

WHATSOEVER HE SAITH UNTO YOU DO IT JOHN 2:1-11

Text: John 2:5

John 2:5

⁵ His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do *it*.

Introduction:

Some of the early days and incidences of Christ's earthly ministry are recorded in this chapter. John 2 can be divided into three major parts.

1. The Changing of Water into Wine (John 2:1-11)
2. The Cleansing of the Temple (John 2:12-17)
3. The Challenge by the Jews (John 2:18-25)

We will consider the first of these parts today.

In this little snapshot from the ministry of the Lord, He is seen performing a miracle.

A miracle cannot be explained merely by man's intellect or scientific effort. There are about thirty-five

different miracles of Christ given in the gospel records. In these miracles we see Christ's power over nature, sickness, demons, and death. As we see our miracle working Savior, our faith is increased.

Cana of Galilee is the setting. Notice also that John is giving a time frame of three days which was three days after Nathanael was called out by Christ.

He and His mother and His disciples are invited to a wedding.

I think we should note that we see here the Lord's approval of marriage.

Marriage is a sacred institution. It was the first institution that God ordained.

Marriage should be kept pure and undefiled before and after marriage.

- Before Marriage

Hebrews 13:4

⁴ Marriage *is* honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

1 Corinthians 7:1

¹ Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: *It is* good for a man not to touch a woman.

- After Marriage

Exodus 20:14

¹⁴Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Leviticus 20:10

¹⁰And the man that committeth adultery with *another* man's wife, *even he* that committeth adultery with his neighbour's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.

Proverbs 6:32

³²*But* whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he *that* doeth it destroyeth his own soul.

Matthew 5:28

²⁸But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

With that being said that brings us to our text.

Notice:

1. CHRIST'S PARTICIPATION IN THE EVENTS OF LIFE (VS. 1-2)

John 2:1-2

¹ And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: ² And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage.

A. The Circumstances

A wedding was always a huge social event in those days.

The celebration could last as long as a week.

We are not told who is getting married, but it is probably some close kinsman to the Lord. It may be a brother, a sister, a cousin, etc. I say that because it seems to have been someone of close relation because Mary is involved in the festivities. (vs. 1, 3, 5).

If this scene teaches us anything, it tells us that the Lord chose to participate in this common, routine, everyday event.

The Lord isn't just for Sunday!

He desires, and deserves to be included in all of life!

You see, He is either Lord of all, or He isn't Lord at all in your life.

Acts 10:36

³⁶The word which *God* sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

B. The Call

The Lord is here by invitation! Someone possessed the forethought and thoughtfulness to call Jesus to this event.

In too many lives, Jesus is left standing outside looking in.

Revelation 3:20

²⁰Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

There are times when Jesus stands ready with the solution to your problem, but instead of butting in, He waits patiently for your invitation!

C. Christ's Consideration

Notice that when He was called, Jesus came!

In all the events of life, the child of God need never fear Jesus not coming to the aid! He cares and when we call, He will answer us and move in our need.

Matthew 7:7-8

⁷ Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: ⁸ For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Jeremiah 33:3

³ Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

Illustration:

As the song writer wrote:

“Oh what peace we often forfeit,

Oh what needless pain we bear,

All because we do not carry,

Everything to God in prayer.”

Notice not only Christ’s participation in the events of life but also:

2. CHRIST’S POWER IN THE EVENTS OF LIFE (VS. 3-9)

John 2:3-9

³ And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. ⁴ Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come. ⁵ His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do *it*. ⁶ And

there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. ⁷ Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare *it*. ⁹ When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom,

Notice:

A. A Problem (vs. 3)

Sometime, during these festivities, they ran out of wine. This doesn't sound like much of a problem to us, but to the Jews, it could ruin the ceremony.

- First, it was a matter of honor.

The bridegroom was responsible for providing adequate supplies. If something ran out before the party was concluded, it simply meant that he hadn't planned well and hadn't provided for all of his guests.

- Secondly, to run out of wine would cause public embarrassment for the groom and his family.
- Thirdly, in some instances, the offending family could even be fined.

Therefore, this was a problem of considerable size to these people.

Life doesn't always go as we had planned it! There are times when problems arise and troubles come our way.

This is a common thing.

Job 14:1

¹ Man *that is* born of a woman *is* of few days, and full of trouble.

