

Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders. **And there are many other traditions that they observe.** ⁵ And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶ And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me”. **Mark 7**

- The largest and most elaborate section of the *Mishna* [Collection of Oral traditions of Jewish Law] – 30 chapters - dealt with **outward purification** (hands and vessels)
 - Jesus has the purification jars **filled** to the brim and then draws out **abundant, new, superior** wine (joy, blessing, celebration).
 - OT prophecy of the Messianic age: **Freely flowing wine** [Joel 3:18, Amos 9:13]

**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Cor 5:17**



love the Lord
love our neighbor
make disciples



The Jesus Series: The First of the Signs **3.11.2018 || John 2:1-11**

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, ² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, “They have no more wine.”

⁴ “Woman, why do you involve me?” Jesus replied. “My hour has not yet come.” ⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” ⁶ Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

⁷ Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water”; so they filled them to the brim. ⁸ Then he told them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.” They did so, ⁹ and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside ¹⁰ and said, “Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.”

¹¹ What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The FIRST of the Signs

A **sign** is a significant display of power that points beyond itself to deeper realities that must be perceived with faith. [DA Carson]

The first main section of John is often called 'The Book of Signs'

John's Purpose Statement

³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

20:30-31

Why THIS Sign?

Gk *oinos* = wine. [Eph 5:18 Do not get drunk on *oinos*]

In Jewish [OT] thought wine is a symbol of **joy**, **blessing**, and **celebration**

John 2:1-11

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, ² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.

- In Jn 1:49, Nathanael declares Jesus, the **Son of God and King of Israel**.
- In response Jesus calls himself the **Son of Man**
 - This was Jesus' favorite designation for himself
 - The Son of Man refers to **humanity** [Ps 8:4]
 - The Son of Man refers to **divinity** [Dan 7]
 - The Son of Man in John's Gospel: Humiliation **then** Exaltation

³ *When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."* ⁴ *"Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come."* ⁵ *His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."*

- Mary brought the issue to Jesus, but she probably did not anticipate a **miracle**
 - She had learned absolute **confidence** in her son
- Jesus' response shows a polite **separation**
 - Mary would need to learn a new **relationship**
 - He was taking leave of his home. **No one** could direct Him except His Father in Heaven
- '**My Hour**' refers to his death and resurrection.
 - The **bridegroom** was responsible for providing food and drink at a **Marriage** celebration
 - Jesus would one day preside over his own marriage celebration [Rev 19:7-10], but it was not yet time
- Mary left the issue with Jesus, trusting He **would** do what was **best**

⁶ *Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.* ⁷ *Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. ⁸ Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, ⁹ and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine.*

- Symbolically, this Jewish wedding represents the barrenness of the Jewish **religious system**
 - 'The **wine** (*joy, blessing, celebration*) has **failed**'.
 - Jesus repurposes the stone jars used in the Jewish system of **purification**