


Day 1

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

Jesus Changes Water to Wine

^{1a} On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee.




Source: https://o.quizlet.com/2PrIGNPFupOqu0V3k-vKyA_b.jpg

Q1. What happened three days before this Cana wedding event [see John 1:33]?

Lesson 3: John 2:1-25


Q2. How would you describe a Jewish wedding?

 Weddings in Jesus' day were week-long festivals. Banquets would be prepared for many guests, and the week would be spent celebrating the new life of the married couple. Often the whole town [village] was invited, and everyone would come – it was considered an insult to refuse an invitation to a wedding. To accommodate many people, careful planning was needed. To run out of wine was more than embarrassing: it broke the strong unwritten laws of hospitality. Jesus was about to respond to a heartfelt need. [The Life Application Bible, New International Version, ©1973, 1978, 1984, published by Tyndale House Publishers and Zondervan Publishing; page 1,874]


^{1b} Jesus' mother was there, ² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

⁴ "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied, "My time has not yet come."

Q3. Why did Jesus address His mother as “Dear woman”?


 ‘Dear woman’: “This term, as used here, seems to imply reproof, as if she was interfering in that which did not properly concern her; but it is evident that no such reproof or disrespect was intended by the use of the term ‘woman’ instead of ‘mother’. It is the same term by which he tenderly addressed . . . his mother when he was on the cross, John 19:26.” [©1834, Notes on the Bible by Albert Barnes. <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/john/2-4.htm>]

Q4. Why did He respond with these words, “My time has not yet come”?

 “‘My time’: The proper time for my interposing. Perhaps the wine was not yet entirely exhausted. The wine had begun to fail, but he would not work a miracle until it was entirely gone, that the miracle might be free from all possibility of suspicion. It does not mean that the proper time for his working a miracle, or [beginning] his public work had not come, but that the proper time for his interposing there had not arrived.” [©1834, Notes on the Bible by Albert Barnes; <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/john/2-4.htm>]


Lesson 3: John 2:1-25

Day 2

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

Q5. Why did Mary say this after Jesus' apparent refusal in verse 4. . . or did He refuse?

 To us this conversation seems confrontational, even bordering on rude; especially when Jesus addressed His mother as "Woman." However, "woman" was an endearing term common to the time. The responsibility for the care of an aging mother would typically fall to the eldest son. When Jesus was hanging from the cross, He asked His beloved friend and disciple John – the writer of this Gospel – to care for His mother, and used the same title in addressing her [see John 19:26-27].

⁶ Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

⁷ Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so, they filled them to the brim.

⁸ Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet."

They did so, ^{9a} and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew.

Q6. As you read verse 6, what do you think the servants thought as they filled the stone jars with about 150 gallons of water (average of 25 gallons per jar times six)?

Q7. As you read verse 8, the servants obeyed Jesus and took some "water" to the "master of the banquet". What were the servants thinking as they carried the "water" to the master? Could they smell the bouquet from the – now – wine? Could they see that the colorless water was now purplish?

Thoughts?

Wine bouquet (fragrance)?

Color?

Lesson 3: John 2:1-25

^{9b} Then he called the bridegroom aside ¹⁰ and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

¹¹ This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.


Q8. What do you think the disciples thought? What did the servants think?

Disciples?

Servants?


Lesson 3: John 2:1-25

Day 3

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Jesus Clears the Temple

¹² After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother and brothers and his disciples. There they stayed for a few days.

 Look at the map on page #1 of this StudySheet. Capernaum is located on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee (circled near the top of the map).


¹³ When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Q9. What is the Jewish Passover?

 Passover, or Pesach in Hebrew, is one of the Jewish religion's most sacred and widely observed holidays. In Judaism, Passover commemorates the story of the Israelites' departure from ancient Egypt, which appears in the Hebrew Bible's books of Exodus, Numbers and Deuteronomy, among other texts. Jews observe the weeklong festival with a number of important rituals, including a traditional Passover meal known as a seder, the removal of leavened products from their home, the substitution of matzo for bread and the retelling of the exodus tale. <https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/Passover>




<https://bibleencyclopedia.com/gs400px/pppas0353.jpg>

 The complete Biblical narrative of the Passover is told in Exodus 12. (It is too long to be included herein.)

