

His First Miracle

By: David C. Mills

As John has stated in Chapter 2, Verse 11 of his gospel, it was in Cana of Galilee that Jesus performed His first miracle that plainly revealed His glory. It was also there that His disciples did believe on Him.

As we look back, it was just three days after John had announced, “Behold, the Lamb of God”, that they found themselves in Cana of Galilee, with His mother Mary at a marriage feast.

After some period of time, He was approached by Mary announcing that, “They have no wine.”

Some have suggested that Mary brought this problem before Jesus because they had run out of wine due to the extra guests brought by Him, and this situation would have been embarrassing to the bridegroom. Mary’s request appeared to be prompting Jesus to perform an act that would bring attention to Him. Where upon he delivered to Mary a gentle yet decided rebuke for interfering in the things of God, which she knew nothing about. This was also a time where Jesus was letting His mother know that their former relationship was

coming to an end. We see that Mary never corrected Jesus, but showed confidence in Him by instructing the servants, "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it."

Jesus then proceeds to instruct the servants to fill six water pots of stone with water. Once they had done what He asked, He told them to, "Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast". They did as he commanded. When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, he did not know where it came from and called to bridegroom to compliment him for his unusual hospitality.

Wycliffe Bible Commentary states that "the deeper truth is that, symbolically, Judaism is here revealed as deficient, whereas Christ brings fullness of blessing of the highest sort." This I know: without calling attention to Himself, Jesus provided as bountifully then as he did for Abraham at the place he called Jehovahjireh, and He continues today to provide for the needs of His children.

This is a passage that many "Christians", as well as the world, enjoy misinterpreting in order to justify their use of alcoholic beverages. Charles Haddon Spurgeon so eloquently addressed that argument at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, Newington, as he stated: "I do not think that I should do any good if I were to enter upon the discussion as to what sort of wine our Lord Jesus made on this occasion. It was wine, and I am quite sure it was very good wine, for he

would produce nothing but the best. Was it wine such as men understand by that word now? It was wine; but there are very few people in this country who ever see, much less drink, any of that beverage. That which goes under the name of wine is not true wine, but a fiery, brandied concoction of which I feel sure that Jesus would not have tasted a drop.”

As Jesus began His earthly ministry and performed the first of His miracles, it is important to remember that prior to that he had manifested forth His glory through “the creation of the world” (Romans 1:19) as He was there in the beginning with God (John 1:1). What greater a miracle then that?

The Lord will provide.

References:

Pentecost, J. Dwight, *The Words and Works of Jesus Christ*, pp.119-122
Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary, Copyright (c) 1997
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