

**Sermon Notes of  
Pastor Craig Kuhlman's Sermon on November 10, 2019:**

**"Transformed by the Son of God:  
Encountering Jesus (John 2:1-25)  
(Part 3)"**

**[In today's sermon, Pastor Craig Kuhlman shows us that because Jesus knows each one of us intimately and has cleansed us and has made us righteous, there's no reason for any of us to feel any fear, shame, guilt or doubt.]**

**Notes**

Introduction:

- How many of you have ever thought about what it would be like to have lived in the days of Jesus and to have experiences some of His miracles and signs like the disciples did?
- How many of you thought if you lived in the days of Jesus, your faith would be a lot stronger?
- Well, believe it or not, we are living in Bible times right now, because of our relationship with Jesus.
  
- Question to audience: what are some of the best, the most epic miracles that stand out to you?
- Answers: Lazarus raised from the dead; parting of the Red Sea; the lady who touched Jesus' outer garment was healed; the virgin birth; the feeding of the five thousand, the healing of the man born blind.
  
- What we are going to see today from John chapter 2 is that Jesus' signs and miracles were not a good thing to all the people.
- We have to realize that a strong stimulus won't always produce the same response.
- And we need to remember what Jesus told Thomas; that because he and others see and believe, they were blessed. But those who have not seen but believe are even more blessed.
- And so that applies to us today who haven't personally seen the miracles and signs of Jesus.
  
- Previously we looked at a number of titles that Jesus carried which were transformative in that they identified who Jesus was.
- Now the process of transformation takes three things: knowing, being and doing.
- So, today in John chapter 2, we going to encounter Jesus on the "doing" side.
- We're going to see that Jesus' activities revealed His glory, His zeal and His knowledge.

In Preview of today's message (John 2:1-25) – pastor Craig's rhyming verses:

*We encounter Jesus' glory, through wedding and Wine,  
Recorded in John, as his first Sign.*

*Signs for believing as disciples Did,  
His glory in Cana wasn't Hid.*

*Next in the temple, much to be Sold,  
Stirring Jesus' zeal, making him Bold.  
Coins went flying, tables were Turned,  
Jews now felt, they were Spurned.*

*One last encounter regarding Belief,  
Signs won't create lasting Relief.  
Jesus knows all hearts from in-Side,  
Signs don't foster, lasting aBide.*

1. His glory (John 2:1-11) – John reveals Jesus' glory in three ways:

- a) Jesus, the party guest (verses 1-2)
- b) Jesus, the Son (verses 3-5)
- c) Jesus, the Host (verses 6-11)

**John 2:5 (NIV), John 2:1 (NIV), 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.**

- Now at this point, Jesus had only 6 disciples.

**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."**

- Jesus didn't give a snarky response to his mother.
- The original intent of the Greek is "dear woman." It's a term of endearment.
- In this statement, Jesus showed that He was on a timetable that His Father had given Him.

**5) His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."**

- Wouldn't that be great advice for us today – do what Jesus tells you?
- How much better our lives are when we do this.

**6) Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.**

- So there might be approximately 150 gallons of water turned into wine which translates into 756 bottles, or 63 cases of some of the best wine people ever had.
- Now, let's understand that a wedding back then wasn't just one evening but lasted a whole week. So all this wine was for the rest of the week.
- Now let's contrast Jesus' first miracle with Moses' first miracle.
- His first miracle was during the series of plagues enacted on Egypt by turning water into blood.
- Jesus' first miracle was turning water into wine. Let's not miss the symbolism.

- Moses represented the law. Water turned to blood represented a bad thing, showed what happens when you do bad things.
- Jesus is now transforming that. Wine was a symbol of joy and richness.
- So, water to wine represented grace and truth.
- In this process, Jesus is transforming the old to the new.
- Jesus is replacing Moses, the bringer of the law with Himself – the bringer of grace and truth.

**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.**

- This miracle wasn't for the benefit of everyone, but it was for the benefit of the disciples and the servants and certainly for the benefit of Jesus' mother.

**9b) 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.”**

- This shows that Jesus doesn't do anything halfway. Jesus honored the guests by providing the best wine for them.

**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 stimulus of this miracle produced the appropriate response in the hearts of the disciples. They saw and they believed.

