



Water to Wine:
Change for the Better

John 2:1-11

Water to Wine

- The account of the changing of wash water into the best wine is not merely for the purpose of recounting a noteworthy miracle
- It begins the ministry of Jesus by foreshadowing the transformation He will effect in the lives of all humankind

Water to Wine

- Our lives need to be transformed
 - Rom. 3:23 - “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”
 - Rom. 6:23 - “For the wages of sin is death”

Water to Wine

- Christ can change our lives
 - 2Cor. 5:17 - “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”
 - Rom. 6:4 - “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

Water to Wine

- Even after obeying the gospel, the transformation must continue
 - Eph. 4:22-24 - “That you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.”

Misconceptions Concerning Changing Water To Wine

- “Drinking alcohol as a beverage is acceptable.”
 - The Greek word oinos is translated as wine and can refer to either fermented or unfermented juice from the vine. The fresh, sweet juice of the grape was preferred by Jews
- Jesus would not have violated the Law of Moses
 - Hab. 2:15 - “Woe to him who gives drink to his neighbor, Pressing him to your bottle, Even to make him drunk...”

Misconceptions Concerning Changing Water To Wine

- “This was the first miracle Jesus ever performed.”
 - John 2:11 states it was the 1st miracle He performed in Cana of Galilee.
 - However, in John 1:43-51, Jesus read Nathanael’s heart; but it was in Bethbarra of Judea, not in Cana of Galilee.

Misconceptions Regarding Transforming From Sinner To Saint

- What Jesus turned into wine was not ordinary drinking water, but wash water
- According to the Psalmist, wine was to give joy
 - Psalm 104:15 - “And wine that makes glad the heart of man, Oil to make his face shine, And bread which strengthens man's heart.”
- Many today are drinking spiritual wash water and trying to convince themselves that they are enjoying it.

Misconceptions Regarding Transforming From Sinner To Saint

- Alcoholism - one of every eight people who take the first drink, become alcoholics
- Drug Abuse - 20% of persons between 18-25 abuse drugs; about 40,000 die from it every year
- Sexual Promiscuity - 9 out of 10 people engage in sex outside of marriage
- 4,400 babies are killed by abortion every day.
- 70,000 teachers assaulted each year.
- Crime - 29% of all households in America will become victims of crime this year.
- The world is drinking the wash water of sin and calling it fine wine.

Misconceptions Regarding Transforming From Sinner To Saint

- Some of the religious are drinking wash water
- Salvation by works alone
 - Eph. 2:8-9 - “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.”
- Salvation by faith alone
 - James 2:20, 26 - “But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? ... 26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”

Misconceptions Regarding Transforming From Sinner To Saint

- Some of the religious are drinking wash water
- Substituting God's instructions for Christians
 - 2Tim. 4:3-4 - “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.”
 - Prov. 16:25 - “There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.”

Misconceptions Regarding Transforming From Sinner To Saint

- Some of the religious are drinking wash water
- Substitutions for the Lord's church
 - Eph. 4:4 - "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling"
 - 2Tim. 1:13 - "Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus."

Misconceptions Regarding Transforming From Sinner To Saint

- Lasting and fulfilling happiness in your faith will never be found in doing whatever you want to do.
- Long term happiness, secure fellowship, and a true sense of spiritual self-confidence is only found in doing what God wants.

How To Change From Wash Water To Fine Wine

- Recognize you need Him
 - John 2:3 - “And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, They have no wine.”
- The proud will never be changed by Jesus; we must humble ourselves.
 - Matt. 5:3 - “Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”
 - Rom. 10:3 - “For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God.”

How To Change From Wash Water To Fine Wine

- Obey His instructions
 - John 2:5 - “His mother said to the servants, Whatever He says to you, do it.”
- Never in the Bible did anyone receive a requested blessing from God until he met the condition
- Have this attitude: “As soon as I learn an instruction, I will obey it.”

How To Change From Wash Water To Fine Wine

- Serve Him intensely
 - John 2:7 - “Jesus said to them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.”
 - Matt. 22:37 - “Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’”
 - Ecc. 9:10 - “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.”
- Some try to put very little into it and expect to get a lot out of it.

How To Change From Wash Water To Fine Wine

- Remember that Jesus saves the best till last
 - John 2:10 - “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!”
- As good as our life in Christ is at this point ...
 - John 10:10 - “I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

How To Change From Wash Water To Fine Wine

- ... It will be better later
 - Rev. 21:1-4 - “Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”