John 16:33

³³ These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Ecclesiastes 2:23

²³ For all his days *are* sorrows, and his travail grief; yea, his heart taketh not rest in the night. This is also vanity.

It is good to know that when our problems do come that we can take them to the Lord. Those all around us may see them as nothing, but the Lord understands our pain and feels our need.

Hebrews 4:15

¹⁵ For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are, yet* without sin.

B. A Procedure (vs. 3-5)

John 2:3-5

³ And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. ⁴ Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come. ⁵ His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do *it*.

In this time of trouble, Mary shows us just what we need to do when troubles arise in our lives. She gives us 2 steps that we should always take in the troublesome times of life.

- Flee to the Lord

When the problem arose, Mary took it to the Lord. This is exactly what we need to do.

Philippians 4:6-7

⁶ Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Christ's response to Mary in verse 4 may seem somewhat cruel and cold. Yet, the term "woman" was a polite and common form of address. Jesus is simply reminding Mary that He has a greater agenda to fulfill than hers or that of the rest of the wedding party.

In Luke 2:51, the Bible tells us:

Luke 2:51

⁵¹ And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

The expression, "subject unto them" was referring to Mary and Joseph.

Now, He is reminding His mother that it is time for Him to begin to fulfill His Father's will.

No matter her reasoning Mary ran to the Lord. What a good example for us to follow!

- Follow His Commands

This is the only command ever issued by Mary in the entire Bible. For those who feel that Mary is to be revered, adored, worshiped and obeyed, this is excellent advice! Just do as the Lord says!

The lesson for us is clear! When problems arise, and troubles toss our lives, the best thing we can do is simply to do what the Lord says to do.

What does He say to do?

Note:

- Come unto me

Matthew 11:28

²⁸ Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

- Cast your cares on Him

1 Peter 5:7

⁷ Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

- Trust Him

Romans 8:28

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

- Believe in Him

Acts 16:31

³¹ And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

C. His Performance (vs. 6-9)

John 2:6-9

⁶ And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. ⁷ Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare *it*. ⁹ When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom,

Jesus took the commonplace and made it extraordinary! He can change any situation if He is given the opportunity to do so.

- It Was Unconventional

Water to wine!

He will move in your situation, but He may not do it your way.

Illustration:

The three Hebrew boys

Why not send an angel to keep them from the fire? He could have, but He chose to deliver them another way.

We must remember that God's ways are not the same as ours.

Isaiah 55:8-9

⁸ For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD. ⁹ For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

- It Was Uncommon

The governor of the feast is surprised at the quality of this new wine. It was an uncommon thing. Just because God did something one way back then, that doesn't mean that He will do it that same way in the here and now. Don't try to squeeze God into your little box, He simply will not fit!

- It Was Unbelievable

The governor didn't know it, but the servants did!

When you have carried the water and felt its weight, and God moves in and changes it from some ordinary, common event into something that proves to be a blessing in your life, you never get over it.

Nobody in this world may understand what you are going through. Jesus does! And, when He moves in your time of need and turns your darkness to day, when He lifts your burden and shoulders your load, you know it and you will never forget it! To everyone else it was just wine, but to those who knew the truth, it was a miracle!

Notice not only Christ's Participation in the Events of Life, and Christ Power in the Events of Life but also:

3. CHRIST'S PROVISIONS IN THE EVENTS OF LIFE (VS. 10-11)

John 2:10-11

¹⁰ And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: *but* thou hast kept the good wine until now. ¹¹ This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.

A. He Provided That Which Pertained to the Flesh

He gave them just what they needed in their immediate circumstances. He will do the same for you.

Philippians 4:19

¹⁹ But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

B. He Provided That Which Pertained To Their Faith

Notice v. 11 - "His Disciples believed on Him." Your faith in Jesus is never misplaced! If you display, "mustard seed" faith in your hour of trial, Jesus will enter into that need and will move your mountain. He will never fail His children!

C. He Provided That Which Pertained To the Future

Notice, v. 11 "manifested His glory." When you see the Lord come through in your hour of crisis, it will do something for you!

It will strengthen your faith and give you hope for tomorrow.

Close:

The Lord is not some remote supernatural being who is totally removed from our need.

He cares about the smallest details of your life.

Matthew 10:29-31

²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. ³⁰ But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

What is your need today?

Don't worry over it, do as Mary did, bring it to the Lord who cares.