

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 01 Sept 2013 John 1:1-18 God Revealed
- 2) 08 Sept John 1:19-51 Jesus Identified
- 3) 15 Sept **John 2:1-25 Authority Acknowledged**
- 4) 22 Sept John 3:1-36 Salvation Offered
- 5) 29 Sept John 4:1-38 The Power to Give Life
- 6) 06 Oct John 4:39-54 The Power to Save
- 7) 13 Oct John 5:1-47 The Power to Heal
- 8) 20 Oct John 6:1-71 The Power to Meet Needs
- 9) 27 Oct John 7:1-52 Asking Questions About Jesus
- 10) 03 Nov John 7:53-8:59 Wondering About Judgment
- 11) 10 Nov John 9:1-41 Doubting Jesus' Power
- 12) 17 Nov John 10:1-42 Feeling Insecure?
- 13) 24 Nov John 11:1-57 Dealing with Death

INTRODUCTION

- Jesus makes a name for Himself as someone to be reckoned with. First He makes some high quality wine for a party, then He ticks off the religious establishment by ruining their profitable business venture within the House of Worship
- John is out to authenticate Christ through substantiated “signs” as the one and only Messiah, God in the flesh, Savior of the world

Passage	Comments
2:11	<p>The Disciples Believed After They Saw</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In chapter 1 we saw 5 disciples acknowledged Christ as the Messiah based on hearing a message/testimony • In chapter 2 they believe after seeing a manifestation • Experiences do play a role in confirming or cementing our understanding of something we suspect to be true • Eventually, Peter will convey that we have something more sure than grandiose experiences 1Peter 1:9
2:12-22	<p>Cleansing the Temple of Profiteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Jews asked Jesus for a sign (a fair request) to confirm His authority for what He did • And Jesus gave them a sign – “Wait & See” • BUT why the vagueness? Couldn't He have had more of an impact of many others believing in His name if He immediately called down fire from Heaven like Elijah?
2:23-25	<p>The People Believed After They Saw</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were those many who “believed in His name” after seeing a sign or witnessing an experience truly saved? • Apparently not based on Christ not trusting them (2:24) • They may have believed He was the Messiah, but that does not mean they accepted Him as Lord & Savior

Passage	Comments
John 2:1-10	<p>The First of Seven (7) Signs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus turning water into wine was a sign of what? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> His Messiahship? <input type="checkbox"/> His Compassion? <input type="checkbox"/> Something Else? • Was this a supernatural miracle? • Do we still need signs/miracles today? • Are signs/supernatural miracles still about today?
The 7 Signs in John	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Turning water into wine in Cana.....2:1-11 2. Healing an official's son in Capernaum.....4:46-54 3. Healing at the Pool of Bethesda.....5:1-18 4. Feeding the 5,0006:5-14 5. Walking on the water.....6:16-21 6. Healing a blind man in Jerusalem.....9:1-7 7. Raising dead Lazarus in Bethany11:1-45 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note: The term for “Miracle” 1411 δυνάμις / dunamis (dynamite) is used extensively throughout the synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark & Luke) and Acts, BUT John never uses “dunamis” but uses “Signs” 4592 σημεῖον / semeion – which pointed to authentication of Christ
Definition of Miracles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supernatural: A spontaneous event that breaks known natural laws (e.g., walking on water, creating and restoring a missing body part, raising the dead) • Providential/Subjective: God works within His created natural laws to maneuver people, events, and circumstances to answer prayers and accomplish His will while maintaining an orderly world and not forcing skeptics to believe (e.g., finding a job or a spouse; healing through time and medicine, or changing the weather for D-Day) • Demonic/Satanic Miracles: Deceptive wonders God allows Satan & his minions to perform (e.g., appearing as a serpent [Gen 3]; turning sticks into snakes and water into blood [Exodus 7], damsel w/ demon brought financial gain [Acts 16]; and even healings & wonders)
Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A term which groups miracles, healings, tongues, prophecies, & other phenomena to point to a specific purpose, person, or prophetic event
Wonders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attention grabbing miracles, healings, tongues, prophecies, & other phenomena (e.g., feeding 5000+)

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- From these early chapters we see Jesus gathering a crowd around Him to hear and witness His majesty – though, it seems somewhat cloaked in secrecy, vagueness, and mystery. Remember the purpose of John's Gospel – to give us sufficient information to make an intelligent decision to know what to do with this Jesus

NEXT WEEK: John 3. Salvation is depicted as a very simple process – we make a decision to live for God – and God does the rest – He makes the sacrifice, He Saves, and He Preserves!
 - The Christian Faith is the only religion where God does the work to save man. All other religions, man has to work to get saved.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



John 2 – Water into Wine Miracle!
 There was no arguing this wine was GREAT, but Harry was concerned the wine was poured from water jars that looked very much like those used to wash the guests feet.