



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – June 28, 2020

To Know Christ...

There was going to be a first miracle in the life of Christ. Miracles were not centered around the “wow” factor, but they seemed to have that effect on people. Miracles were about confirming the word, the teaching of Jesus, as being from His Heavenly Father (apply Mark 16:20 & Acts 14:3). When you read about the miracles of Jesus, do not simply be amazed by what Jesus does (even though it is extremely impressive), listen to what He is teaching. That is the most important part of any miracle with Jesus.

Now let's look at the first miracle of Jesus. John chapter two sets the record straight, and lets us know it was the first miracle of Jesus (v11). Stop and go read John 2:1-11. No, I mean really stop and go read it ... ok, now let's continue. If you noticed, this is the third day Jesus' disciples have been with Him (v1). Jesus and His disciples have been invited to a wedding, along with Mary, Jesus' mother. Mary tells Jesus “They have no wine.” Jesus responds, “My hour has not yet come.” In other words, it's not My time yet. Where's the teaching? What will this miracle confirm? Then Mary tells the servants, not the disciples, not the crowd, not the bride or groom, but the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it.” Pause for a second here, if you really want to see the POWER of Jesus, then we must heed her statement too, “Whatever He says to you, do it!” There were 6 large stone waterpots, each would hold 20-30 gallons a piece. So, we are talking 120-180 gallons worth. Jesus said “Fill the waterpots with water.” And they obeyed; they filled the waterpots to the brim. (Is that the way we apply Jesus' commands? to the BRIM!) I wonder how long it took them to fill 180 gallons worth of water. I don't know, but it took time and effort. Then Jesus told the servants to take this water turned to wine to the headwaiter. The headwaiter tasted it, and declared it to be the good wine. (disclaimer: this article isn't about wine consumption ... pay attention here.) The headwaiter even tells the bridegroom about it (I'm guessing the bridegroom must have looked puzzled about it all). The servants who obeyed had witnessed the miracle.

Jesus' first miracle is not about a spoken teaching, like the others, but it is the first. It was not the beginning of being publicly known, but the servants knew. The disciples had been with Jesus for 3 days. The only ones who really knew about it were the ... obedient servants! The servants learned that day what the bridegroom & headwaiter would only have to learn was true. Jesus' first miracle declares ... the Creator is Here! God is with Us! Listen to Him! Wine usually takes 10-21 days to ferment from the natural sugars after yeast is added. Jesus does it in moments not days. Who can change elements, molecules, fermentation compounds, and time? THE CREATOR! (I wonder if wine makers ever think about that?) The servants obeyed Jesus' commands and filled the stone waterpots to the brim; and they were introduced to Jesus, the Creator of all creation. If we, the created, fulfill His commands, we'll see the Creator's power too! Since Jesus reigns over all the atoms and elements that comprise everything in this creation, why not fill our lives to the brim with Him and His commands? Then we, the created servants, will see the glory of the Creator too! (Read John 2:11 again, what did the disciples see?)

- Carey Terry