

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What important part did the mother of Jesus take in this miracle? The servants?
2. Do you think Jesus had a reason for having the water pots filled with water?
3. What is the reason for the new wine being better than the old?
4. What was the purpose of this miracle?

SUMMARY:

When Jesus and His disciples were invited to the marriage at Cana, He was just beginning His ministry. He had been baptized by John the Baptist and had called His disciples, but had not yet publicly begun His ministry. He seemed to be taken by surprise that His mother expected Him to do something about the wine. She evidently had the faith He could help and the servants were obedient in filling the water pots. So together they furnished the faith and obedience, so necessary on the part of man, in obtaining a response from Jesus. The response in this case was miraculously turning the water to wine.

This new wine, contrary to nature, was better than the old, proving both that this was really a miracle and that what Jesus supplies for us is better than what we can supply.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #3

January 16, 2005

First Quarter

THE WORKER OF MIRACLES

LESSON TEXT: John 2:1-11

LESSON SETTING: In the village of Cana of Galilee at a wedding feast.

TIME: Approximately 29 A.D.

- I. A JOYOUS OCCASION.** John 2:1-2
 - A. A Wedding Feast. Esther 2:18; Genesis 29:22
- II. AN EMBARRASSED HOST.** John 2:3-5
 - A. In Need (vs. 3) John 6:9
 - B. Faith in Jesus (vs. 5) Matthew 9:18; John 11:21-22
- III. A MIRACULOUS SUPPLY.** John 2:6-11
 - A. Obedience to Christ (vs. 7) Matthew 4:20; John 14:23
 - B. Jesus' Power Over Nature. Matthew 14:20, 25; Matthew 17:27; Mark 4:39
 - C. Abundant Supply. John 10:10; Philippians 4:19

GOLDEN TEXT: *WHATSOEVER HE SAITH UNTO YOU, DO IT.*

John 2:5

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: John 3:1-16

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Numbers 21:1-9;

Jeremiah 31:31-34;

Romans 3:21-31

GOLDEN TEXT: *YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN.*

John 3:7

When we are born into this world we already have the sentence of death over us. "Wherefore as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." (Romans 5:12) Our souls also are under this sentence. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." (Ezekiel 18:20)

TOPIC: THE NEW BIRTH

INTRODUCTION:

What is a born-again Christian? How is a person reborn? We are told that we become a new creature as we rise from the grave (baptismal) to a newness of life. But, actually, what is a new creature? How has he been born again?

All of us before becoming a Christian cater to the self within us, listening to and obeying his demands, choosing to be controlled by him. We put him on a pedestal and self becomes our idol. This self may cause us to commit many sins until at last this burden is so great that self becomes repulsive to us and we cry out for deliverance. Christ provides this deliverance if we repent for our sins and accept Him as our Savior, our Lord and Master. He then enters our heart and self (sin) has to be put down, and must give up the pedestal he has been occupying. Christ has conquered him by His death on the cross. Self is vanquished. We are born again and become a different personality. Christ is first and our choice is to serve Him. Self must be ignored and can be, if we permit Christ to have full reign of our being.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Men enter into God's kingdom only through the new birth.

It is only through Jesus, the only One who has immortality (1 Timothy 6:16) that man can attain eternal life. He taught Nicodemus and all who read the recorded Word that salvation must be through a second birth.

Just as Jesus was born into the flesh for death, man can be born into the Spirit for life.

Who by water and the Spirit

Is not truly born again

He will heaven not inherit,

This the Word of God makes plain;

Man must here give up his nature,

And become a new-born creature,

If when life is ended here,

He would enter glory there!

Z.H. 187:1

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF January 17 - 23

M. The New Birth Needed. Psalm 51:1-9

T. The New Birth Desired. Psalm 51:10-19

W. The New Birth Offered. Isaiah 55:1-11

T. *The New Birth Sought. John 3:1-8

F. *The New Birth Explained. John 3:9-16

S. The New Birth Provided. Romans 3:21-31

S. The New Birth's Inheritance. 1 Peter 4-16