

# The Water Pots of Cana

## *The Life of Jesus*

*A Three Year Ministry Changing the World Forever*

*Presented Chronologically in Harmony with the Gospels*

**John 2:1-11 (NIV)**

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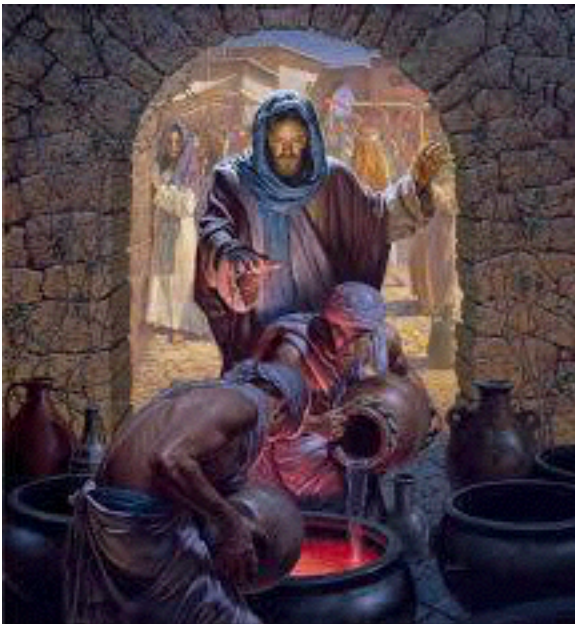
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### *Thesis:*

*Jesus not only fills that which is empty but abundantly responds beyond what we need.*

### Objectives:

- I. INVITATION
- II. INTERCESSION
- III. INSTRUCTION
- IV. INSTRUMENTS
- V. INSPIRATION

### Introduction:

Continuing the Life of Jesus we examine His miracle done at Cana of Galilee at a wedding. In the Life of Jesus we have dealt with the Introduction and Background to Jesus life. This background was inclusive of Jesus genealogies. The next step in our journey dealt with the birth and Childhood of Jesus. This began with the pronouncement and birth of John the Baptizer. The period of childhood ends with Jesus visit to the Temple in Luke 2:41-52. Tony preached that lesson 2 Sundays ago on the 17th entitled "I Must Be About My Father's Business". We currently are in the section of Jesus life that can be called, "Preparation for Jesus Ministry throughout Palestine". This period begins with the ministry of John the Baptist and will end with the Samaritan woman at the well in John 4:5-42, there are 11 events in all in this period. Our lesson today is the 6th of the 11.

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The Preparation we speak of here primarily belongs to the world and secondarily to Jesus. He has been prepared for an eternity but we are not ready and are in need of being prepared. John's Baptism is a consecration, a preparation to get the world ready for the Savior. In Cana of Galilee we get a glimpse of the awesome power and potential of King Jesus the Christ as he turns Water into Wine using some ordinary water pots.

There are 5 things from this text I would like to introduce that are necessary for you and I to participate in the salvation, promise and potential of the world's Messiah. So let's enjoy and take in this message of salvation as we continue the life of Jesus considering, "The Water Pots of Cana"...

## Sermon Outline:

### I. INVITATION

**John 2:1,2 (above)**

- A. If we want to participate in the salvation, promise and potential of the world's Messiah, we must first invite Jesus into our lives. Jesus was invited to the wedding at Cana in Galilee. If Jesus had not been invited to that wedding the miracle would not have happened. It is necessary to invite Jesus into every area of our lives.
- B. An invitation alone will not be enough to walk with the Lord of Glory. You must move beyond the simple acceptance of Jesus in your life, because all mankind will be confronted with the reality of Jesus. You do not want to be the one that has not extended an invitation to Him who can save your soul.

### II. INTERCESSION

**John 2:3,4 (above)**

- A. The next step for participation in the salvation, potential and promises of God is to make intercession before the Lord, and to make our requests known to Him. At the wedding in Cana when they ran out of

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wine, Mary the mother of Jesus made it known to Jesus. We must also take all our burdens to the Lord. Instead of rushing to our friends and relatives to share our needs, we must first take it to the Lord and cast our burdens upon Him.

1. Make it known you need saving...
2. Make it known you need His help...
3. Make it known and be humble before Him.

### **Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)**

<sup>6</sup> And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

### **Psalms 55:22 (NIV)**

<sup>22</sup> Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

- B. If you are out of wine and need help, turn to Jesus. If you are lost in your sins, lost and have no hope, if you do not know the way of salvation, turn to Jesus.

