

John 2:1-11
October 12, 1986
Rome Ga.
March 22, 2014

Open:

The Master's Call - from Marty Robbin's *Gunfighter album*. (*text on last page*) This is a dramatic presentation of a cowboy's salvation – and of the masters Call – **but it palls when compared to the drama in 1:34-51** – the call of the disciples. (*see end of message for the song*) Annette and I listened to Marty Robbins, The Masters Call on Saturday 3/15/14, on Youtube, *The Gunfighters* album) her parents had this album when she was a child.

Subject: The first miracle; turning water into wine.

Theme: The subjection of the laws of nature to Jesus Christ.

Purpose: The beginning of the public ministry of Christ.

READ Jn. 2:1-11

I. THE MIRACLE EXPECTED OR Mary's faith in God's word concerning the Identity of Christ.
vv.1-5

A. Jesus had done no Miracles as of yet. **v. 11B**. Mary did not doubt the ability of Jesus to preform miracles v. **3 & 5**.

Woman - a term of respect. In the Gk. tragedies it is constantly used in addressing queens and persons of distinction. (Augustus addresses Cleopatra as WOMAN **Gunai**

(Also **Gunai was** a frequently used term with Annette when we were dating.)

"why do you involve Me" common Gk. expression "referred to a difference in realms or relations" (Cf. demons Mark 1:24 **Mark 5:7**)

My time has not yet come... **2:4 7:6, 8,30; 8:20**

Time is come 12:23 13:1 17:1

Although it had been 29 years since His birth and in spite of the fact that Jesus had done no miracles as of yet, Mary still did not doubt the Deity of Jesus.

She had BELIEVED GOD when He had sent messengers to her to tell her of the coming of her child and that He would be the Savior of mankind. The fact that she had seen no empirical evidence did not detract from her faith.

Just so, we must accept the fact of the Deity of Christ even though we don't see miracles all the time.

I suppose that **it would have been easy for Mary to forget just who it was that Jesus was as they were caught up in the mundane tasks of day to day life in a small town.**

Just so, we too sometimes forget just who it is that we are called to serve and to obey.

But then we, as Mary, come to the point where we need a miracle, and we call on our Lord, and HE NEVER FAILS.!

Even when we go for periods of time in our lives when we fail to see the power and might of God working in our day to day affairs, this is no reason to doubt the ability of God to intervene in our lives and supply our needs in a supernatural way.

Even those things which seem to be unnecessary but yet are desirable, God is able to provide.

II. THE MIRACLE DIRECTED OR The miracle itself was conditioned on the obedience of the servants. **vv.5-9**

. **v. 5** Mary's good advise. **"WHATSOEVER HE SAITH TO YOU, DO IT"**

1. **They were not disciples but servants.**

REVIEW OF POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MESSAGE; JTB. DIRECTION will lead to DISCOVERY which should lead to DISSEMINATION which will ensure DEVELOPMENT. (but development thwarted will lead to DESPONDENCY)

2. **They obeyed to the letter.**

"up to the brim" The servants left no room for Jesus to add anything. But by their obedience the miracle was wrought. **120-180 gallons of water.**

Even being around those who are obedient can lead to an increase in our faith. BE IN CHURCH AND AROUND GOD'S PEOPLE.

In this story of the turning of the water into wine, it is interesting to see that Mary commanded those under her authority to be obedient to Christ. She had no authority over Christ's disciples. The servants obeyed through a chain of command and because of their obedience they received a great blessing.

3. **B. Because of their obedience they were given insight into the Person of Christ. v. 9.**

1. **Obedience to Christ results in wisdom and knowledge above that of the rulers of this world.**

Ps. 119:97-100

"Oh how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day. **98** Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies. **99** I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation. **100** I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.

The ruler of the feast was not privy to the Information that the lowly servants had see v. 9!

Meditation. " let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly..." Time must be invested. It takes time to go through the word and it takes time for the word to go through us.