## 2. His zeal (John 2:12-22):

- a) Cleansing the temple (verses 12-17)
- b) Giving His Life (verses 18-22)

**John 2:12 (NIV), After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother and brothers and his disciples. There they stayed for a few days. 13) When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14) In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money.**

- Originally, the religious leaders were providing a service.
- People traveling up to Jerusalem back then, usually traveled by walking or by donkey, found it difficult to bring their sacrificial animals with them.
- It was much more convenient for them to buy their sacrificial animals at the temple.
- But, over time, the leaders were making a mockery of it.
- In the courtyard of the temple, you had all this business transaction going on which left no space for prayer or worship which happened there at other times.
- And so all of these business transactions prevented the very purpose of what Jesus saw for the Father's house and He took some action.

**15) So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.**

- Was this necessarily a wrong thing for Jesus to do?
- Is wrong to just sometimes to get a little irritated with what's happening?
- Now, we need to realize that Jesus never sinned and so His anger in this case was not sin, but represented His zeal and His righteous indignation.
- Jesus saw what the house of God, the temple, was made for was not happening.
- And the people were being led astray because the religious leaders were not representing God's way.
- So, in Jesus' zeal, we see His transformative power.

**16) To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!" 17) His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me. [Psalm 69:9]"**

- Now the religious leaders took Jesus's actions the wrong way and start to plot to kill Jesus because they were irritated.
- Seeing Jesus' zeal obviously didn't transform everyone.

**18) The Jews then responded to him, "What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?" 19) Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."**

- The temple was symbolic where the law was delivered and kept. So the temple was the embodiment of the law.
- So, now Jesus is making this transformation saying that it's not the temple of the law that's important, it's the temple of the Spirit in my body.

**20) They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" 21) But the temple he had spoken of was his body.**

- Once again, the religious leaders didn't get it.

**22) After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.**

- Even Jesus' disciples didn't understand what Jesus meant here until later – until after His resurrection.
- All of better understand things at different times in our life.
- For example, Scripture is written in such a way that as we grow in our spiritual transformation, we will see things that we never saw before when we re-read the Bible.
- When we are going through our spiritual transforming process, we will naturally read and understand Scripture in a different and better way.

3. His knowledge (John 2:23-25):

**John 2:23 (NIV), Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival,**

- We need to understand that Jesus kept the Jewish festival because He was Jewish.
- Now, we can't read into this passage that since Jesus kept these days, we also need to keep these days.
- Jesus kept perfectly the Old Covenant commands.
- We have to realize that Jesus was not Christian.
- Christianity did not come along until Jesus died and was resurrected.
- The followers of Jesus were first named Christians in Antioch.
- Believe it or not, Christianity was a derogatory name, in the Roman society, for the followers of Jesus.

**23b) many people saw the signs he was performing and believed in his name. 24) But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all people.**

- Just because some people believed who Jesus was, didn't mean that their hearts were right. And so Jesus is pointing that out.
- Belief needs our response. You can't have one without the other. It's like flying a plane with only one wing.
- John is making an important point here – that Jesus knows us, all of us, not just some.
- That's so wonderful. The Creator of heaven and earth knows us.
- And the word "knowing" here in the Greek means having "an intimate relationship."
- Jesus also believes in us as we believe in Him.

**25) He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person.**

- Because Jesus knows each one of us intimately and has made us righteous, there's no reason for any of us to feel any fear, shame, guilt or doubt.
- God, the Father, sees us, through the eyes of His Son, Jesus, as someone who has been cleansed, forgiven and made righteous once and for always – one and done.
- Yes, Jesus knows what's in each of us as believers and He knows what's in each not-yet-believers.
- So, just because someone doesn't believe in Jesus today, doesn't mean that he/she won't believe in Him tomorrow. Jesus is in complete control.
- It doesn't mean that they won't believe in Jesus when they come face-to-face with Him, at their death or at the last resurrection, and see His eyes of glory and love upon them.
- Yes, we are transformed by encountering Jesus.
- And that means that how we feel about ourselves on any given day doesn't mean how Jesus sees us or thinks about us.

In Summary of John 2:1-25 (Let's say this together):

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Recorded in John, as his first Sign.  
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Closing prayer