

# John 2:1-11

## The Text of John 2:1-11

**John 2:1-2** - *“(1) And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there. (2) And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage”.*

A. It is unclear what “the third day” was. So, for discussion only, consider two possibilities wherein there could certainly be more...

1. It could have been the third day after Jesus’ discussion with Nathanael (**John 1:47-51**).
2. It could have been the third day of the wedding feast, as many feasts certainly lasted more than one day (**Leviticus 23:39, Numbers 29:12, and Judges 14:10-15**).

B. It was not something extremely abnormal for godly individuals to be invited to such feasts (cf. **I Corinthians 10:27**).

1. Jesus tried to be all things to all men (**I Corinthians 9:19-23** and **Romans 15:2**) without sinning (**I Corinthians 10:31** and **Galatians 1:10; 5:13**).
2. Many did not appreciate what Jesus was trying to do when He was “being sociable” (**Luke 7:31-35**).

**John 2:3-4** - *“(3) And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. (4) Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.”*

A. They were out of wine and wanted more... *“(11) Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them! (12) And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the LORD, neither consider the operation of his hands. (13) Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honourable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst” (Isaiah 5:11-13).*

B. What of Jesus’ answer to His mother, “what have I to do with thee”?

1. Jesus knows He is to honor His mother (**Matthew 15:3-4**).
2. This is not the first time He was “short” with Mary (**Luke 2:39-52**).
3. Everyone needed to realize that the earthly relationship does not supersede the spiritual relationship (**Mark 3:31-35**).

**John 2:5-10** - *“(5) His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it. (6) And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. (7) Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. (8) And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it. (9) When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water*

*that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, (10) And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now."*

A. We know that Jesus did not even entertain the thought of providing alcohol at this feast, for such would violate His own law (**I Peter 4:1-5**) and that of the Old Law (**Isaiah 5:22**).

1. For one, the word "wine" does not necessarily imply fermented wine (**Isaiah 65:8**).
2. He would have been encouraging carnal mindedness and violating His own law in doing so (**Matthew 26:41, Romans 8:5-8, Romans 8:12-13, Romans 13:14, II Corinthians 7:1, Galatians 5:16-21, Galatians 5:24, and I Peter 2:11**).
3. By providing alcohol He would have been teaching it was okay to have social drinking and partying about, both of which He says is sinful (**I Peter 4:1-5**).
4. To be clear, Jesus never sinned (**Hebrews 4:14-16 and I Peter 2:21-22**). This is key because if Jesus made alcohol for others to drink, that would have been a sin (**Habakkuk 2:15**).

B. The feast had lasted long enough for those there to be "well drunk" [methuō; Strong's # 3184; "intoxicated"].

1. Would Jesus have fed them more alcohol so they could be more wasted (**Proverbs 31:4-5, Romans 12:1-3, Titus 2:1-6, Titus 2:11-14, I Peter 1:13, I Peter 4:7, and I Peter 5:8**)?
2. Would Jesus have made something others should not have been around (**Proverbs 23:20-21**) or even looked upon (**Proverbs 23:29-35**)?
3. Jesus is deity (**Romans 9:5**) and God does not tempt people to cause them to err (**James 1:13-16**).

**John 2:11** – *"This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him."*

A. Miracles testified of who Christ was (**John 3:2 and Acts 2:22**).

1. Miracles were intended to prove the messenger was of God (**Mark 16:15-20 and Hebrews 2:3-4**).
2. Miracles were often not enough when people did not want to see the truth behind the miracle (**Numbers 14:11 and John 12:38-41**).

B. Sometimes, the message was missed when the miracle became a show (**John 4:46-48**).

1. If people will not hear the word of God they cannot be saved (**Luke 16:27-31; cf. Romans 1:16 and Romans 10:17**).
2. Whether it is food, drink, or anything else; Jesus wants workers rather than people seeking to be entertained (**John 6:1-27**).