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Experience can be the best teacher - if it is the experience of obeying God's word.

God does not demand of us success or profit - just simple unquestioning obedience

Too many Christians want to KNOW God's will for their life but too few want TO DO God's will. MN!

2. Obedience to Christ results in a revelation of His glory to us. God's love is not a conditional Love but often His revelation of Himself to us is a conditional revelation.

Jn. 14:21 " He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him and will **MANIFEST myself to him.**" see also **v. 23.**

Cf. Jn.7:17 "If a man chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own."

Such was the case of those who had part in the 1st sign. They obeyed and b/c of this the person of Christ was confirmed to them.

Likewise today, we must be obedient to Christ if we are to receive the full measure of that which He would impart of Himself to us.

III. THE MIRACLE UNDETECTED OR The miracle was UNDETECTED by those who were not party to it **vv. 9-10**

A. The headmaster called for the Bridegroom

1. He looked no further than his taste buds for the answer to the riddle
2. **He was searching for an earthly answer to the heavenly wine.**

B. Many men seek an answer from other men but neglect the Lord.

APPLICATION: **When the lord performs a miracle, it might only be observed by those who were looking for a miracle.** The world will not always see the hand of God in the events that they see or are party too. Only those who are faithful to Christ and obedient to God can expect to have the Joy of seeing the providential hand of God in each of the events of life.

"The Old Testament gift of water from the rock is superseded by the gift of wine. Wine becomes the symbol of the spiritual life and joy of the new kingdom." *Expositor's Gk. N.T.*

The significance of this miracle is that Christianity is an advance over Judaism. God has kept the best gift-- HIS SON-- until NOW! **Bkc**

HAVE YOU TASTED AND SEEN THAT THE LORD IS GOOD? **Ps. 34:8** "oh taste and see that the Lord is good: **Blessed is the man who trusteth in Him.**

I. THE MIRACLE EXPECTED

II. THE MIRACLE DIRECTED

III. THE MIRACLE UNDETECTED.

Do you EXPECT miracles from God? Will you let Him Direct you? Or will the work of God in this age go UNDETECTED by you as you exclude Him From your life?

The Master's Call

When I was but a young man I was wild and full of fire
A youth within my teens, but full of challenge and desire
I ran away from home and left my mother and my dad
I know it grieved them so to think their only boy was bad

I fell in with an outlaw band, their names were known quite well
How many times we robbed and plundered, I could never tell
This kind of sinful living leads only to a fall
I learned that much and more the night I heard my Master call

**One night we rustled cattle, a thousand head or so
And started them out on the trail that leads to Mexico
But a norther started blowing and lightning flashed about
I thought someone was calling me, I thought I heard a shout**

**Then at that moment lightning struck not twenty yards from me
And left there was a giant cross where once there was a tree
And this time I knew I heard a voice, a voice so sweet and strange
A voice that came from everywhere, a voice that called my name**

**So frightened I was thinking of sinful deeds I'd done
I failed to see the thousand head of cattle start to run
The cattle they stampeded, were running all around
My pony ran but stumbled and it threw me to the ground**

I felt the end was near, that death would be the price
When a mighty bolt of lightning showed the face of Jesus Christ
And I cried oh Lord forgive me, don't let it happen now
I want to live for you alone, Oh God these words I vow

**My wicked past unfolded, I thought of wasted years
When another bolt of lightning killed a hundred head of steers
And the others rushed on by me and I was left to live
The Master had a reason, life is his to take or give**

A miracle performed that night, I wasn't meant to die
The dead ones formed a barricade least six or seven high
And right behind it there was I, afraid but safe and sound
I cried and begged for mercy kneeling there upon the ground

**A pardon I was granted, my sinful soul set free
No more to fear the angry waves upon life's stormy sea
Forgiven by the love of God, a love that will remain
I gave my life and soul the night the Saviour called my name**