

Morning Sermon Outline – September 17, 2017
“Weddings, Wine and a Son Divine” John 2:1-11

John’s Gospel and the OT -

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1 NKJ)

Compares to

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1 NKJ)

In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.⁵ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (John 1:4-5 NKJ)

Compares to

Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. (Genesis 1:3 NKJ)

All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. (John 1:3 NKJ) John 1:3 - Tells us, Jesus had at least a role in our creation. He had a role along with the other members of the Godhead.

However, we would be wrong, if we thought Jesus was just quoting the Old Testament, no, no, no rather he, by God’s grace is enlightening us -

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! (John 1:29 NKJ)

When John the Baptist is quoted saying, “Behold the Lamb of God...” John the Apostle is telling us, teaching us that Jesus replaces every Old Testament lamb, even all Old Testament sacrifices! They were all meant to point us to Jesus!

When John tells us what Jesus says to Nathaniel, And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man." (John 1:51 NKJ)

He is telling us Jesus is the TRUE LADDER between Heaven and Earth which Jacob dreamed of – Genesis 28:10-17

And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!" (Genesis 28:17 NKJ)

I. This connection to Genesis / and the Old Testament continues with John 2, and John’s account of the Wedding at Cana –

1. See Jesus having a role in the original institution of marriage –
And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.²² Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.²³ And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man."²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.²⁵ And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. (Genesis 2:21-25 NKJ)

He instituted marriage in Genesis 2, He blesses a wedding with His first miracle in John 2 - This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him. (John 2:11 NKJ)

- A. These passages establish marriage, between a man and a woman as a God-given / Christ blessed institution. They work as a condemnation of every belief that would distort this institution!*
- B. Christ’s blessing this wedding with wine, shows He agrees with God’s original thoughts on marriage –*

And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." (Genesis 2:18 NKJ)

God intended we have companionship, encouragement in marriage, this does not mean unmarried people are sinning –

But I want you to be without care. He who is unmarried cares for the things of the Lord-- how he may please the Lord. (1 Corinthians 7:32 NKJ)

II. John’s including of this miracle is also meant to demonstrate Jesus’ superiority over Moses –

For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. (John 1:17 NKJ)

1. *Moses gave us the law, which can only condemn sin, and Moses' miracles tended to be miracles of judgment –*

And Moses and Aaron did so, just as the LORD commanded. So he lifted up the rod and struck the waters that *were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants. And all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.* (Exodus 7:20 NKJ)

2. *Jesus will die and take away the penalty of sin and so His miracles are not miracles of judgment, but rather of grace –*

Jesus said to them, "Fill the waterpots with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ And He said to them, "Draw *some* out now, and take *it* to the master of the feast." And they took *it*. ⁹ When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. ¹⁰ And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the *guests* have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!" (John 2:7-10 NKJ)

What a dramatic difference between Jesus' and Moses' miracles –



The Ten Plagues of Egypt



"how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. (Acts 10:38 NKJ)

This change, this improvement is seen even in the change in our covenant signs: for instance, the Passover, involving a bloody sacrifice, is replaced by the Lord's Supper, including wine!

- III. *John's including this miracle should make us look forward to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb –*

⁷ "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." ⁸ And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God." (Revelation 19:7-9 NKJ)

1. *Jesus' marriage supper is called, the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, "The lamb" because we who will marry Him, His church are the same He died for -*

"for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹ And He took bread, gave thanks and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." ²⁰ Likewise He also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup *is* the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you. (Luke 22:18-20 NKJ)

2. *The Lord's Supper points us to another supper – THE SHULAMITE TO THE DAUGHTERS OF JERUSALEM He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love. (Song of Solomon 2:4 NKJ)*

- A. *Love, for Christ, is key to dining with Christ – Better is a dinner of herbs where love is (where Jesus is), than a fatted calf with hatred. (Proverbs 15:17 NKJ)*

- B. *He knocks on the doors of our hearts –*
¹⁵ "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. ¹⁶ "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. ¹⁷ "Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'-- and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked-- ¹⁸ "I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, *that* the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. ¹⁹ "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. ²⁰ "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. (Revelation 3:14-20 NKJ)