

Following the Real Jesus:
The Wedding, the Wine,
And the Glory

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Saturday, February 13, 2021
John 2:1-11; 3:29; Revelation 19:6-9
Luke 22:14-20; Acts 20:24

¹ Two days later there was a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there,
² and Jesus and his followers were also invited to the wedding. John 2:1-2

³ When all the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." ⁴ Jesus answered, "Dear woman, why come to me? My time has not yet come." John 2:3-4

⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you to do."

⁶ In that place there were six stone water jars that the Jews used in their washing ceremony. Each jar held about twenty or thirty gallons. John 2:5-6

⁷ Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled the jars to the top. ⁸ Then he said to them, "Now take some out and give it to the master of the feast." So they took the water to the master. John 2:7-8

⁹ When he tasted it, the water had become wine. He did not know where the wine came from, but the servants who had brought the water knew. The master of the wedding called the bridegroom John 2:9

¹⁰ and said to him, "People always serve the best wine first. Later, after the guests have been drinking awhile, they serve the cheaper wine. But you have saved the best wine till now." John 2:10

¹¹ So in Cana of Galilee Jesus did his first miracle. There he showed his glory, and his followers believed in him. John 2:11

There is more to Jesus than you see. Following starts where you take your first step. Come and see!

Why is this the first miraculous sign? The Kingdom of Heaven is a party! Jesus is the Lord of the feast.

He is the Son of God and is bringing Joy! He is inviting us to follow him into joy.

"Happiness is perishable pleasure in a blessing; joy is an imperishable pleasure in the Blesser."
- Timothy Keller

God keeps inviting us to see him as a groom and his people as his bride--the most personal, experiential, and intimate relationship.

²⁹ The bride belongs only to the bridegroom. But the friend who helps the bridegroom stands by and listens to him. He is thrilled that he gets to hear the bridegroom's voice. In the same way, I am really happy. John 3:29

⁶ Then I heard what sounded like a great many people, like the noise of flooding water, and like the noise of loud thunder. The people were saying: "Hallelujah! Our Lord God, the Almighty, rules. Revelation 19:6

⁷ Let us rejoice and be happy and give God glory, because the wedding of the Lamb has come, and the Lamb's bride has made herself ready. Revelation 19:7

⁸ Fine linen, bright and clean, was given to her to wear." (The fine linen means the good things done by God's holy people.) Revelation 19:8

⁹ And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who have been invited to the wedding meal of the Lamb!" And the angel said, "These are the true words of God." Revelation 19:9

Jesus is beginning with the end in mind.

"My hour has not yet come." His hour is the cross.

Jesus is thinking about what it will cost him to provide the wine at his own wedding.

"Jesus is sitting in the midst of all of this joy, sipping the coming sorrow." - Timothy Keller

Through the cross he brings the cup of joy, but he drinks the cup of sorrow.

How do we receive it? You have to admit that you are out, you are totally empty.

Like the bridegroom you must receive the credit for what Jesus has done in your place.

Jesus' disciples see his glory and believe in him. And as a result, they follow him all the way to their own crosses.

¹⁴ When the time came, Jesus and the apostles sat down together at the table. ¹⁵ Jesus said, "I have been very eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. Luke 22:14-15

¹⁶ For I tell you now that I won't eat this meal again until its meaning is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God." Luke 22:16

¹⁷ Then he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God for it. Then he said, “Take this and share it among yourselves. ¹⁸ For I will not drink wine again until the Kingdom of God has come.”

Luke 22:17-18

¹⁹ He took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Luke 22:19

²⁰ After supper he took another cup of wine and said, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you. Luke 22:20

Come and see me in this bread and in this cup.

²⁴ I don't care about my own life. The most important thing is that I complete my mission, the work that the Lord Jesus gave me—to tell people the Good News about God's grace. Acts 20:24