

Books of the Book Series

The Gospel of John Outline of Script for TV Production 3ABN Studios March 4-12, 2013

6. *The Wedding at Cana (John 2:1-11)*

6. Scene A. The Larger Structure

- 1) "Third day" ---> Conclusion to Chapter one
A series of events over seven days, one week
Wedding = climax to a week's activities
(Like Sabbath?)
- 2) Introduction to new section
 - a) First miracle at Cana, 2:1-11
 - b) Temple and Passion, 2:12-25
 - c) Discourse with Nicodemus, 3:1-21
 - d) The Baptist, 3:22-20
 - d) Jesus 3:31-36
 - c) Discourse with Samaritan woman, 4:1-42
 - b) Events in Jerusalem, 4:43-45
 - a) Second miracle at Cana, 4:46-54

Epanados vs. chiasm

Two Cana stories critical to main point of book
Types of faith in Jesus
- 3) Duodirectionality (climax of one series introduces next)
cf. Revelation
cf. 4:46-54 (= spiritual resurrection, cf. 5:21-24)
- 4) Theme of chaps 2-4: **Something Better Has Come!**
Water becomes wine
Temple becomes body of Jesus
Creation becomes new birth
Jerusalem becomes spirit
Jacob becomes Jesus (New Israel)
fulfills 1:50-51

6. Scene B. Structure of the Passage

- 1) Substructure of 2:1-11
 - 1-3a-- Situation described
 - 3b-5-- Dialogue with Mary

- 6-8-- Miracle
- 9-10-- Attestation of miracle
- 11-- Commentary by Narrator
- 2) Significant Exegetical Details (story as parable)
 - 1- “Third day”
 - 3- “They have no more wine”
 - 4- Difference of opinion (she wanted popular Messiah?)
“Hour”
 - 6- Unusually large pots
Jewish ceremonial washings
 - 7- Jesus doesn’t touch
 - 9- Caterer did not know where the wine had come from
 - 11- Signs → Glory → Belief

6. Scene C. The Background of John 2:1-11

- 1) Why did Jesus Go to the Wedding?
 - Probably a relative of His unless it was a relative of Nathaniel
(from Cana– 21:2)
 - Third Century Tradition
 - John the son of Mary’s sister Salome
 - Jesus and John are first cousins!
 - This is John's wedding
 - The wine supply may have been dependant on the generosity of guests. Mary could be chiding Jesus for not bringing enough of the gift while bringing several uninvited guests!
- 2) What kind of wine was it?
 - Greek word is ambiguous (can go either way)
 - Can mean fermented wine
 - Can mean fresh juice of the grape
 - If wine, the statement in 2:10 makes perfect sense
Bring out the cheap stuff when the senses are dulled.
Jesus would be producing better quality vintage after they
have no capacity to tell!
 - Could it be fresh juice? Why would anyone notice?
 - Preservation with boiling down and oil
 - Reconstitution
 - Fresh available only in mid to late Fall
 - If wedding were earlier, the appearance of fresh juice
would be a real shocker! (and most expensive if
shipped from Egypt or wherever)
 - Jesus produces fresh when none is available!

6. Scene D. The Wedding as an Acted Parable

- 1) The Miracle Stories as “Signs” (= parables)
 - In the OT, signs authenticated the true prophet

Moses (Exod 3:12; 4:1-9)

Saul (1 Sam 10:1-9)

For John "signs" were also parables of the kingdom

We need to examine the stories for their deeper theological purpose (like parables)

This is not just a cute story about a wedding

2) A Replay of Creation Week (1:19 - 2:11)

Jesus = the New Creation (cf. 1:1-3,14-- "in the beginning")

Hints in 2:1-11

Seventh day, wedding, woman, creative word

Wedding = Gen 2:24; Eph 5:31-32

Jesus = New Adam

Disciples = New Eve

3) Messianic Theology and the Role of Mary

Mary was pushing Jesus to be the popular Messiah

John 7:1-10

Matt 13:55-58

They took offense at him

No honor in His own house

Mark 3:20-21

Seize him, He is out of His mind!

For Jesus the essence of Messiahship was the cross and it wasn't time for that yet, so she is an agent of temptation from Satan, therefore He was short with her.

Mary appears only two times in John, here and at the cross

In both cases she is called woman

Cana a foretaste of the Messianic marriage of Christ and the church

The New Adam and the New Eve

4) Exodus Typology and Theology

Ten plagues vs. Seven Signs

Water to Blood (Wine)

Animals afflicted to death (Sick to death healed)

Physical curse-- sores (Physical healing-- paralysis)

Bring storm (Calm storm)

Locusts eat up bread (Feed 5000)

Darkness (Heal blind man)

Kill firstborn (Lazarus)

Why the parallel with the Exodus and Moses?

John 1:17

Moses is good, Jesus is better

Jesus has a better revelation of God

John has a better revelation of Jesus

Jesus = the New Israel

Moses did signs for Pharaoh

Jesus did signs for the Jews

Pharaoh = Jews

- received signs
- rejected claim
- sought to destroy

Purpose of signs was to deepen faith and repentance.

Rejection of signs ---> hardening (Pharaoh and Jews)

The events of Jesus's life in John led to the establishment of a new Israel and the rejection of the old

Other parallels between Moses and Jesus in John

- Exod 33:20 cf John 1:17,18 see God's face
- Water of life (from rock) cf. Jn 7
- John 3:14 - lifted up