, 2014

\*Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Saviour of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

*[www.bcponline.org](http://www.bcponline.org)*

## \*The Collect

Collecting your thoughts so you can focus  
on God.

## John 2:1-11 (NIV)

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, <sup>2</sup> and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup> When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

<sup>4</sup> "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come."

<sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

<sup>6</sup> Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim.

<sup>8</sup> Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet."

They did so, <sup>9</sup> and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside <sup>10</sup> and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

<sup>11</sup> 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.

 **Scripture**

\* This is a time when you will want to understand the passage and the original intent of the author. Feel free to read it several times and also to write down any questions you might have.

This event - changing the water to wine at the wedding in Cana - is the first of seven signs that Jesus will perform which are reported to us in John's gospel. They include changing the water to wine in this passage, curing a nobleman's son, healing a paralytic, feeding 5,000 people, walking on water, giving sight to a blind man and raising Lazarus from the dead. Seven is a significant number, signifying completion...

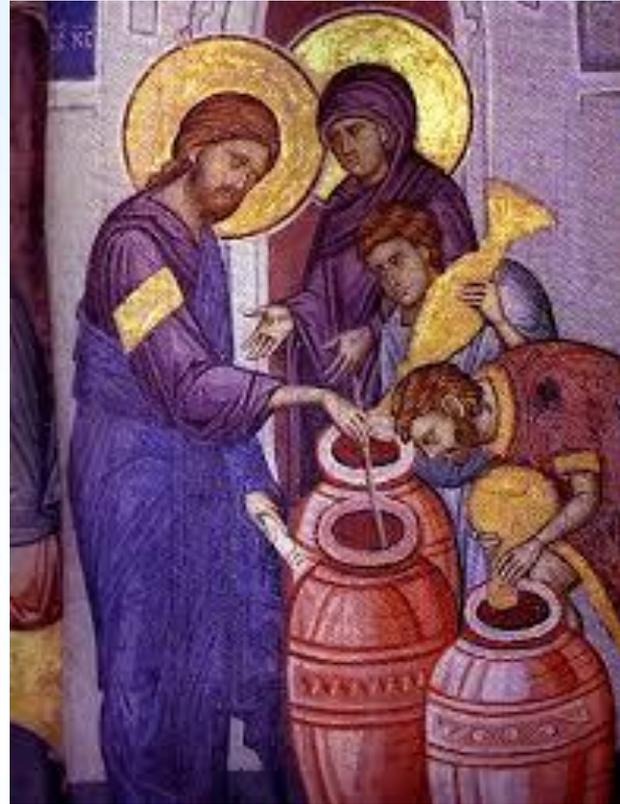
Galilee was Gentile territory, heavily influenced by Greek culture. Although there were many Jews - including converts - in Galilee, it was considered "second class" by Jews because it was not "pure" and had foreign influence.

<http://dailyexegesis.blogspot.ca/2010/01/wedding-at-cana.html>

\* **Meditation**

The glory is evident in the kindness at the Cana wedding, as the prologue has prepared us to notice (1:14). In response to a modest request Jesus provides wine in abundance. The Son of God's gracious generosity and glory are revealed in this sign. Also, there is no synoptic parallel to this sign. In addition, we might call changing water into wine a miracle, but the author calls it a 'sign' because its primary purpose is to lead the reader to believe in Jesus as the 'true vine' (John 15).

[http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Biblical\\_Studies/New\\_Testament\\_Commentaries/The\\_Gospel\\_of\\_John/Chapter\\_2](http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Biblical_Studies/New_Testament_Commentaries/The_Gospel_of_John/Chapter_2)



\* Meditation

11 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.

I notice many details here that might be significant or could simply just be part of the circumstances.

Is the wine symbolic? Is the fact that the jars were used for ceremonial cleansing important? Is the third day important?

And then there are some questions that spring from the passage. Why did Jesus do this sign after telling his mother that his time had not yet come? Why is this done in Cana?

At this stage of meditation it is important to seek the answers to your questions so that you understand the text.

Len Thompson

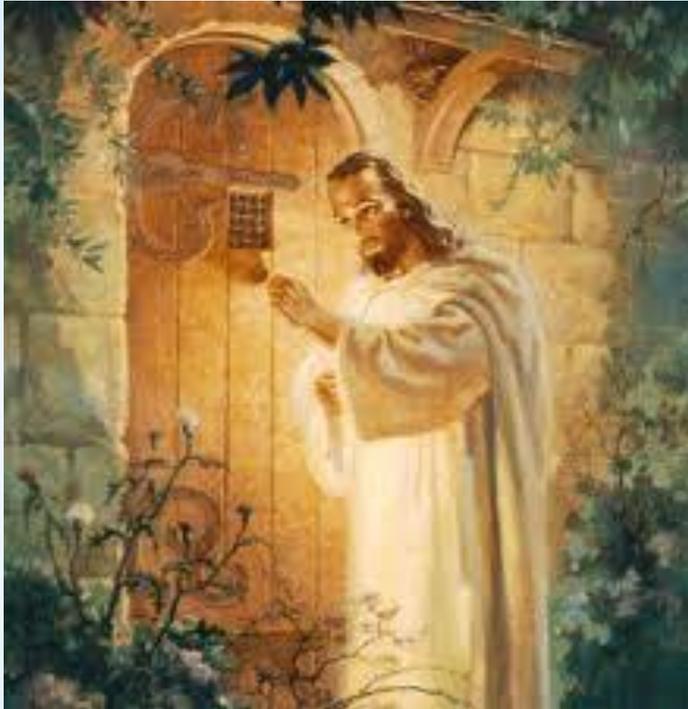
 **Meditation**

Jesus, The disciples believed because of this sign. You brought joy through kindness to the hearts of many at a very important time in their lives. If this wedding was of relatives of Jesus, then it shows the importance of family.

Jesus, I thank you for the ways in which you have brought joy to me even when I have been in a family crisis. Truly, the things that you did in my own story are also a sign that you are the one who reveals the love of the Father. I believe in you and your kind character. Amen

Len Thompson

 **Response**



\* Jesus came so that we could receive Him and open ourselves to have many conversations with Him. Take a few minutes to thank Jesus for the joy He has brought into your life.

\* Prayer

\* *Irish Marriage Blessing*

\* May God be with you and bless you;  
May you see your children's children.  
May you be poor in misfortune,  
Rich in blessings,  
May you know nothing but happiness  
From this day forward.

\* **Blessing**