

THE MEANING OF THIS SIGN

TEXT: *John 2:14: And found in the Temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting.*

No efforts of men after true happiness can be successful without His gift of infinite grace. His wine is needed to fully satisfy the heart of man. ***“Thou hast kept the good wine until now.”*** Those who drink of His “wine” are fully conscious that it is the very best that you can get on earth. Christ-less pleasures are lifeless and soon wither.

John 2:10: And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now.



This miracle was the manifestation of:

1. The glory of His all-sufficient Grace



The first word uttered by Jesus on this great occasion was significant - “FILL”. How characteristic this is of the liberality of His gracious heart. ***“Fill the water pots”***. He Who is ‘full of grace’ delights to give fullness of blessings.

John 2:7: Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.

Less than 130 gallons might have sufficed, but this was to be a manifestation of His grace, so He gives exceedingly and abundantly, above all their expectations. Every water jar was filled. He gives as much as we have room. Open the mouth of thy expectation wide and He will fill it.

2. The glory of His transforming power

The water was made wine. The first miracle of Moses, by whom the law was given, was to turn water into blood. The first miracle of Him, by Whom Grace and Truth came, was to turn water into wine. Moses' water to blood speaks of judgment, Jesus' water to wine of fullness of joy.

John 2:9: When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom,



The most common mercy in life can, by Him, be changed into the richest of blessings. Not only common mercies, but **richest of blessings** to common men, like Peter and John. He can transform them by His wonder-working power into vessels made for the Master's use.

Every soul converted to God has been as definitely and as successfully operated upon by the Lord Jesus, as when He turned water into wine. The performing of this sign was the evidencing of His ability.

2 Corinthians 5:17: Therefore if any man can be in Christ, he is a new creature old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.

Romans 12:1-2: I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, Will of God.

3. The glory of His superlative character

John 2:10: And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk,

then that which is worse: But thou hast kept the good wine until now.

“But thou hast kept the good wine until now.” The last statement is better than the first one. The converted life is better than the purest of unconverted lives, as wine is richer than water. Christ could do nothing else but give “the best”, as His words and works are true manifestations of His real character. **Christ alone is the Maker of the wine which brings gladness without sorrow. All other wines manufactured by others to cheer the heart of man are but deceptive imitations.**

Christ gives the BEST: The best joy; the best peace; the best hope; the best promises; the best friendship; the best reward.

Godliness is profitable for the life that now is, as well as that which is to come. If your life has not been changed by the power of Jesus Christ, the best is yet in store for you.

Psalms 38:4: O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in Him.

As good as His wine is now, there is yet something better. It is kept for when we shall gather at the “Marriage Supper of the LAMB”. THOU hast kept the best until now.



Akron Shalom Bible Learning Center
www.AkronShalomMinistries.org