## III. INSTRUCTION

### **John 2:5 (above)**

- A. The third step is to be taught preceding obedience to the commandments of the Lord. At the wedding in Cana, Mary, the mother of Jesus told the servants to do whatever Jesus commanded them to do. It was obedience to the instructions of Jesus that enabled them to experience the miracle. We must be careful to obey the instructions that the Lord gives to us. We must live according to the word of God.
- B. No instruction, no obedience. No obedience, no miracle. Without Jesus instructions you cannot be saved, you cannot participate in His Kingdom, you will not avail yourself the potential of His teachings.

### **Psalms 128:1 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in obedience to him.

### **1 Peter 1:14 (NIV)**

<sup>14</sup> As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.

### **Jeremiah 7:23 (NIV)**

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<sup>23</sup> but I gave them this command: Obey me, and I will be your God and you will be my people. Walk in obedience to all I command you, that it may go well with you.

### **2 John 6 (NIV)**

<sup>6</sup> And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.

C. Obedience assumes instruction and all must obey Jesus.



## IV. INSTRUMENTS

### **John 2:6 (above)**

A. The Lord uses instruments to perform His miracle. At the wedding in Cana the Lord used the water and the pots that was available to perform a miracle. Jesus used five loaves and two fishes that was available to feed the five thousand. The Lord can use whatever we have to perform miracles. He can use even ordinary vessels to reveal His power. We should allow the Lord to use whatever we have for His glory.

B. In addition we should see ourselves as empty water pots. At first we are used for the washing of feet and cleaning of hands. In our first condition it was as if we were full of dirty wash water.

### **Isaiah 64:6 (NIV)**

<sup>6</sup> All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

C. Jesus can take the ordinary instrument (water pot/ you and I) and cause it to be an instrument for noble purposes.

### **Jeremiah 18:6 (NIV)**

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<sup>6</sup> He said, "Can I not do with you, Israel, as this potter does?" declares the Lord. "Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, Israel.

D. Yield yourself to God an instrument to be used as He pleases.

## V. INSPIRATION

### **John 2:7,8,11 (above)**

- A. Here Jesus was invited to intervene and performed a miracle by turning the water into wine and His disciples believed on Him. The miracle that Jesus performed inspired the disciples and caused them to develop a strong faith in the Lord.
- B. Today we can read about all Jesus miracles and gain inspiration.
  - 1. An inspiration that can save your soul.
  - 2. An inspiration that can direct your steps.
  - 3. An Inspiration which develops hope.

### **1 Thessalonians 1:3 (NIV)**

<sup>3</sup> We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Jeremiah 32:40 (NIV)**

<sup>40</sup> I will make an everlasting covenant with them: I will never stop doing good to them, and I will inspire them to fear me, so that they will never turn away from me.

### **Revelation 22:6 (NIV)**

<sup>6</sup> The angel said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. The Lord, the God who inspires the prophets, sent his angel to show his servants the things that must soon take place."

- C. Jesus words are trustworthy and they should inspire you to obey Him that you might become noble water pots who stream forth the best wine that man can taste.

## Conclusion:

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1. Be sure to **invite** Jesus into your life today. Not a mere mental exercise but a genuine accept of His presence which includes obeying His commands.
2. Lay all your burdens upon Him **interceding** and trusting that He is faithful with all you entrust to Him.
3. Here His **instruction**, for without it you are lost and without direction. **Jeremiah 10:23 (NIV)**  
<sup>23</sup> Lord, I know that people's lives are not their own; it is not for them to direct their steps.
4. Are you ready to yield yourself to the Lord as being prepared to be a noble **instrument**? Turn your life over to Him who can save you.
5. Have you been **inspired** by this message of salvation, promise and potential? If so here are the Lord's instructions to participate in His Kingdom.



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### **HEAR**

#### **Luke 6:47–49 (ESV)**

<sup>47</sup> Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: <sup>48</sup> he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. <sup>49</sup> But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great."

### **BELIEVE**

#### **Hebrews 11:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

#### **James 2:24 (ESV)**

<sup>24</sup> You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.

### **REPENT**

#### **Acts 17:30 (ESV)**

<sup>30</sup> The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,

#### **Acts 26:20 (ESV)**

<sup>20</sup> but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance.



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### **CONFESS**

#### **Matthew 10:32–33 (ESV)**

<sup>32</sup> So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, <sup>33</sup> but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

#### **Romans 10:9–10 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup> because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

### **BE BAPTIZED**

#### **Romans 6:3–4 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

#### **1 Peter 3:21 (ESV)**

<sup>21</sup> Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

### **REMAIN STEADFAST**

#### Galatians 5:4 (ESV)

<sup>4</sup> You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace.

#### 1 Corinthians 10:12 (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.