

Soli Deo Gloria

Jesus' First Miracle Was a Revelation

Jesus is powerful

Jesus is merciful

Jesus is the Savior

Intro: Makeover shows are very popular on TV these days. Homes are made over. A person's wardrobe is made over. Even a person's look is made over. One of the basic premises of these shows is that the makeover, whatever it is, is usually hidden from someone. And then, near the end of the show, comes the reveal. When what was made over and hidden is finally shown. At a wedding in Cana, Jesus performed his first miracle. On that day many things were made known about Jesus which had up to this time been hidden. We might say that **Jesus' First Miracle Was a Revelation**. It revealed that 1) **Jesus is powerful**, 2) **Jesus is merciful**, and 3) **Jesus is the Savior**.

I. **Jesus is powerful (text)**

A. Water into wine

1. it was water
  - a. wash your hands!
  - b. we ingrain that truth into our children and we try and do it ourselves
  - c. especially during the cold and flu season
  - d. this washing promotes health and cleanliness
  - e. at the wedding Jesus and his disciples attended
  - f. there were **“six stone water jars...each holding from twenty to thirty gallons”**
  - g. the Jews used this water for washing
  - h. for getting the dirt off their hands and feet
  - i. and for the ceremonial washings of their utensils and bodies
  - j. after being informed about the shortage of wine by his mother Mary
  - k. Jesus instructed the servants on site to fill those empty jars with water
  - l. and that is exactly what they did
  - m. they filled the jars **“with water to the brim”**
  - n. leaving no room for anything to be added later, like wine
  - o. then Jesus told those same servants to **“draw some out”** and **“give it to the master of the banquet”**
  - p. the Greek verb translated ‘draw out’ speaks expressly about drawing *water* out of something
  - q. at the outset, the only thing in those jars was water
2. then it was wine
  - a. but when the master of the banquet tasted what the servants had drawn out
  - b. he tasted wine, quality wine
  - c. because he commended the bridegroom for saving the best *wine* for last

B. Jesus performed a miracle

1. Jesus changed the water into wine
  - a. somewhere along the line, Jesus changed the water into wine
  - b. and he did not touch anything nor say anything to effect the change
  - c. Jesus simply willed it to be and it happened
2. Jesus did a miracle
  - a. when Jesus turned that water into wine
  - b. Jesus performed a miracle
  - c. a miracle is something that is beyond known scientific laws

- d. something that does not normally happen, that is supernatural
3. reveals that Jesus is powerful
  - a. this miracle reveals that Jesus is powerful, in fact, all-powerful
  - b. and that he has the ability to do anything
  - c. even the impossible!
4. application
  - a. do you think your problem or problems are insurmountable?
  - b. are you burdened with a disease or sickness or affliction that seems impossible to cure or fix or overcome?
  - c. have you lost hope that you will ever feel better or that things will get better?
  - d. do not lose hope!
  - e. Jesus has the power to help you
  - f. he can do all things
  - g. he can cure the incurable, solve the unsolvable, and fix the unfixable
  - h. and, unlike a doctor or psychologist, he does not have to touch you or talk to you in order to help you
  - i. he can just will it to be and it will happen
  - j. do not ever lose hope – Jesus has the power to help you

Trans: Jesus' first miracle was a revelation. It revealed that Jesus is powerful. It also revealed that...

II. **Jesus is merciful**

A. Jesus was willing to use his power to help

1. the couple ran out of wine
  - a. have you ever run out of food at a party you've held
  - b. or been at a party where the beverages have run out?
  - c. it is embarrassing, you feel bad for the host
  - d. or, perhaps, you are a little upset that there is nothing left for you
  - e. this bridal couple had run out of wine at their nuptial party
  - f. this could have been quite embarrassing for this couple
  - g. and it could have caused a disruption in their joyous occasion
2. Jesus gave them more wine
  - a. but, when Jesus heard about their dilemma
  - b. he used his almighty power to help this couple
  - c. as we heard before, he made the couple more wine
  - d. and, judging from the size of the water jars, Jesus provided the couple with between 120-180 gallons of wine
  - e. certainly enough to last through the party with some to take home for meals

B. Jesus wants to use his power to help people

1. Jesus is merciful
  - a. this miracle reveals that Jesus is merciful
  - b. that he is willing to use his almighty power to help people
2. Mary knew where to go for help
  - a. when the wine ran out
  - b. Mary immediately turned to Jesus for help
  - c. she knew from Gabriel's message about 30 years prior that her Son was special and that he had great power
  - d. so she turned to him for help in a time of need
3. application
  - a. like Mary, we know that Jesus is special
  - b. from this miracle we know that Jesus is very willing to use his power
  - c. to spare us from embarrassment, pain, trouble, sorrow, and more
  - d. so, like Mary, let us approach Jesus in our trying times

- e. confident that he will use his almighty power to help us
- Trans: Jesus' first miracle was a revelation. It revealed that he is powerful and that he is merciful. And, finally, this miracle revealed that...

### III. Jesus is the Savior

- A. This miracle revealed Jesus' glory
  - 1. Jesus looked like any other guest
    - a. anonymous – that is what Jesus was at the wedding
    - b. that day he looked like any other male wedding guest
    - c. with his glory hidden behind his human frame
  - 2. Jesus' glory revealed by the miracle
    - a. but when Jesus performed this miracle
    - b. what had been hidden for the past thirty years was finally revealed
    - c. this miracle revealed Jesus' glory
    - d. it revealed that Jesus is the Son of God and the Savior of the world
- B. This miracle strengthened the disciples' faith
  - 1. the disciples already had faith in Jesus
    - a. especially to Jesus' first disciples – Peter, Andrew, John, Philip, and Nathaniel
    - b. at this time, these first disciples knew enough to follow Jesus
    - c. they had some measure of faith in him
  - 2. miracle strengthened their faith
    - a. but this miracle gave their faith new evidence of what they already believed
    - b. by this miracle their faith that Jesus is the Savior of the world was made even stronger
  - 3. our faith is strengthened by this miracle
    - a. seeing this miracle also strengthens *our* faith in Jesus
    - b. we have already learned that Jesus is the Savior through the work of the Spirit at our baptism
    - c. but sometimes our faith in Jesus becomes weak
    - d. perhaps because of our continual or habitual sins
    - e. or because of our worrying and lack of trust
    - f. or because of Satan's attacks on it
    - g. or a guilty conscience eating away at it
    - h. seeing this miracle serves to fortify our faith
    - i. because it assures us that Jesus is the Savior, our Savior
    - j. (Jn 1:29, "...the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world")**
    - k. and that he used his almighty power to save us
      - l. when he lived perfectly in the face of Satan's temptations
      - m. when he died an innocent death
      - n. and when he miraculously rose from death three days later
      - o. so that we can be and are free from sin and its curse which is death
      - p. and are able to banquet with Jesus at the heavenly feast forever
      - q. a foretaste of which we have
      - r. as we receive by another miracle of Jesus
      - s. his true body and blood given and poured out for our salvation
      - t. in, with, and under the bread wine of the Sacrament here received

Concl: When Jesus performed his first miracle at Cana, he revealed to his disciples and to us that he is powerful, merciful, and the Savior of the world. In our troubled times in life and in faith let us remember this miracle and be strengthened in our faith and turn to Jesus, trusting that he will use his almighty power to help us.