

A Miracle and a Metaphor
John 2:1-11

Christ significantly began His public ministry with a miracle of transformation, a miracle of festive joy and gladness!

Two questions to answer today:

Why did God choose a wedding as the setting for the first miracle?

Why was wine His first miraculous transformation?

1. Why did God choose a wedding as the setting for the first miracle? A marriage is a metaphor for a relationship of priority, intimacy, and power.

Priority

Exodus 20:2-3

Deuteronomy 31:6

Intimacy

Deuteronomy 6:5

Psalm 139:1

Power

Ezekiel 36:26-28

God also uses the marriage metaphor abundantly in the Old Testament.

Jeremiah 2-4, Ezekiel 16, Isaiah 54:5, Hosea

APPLICATION 1—A truly Christian family is a witness to an unbelieving world.

Ephesians 5:21-6:4

Jesus's priority is his Heavenly Father's work, not his mother Mary's.

Luke 2:41-52, Luke 8:19-21, Luke 11:27-28

APPLICATION 2—Look to Jesus in all trials.

APPLICATION 3—Submit to God's timing and plans.

APPLICATION 4—God cares about the small details of your life.

God richly uses the marriage metaphor in reference to Jesus.

Matthew 9:14-15, John 3:27-30, Revelation 21:1-2

Verse 4. When Jesus uses the word "Hour/time," He always refers to His death and sacrifice.

John 7:30, 8:20, 12:23, 13:1.

2. Why was wine His first miraculous transformation? Jesus came to give the wine for the new covenant in His blood.

Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament in the same way that wine miraculously came from the water of the jars of ceremonial washing.

APPLICATION 5—We can't save ourselves, but Christ has done all that's needed.
Isaiah 25:6-8

APPLICATION 6—Christ wants you to be filled full with His abundant Spirit.
Psalm 34:8

APPLICATION 7—All human experiences and relationships will fall short of a saving relationship with God.

Jewish Wedding Customs

- A. The betrothal. Mark 14:32-36
- B. The promise. Matthew 26:27-29
- C. The preparation. John 14:2-3
- D. The ceremony and celebration. Revelation 19:6-9, Matthew 22:1-14

APPLICATION 8—Receive your invitation to the wedding of God to mankind through faith.