Lesson 3: John 2:1-25

Day 4

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¹⁴ In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. ¹⁵ So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.

Q10. What is the purpose of the Temple? (Worship? Sacrifice? Profiteering? Priest's side hustle?)

Mark 12:28-34

²⁸ One of the teachers of the law [Jewish religious leader] came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked Him, 'Of all the commandments, which is the most important?'

²⁹ 'The most important one,' answered Jesus, 'is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these.'

³² 'Well said, teacher,' the man replied. 'You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but Him. ³³ To love Him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.'

³⁴ When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, He said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

Psalm 100:1-5

¹ Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. ² Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. ³ Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. ⁵ For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Lesson 3: John 2:1-25

Exodus 29:38-45 [In Moses' time, the Jewish people worshipped and sacrificed in a Tent that was constructed per God's specifications and – with much effort – transportable, which was required as they wandered forty years in the desert.]

³⁸ “This is what you are to offer on the altar regularly each day: two lambs a year old. ³⁹ Offer one in the morning and the other at twilight. ⁴⁰ With the first lamb offer a tenth of an ephah [about 3 1/2 pounds or about 1.6 kilograms] of fine flour mixed with a quarter of a hin [about 1 quart or about 1 liter] of oil from pressed olives, and a quarter of a hin of wine as a drink offering. ⁴¹ Sacrifice the other lamb at twilight with the same grain offering and its drink offering as in the morning – a pleasing aroma, an offering made to the Lord by fire.

⁴² “For the generations to come this burnt offering is to be made regularly at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting before the Lord. There I will meet you and speak to you; ⁴³ there also I will meet with the Israelites, and the place will be consecrated by my glory. ⁴⁴ “So I will consecrate the Tent of Meeting and the altar and will consecrate Aaron and his sons to serve me as priests. ⁴⁵ Then I will dwell among the Israelites and be their God.”

Q11. The Jewish religious leadership had approved of the commerce occurring within the temple walls. Why then was Jesus in such an outrage against the commercialization occurring within the Temple?

Q12. In verses 14&15 (↑), why didn't the temple guards, priests, or sellers stop Jesus? [For example, we know through Luke 22:52 (↓) that temple guards existed.]

Luke 22:52-53

⁵² Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs? ⁵³ Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour – when darkness reigns."

¹⁶ To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!"

Q13. Why were they selling 'doves' in the temple?


Leviticus 5:7-10 [The Message]

“If you can't afford a lamb, bring as your penalty to God for the sin you have committed two doves or two pigeons, one for the Absolution-Offering and the other for the Whole-Burnt-Offering. . .

“In this way, the priest will make atonement for your sin and you're forgiven.

Lesson 3: John 2:1-25

Day 5

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¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me." [Psalm 69:9]

¹⁸ Then the Jews demanded of him, "What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?"

¹⁹ Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."

Q14. To what "temple" was Jesus referring?

2nd Corinthians 6:14-18 [An excerpt from Paul's 2nd letter to the Corinthian church.]

¹⁴ Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? ¹⁵ What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols?


For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people."

¹⁷ "Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you."

¹⁸ "I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."


²⁰ The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" ²¹ But the temple he had spoken of was his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

Q15. What "Scripture" did they believe?

 The various books and letters (epistles) that would comprise the New Testament had not yet been written. The scrolls that comprise the Old Testament (in the Holy Bible) were meticulously hand-copied by scribes from the tribe of Levi. The common people would listen intently to Scripture readings during Sabbath services and as part of the curriculum in temple-school classrooms. Many students memorized extensive amounts of Scripture. Most synagogues (and some wealthy Jews) would have copies of Scripture from which they could read and teach.

Lesson 3: John 2:1-25

Day 6

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²³ Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many people saw the miraculous signs he was doing and believed in his name. ²⁴ But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all men.

Q16. Why didn't Jesus entrust Himself to the people who "believed in His Name"?

John 6:14-15

¹⁴ After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵ Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

²⁵ He did not need man's testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man.

Q17. Why didn't Jesus want man's testimony?

Q18. How do you explain the phrase "he knew what was in a man"?

Q19. What is the dictionary definition of *omniscient*?

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