

I. THE THIRD DAY

A. Lots of confusion around this passage

1. The infamous water into wine miracle
2. Let me just say right now: this is non-alcoholic grape juice
 - a. The Greek words are not very distinct
 - b. But the Hebrew is VERY distinct
 - i. One word is H3196 – YAH-yin – Alcoholic
 - ii. Fermentation requires yeast (leaven) btw!
 - iii. That was what the daughters of Lot used to make their father drunk and their sin created the Ammonites, a constant enemy of the Jews
 - iv. The other word is tee-ROSHE – Grape Juice
 - v. It is consistent with what God gives (Gen. 27:28)
3. God creates good things, sin debases them.
 - a. My children have asked why God created beer
 - i. God created many things that have medicinal properties
 - ii. That when misused, destroy lives
 - iii. God created marital relations
 - iv. That when misused, destroy lives
 - b. The devil loves to destroy what God has created
 - c. Look at what they've done with the Rainbow!
 - i. A symbol of God's mercy
 - ii. Now a symbol of the sodomites
 - d. God created motherhood
 - i. The world debases it into abortion
 - ii. The world and the flesh and the devil hate all that is godly
 - iii. Proverbs 20:1 – "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

B. Read John 2:1-11 – and Pray

C. More confusion

1. Who is getting married?
 - a. His will is to go into Cana
 - b. Potentially for this wedding – we aren't told
 - i. Neither does the Bible does not record for us the names of the bride and groom
 - ii. Some have speculated that it was Nathanael's wedding
 - c. But that would be a little odd...
 - i. Since Mary apparently is a close friend or related
 - ii. And Nathanael had never met Jesus ("when knowest thou me? – vs. 48)

2. Where's Joseph
 - a. Some commentators have declared him dead
 - b. However, John 6:42 says – “And they said, Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, I came down from heaven?”
 - c. Seems to me like they are talking about Joseph present tense...
 - d. Despite their unbelief
3. Jesus used harsh language
 - a. No, no He did NOT
 - b. Exo. 20:12 – “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.”
 - c. If he had spoken harshly to His earthly mother, then He would have sinned and been able to save neither you nor I
 - d. We'll talk about it, but He essentially said “my lady”

D. Marriage

1. The FIRST thing Jesus did in His ministry was go to a wedding
 - a. I certainly thing that puts God's stamp of approval on it
 - b. Seems like it's always about the first thing He does, right before big things change!
 - i. In Genesis, one of the first things He did
 - ii. In John, one of the first things He does
 - iii. In Revelation, right before the battle of Armageddon
2. Look at Vs. 2 – “Jesus was called”
 - a. What a great testimony for a wedding
 - i. To have Jesus Christ as the guest of honor
 - ii. What a way to start a marriage
 - iii. What a way to start a family
 - b. How miserable weddings where the Lord's disciples can't attend...
 - i. Weddings that occur on Sunday morning
 - ii. Receptions that are nothing but a drunken brawl
 - c. Invite the Lord Jesus Christ to inhabit your life and your marriage
 - i. How would it be if the Jesus came to dinner at your house today? Sat down with your family for a meal?
 - ii. Would you be happy or terrified?
 - iii. Maybe a little bit of both? 😊
3. We will look (VERY QUICKLY) at three points
 - a. The Empty Earthen Vessels
 - b. The Water-Filled Vessels
 - c. The Wine-Filled Vessels

II. EMPTY EARTHEN VESSELS

- A. The mother of Jesus was there (vs. 1)
 1. She may have been related to the bride or the groom or a close friend

- a. One thing we know is that she had some responsibility for the feast or FELT some responsibility for the feast
 - b. They have no wine (vs. 3)
 - c. This would have been terribly embarrassing
 - d. The wedding was the height of the Jewish life!
 - e. It signaled the end of a long promise and lots of hard work
 - f. It wasn't just a show – it meant something huge!
2. Christ responded
- a. “My lady” or “Woman”
 - i. That was not disrespectful
 - ii. Nor was it disrespectful when He said it in John 19:26!
 - iii. John 19:26 - When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son!”
 - b. But it was significant! He didn't call her Mother.
 - i. Several things, but don't you think He knew the Catholics would make a strange idol out of Mary?
 - ii. Seems strange that they would pray to a woman who was told to wait here in vs. 4
 - iii. A subtle reminder that He is GOD and she is just a woman.
 - iv. A virtuous blessed woman, but just human like you and I
 - c. His Hour had not yet come!
 - d. John 17:1 – “These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:”
 - i. We'll talk MUCH about His Hour
 - ii. He speaks of it throughout the book of John
3. What about the earthen vessels?
- a. They were for purification – vs. 6
 - b. They were empty – vs. 7 (they filled them)
 - c. They had failed
 - i. All the water in the world can't make sin clean
 - ii. No washing, no baptism can save
 - iii. All of our righteousnesses are as filthy rags (Isa. 64:6)
 - d. They were just worthless clay pots.

III. WATER FILLED VESSELS

- A. Mary tells them to obey Him (vs. 5)
 - 1. She had tried to tell God what to do
 - a. Instead of trying to have God obey her
 - b. Now she tells others to obey God
 - 2. No one can say how much a firkin is...
 - a. The guess range from a barrel to a bucket

- b. Say more than 5 gallons and less than 50
- c. Suffice to say: It took some water

B. Fill them!

1. Notice that there were 6
 - a. The number of Man
 - b. Man was created on the sixth day
 - c. The beast who declares himself God is given a number too
 - d. An unholy triad of sixes. Six hundred sixty-six, in fact
2. Notice that they were earthen
 - a. Just like you and I
 - b. Like Adam, made from the clay of the ground
 - c. Except Eve, she was made from recycled mud
3. Notice that they filled them with WATER
 - a. Water is a symbol of type of the Word of God
 - b. John 15:3 – “Now ye are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you.”
 - c. Ephesians 5:26 – we see cleansing “with the washing of the water by the Word.”
 - d. John 4:14 – Jesus told the Samaritan woman at the well, “But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst...”
 - e. Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God – Ezekiel 37:4 “Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.”
4. Notice that they were filled to the brim
 - a. No room left for anything else!
 - b. Fill your life with scripture! Fill your world with His Word!

IV. WINE FILLED VESSELS

- A. We all know the Bible typology for wine
 1. In the Lord’s supper, the fruit of the vine represents the Blood of Christ
 2. Does that mean we are filled with the Christ’s Blood?
 - a. No, we are covered by His Blood
 - b. And that’s not what happened here
 3. He said DRAW OUT (vs. 8)
 - a. Take some of the water and bear it to the governor
 - b. Notice He wasn’t worried about the quality
 4. And the governor proclaimed it best
- B. If we fill our lives with the Word of God
 1. We will NATURALLY be used of God!
 2. And we will bring souls to Christ
 3. And they TOO will be covered by the Blood!
- C. AND that is the best!

1. The world offers the best and only gives the worst
2. Christ offers the best and He delivers!

V. WILL YOU BE FILLED?

- A. We have to get tired of being old empty earthen vessels
- B. We have to get ahold of the Word of God
- C. And then we can be FILLED with the water of life!