

1/5/20

The Source of Joy In Marriage

Jn. 2:1-12, #1

Proposition 8 was passed on Nov. 4, 2008 by 52.2% in California, making same sex marriages illegal, yet it was reversed on Aug. 10, 2010 by a federal judge claiming it was unconstitutional.

* This tragic historical event revealed California was no longer functioning as a Republic of law and the U.S. was now headed to an oligarchy, the rule of few over many, that has continued to progress to the present day as those in power lead the permissive, degenerated culture of our day for the sake of votes and to remain in power.

The reversal of Prop 8 changed the natural definition of marriage that goes against the laws of nature, declaring that procreation of children is not vital to the human race.

Family research Council by Peter Sprig, Oct. 7. 2011 stated, "Marriage is a public institution (not purely a private relationship) because it serves two public purposes: bringing together men and women for the reproduction of the human race, and keeping together a man and woman to raise to maturity the children produced by their union.

The existence of future generations of children is fundamental to the survival of any society. The quality of their nurture is directly related to the quality of life within that society. Bonding the man and woman whose sexual union produces a child to one another and to that child is by far the healthiest way of insuring that nurture.

Opposite-sex relationships are the only type capable of producing children through natural intercourse, and the only ones assured of providing children with both a mother and a father. Affirming only opposite-sex relationships as "marriage" thus makes perfect sense."

The failure of many marriages and divorce is at times used to defend and support same sex marriage that is an irrational and illogical basis for same sex marriages going against the law of nature.

* Many Pastors and churches are embracing this worldly propaganda!

The problem in our amoral indoctrinated society is that too many relationships start off with a wrong understanding of marriage or a bad foundation thinking they are going to build a solid and lasting union, but to their surprise the marriage fails!

1. People do not prepare themselves for marriage, but just looking for the right person, rather than doing all to be the right person for marriage, the church is no different.

2. People want companionship without commitment, sexual pleasure without responsibility before marriage and even after marriage by mutual agreement.
3. People want to be trusted without limits on their freedom living independent, having separate checking accounts, they take separate vacations, in search of happiness based on feelings, circumstances and possessions, not joy that comes from God.
4. People want the latest fashions, expensive cars, the house on the hill at the expense of their marriage.
5. People see marriage as based on a contract of a partnership of equals, rather than a covenant of marriage based on complements making them one.
6. People often marry with an ideal that is unfair to the other person, without considering their own imperfection.
7. The outcome of such thinking and distorted views of marriage results in unhappy and frustrated marriages, feeling trapped and conclude they have made a mistake or that marriage is a bad investment.

In view of this, we want to look at what the source of joy is in marriage which is revealed in the wedding feast at Cana consisting of three things.

- I. The people at the wedding. vs. 1-2, 5a, 8c, 9a, c
 - II. The problem at the wedding. vs. 3-8
 - III. The proclamation at the wedding. vs. 9-12
- I. **The people at the wedding. vs. 1-2, 5a, 8c, 9a, c**
- A. Mary the mother of Jesus was present. vs. 1

1. Mary must have been part of the wedding party or related to the family for she gives orders to the servants. vs. 1, 5
 - a. Cana was nine miles from Nazareth, in the lower Galilee distinct from the one in Syria, a lake on the road to Tiberias.
 - 1) The name means “reed” from the reeds growing in the marshy plain below Cana.
 - 2) The city of Cana was the home of Nathanael, the area Jesus grew up around. Jn. 20:2
 - b. John tells us it was the third day of the wedding.
 - 1) The third day in relation to the fourth day of the previous chapter. Jn. 1:43
 - 2) John is very concerned with a timeline and sequence of the days leading up to the wedding. Jn. 1:29, 35, 43; 2:1
2. Mary is alone at the wedding.
 - a. Joseph is not mentioned, a good indication that he had already died.
 - b. Joseph was mentioned last when Jesus as a teen went to the temple. Lk. 2:41-50
* Mormon’s declare this was the wedding of Jesus.
3. Mary also is not mentioned after this event till the cross. Jn. 19:25-27
 - a. You see, Mary is not the focus of the gospel story, but Jesus!

- b. Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, that those believing in may have life in His name, this is the focus of John, no one else! Jn. 20:31

B. Jesus and His disciples were present. vs. 2

1. Jesus had been invited along with His disciples. vs. 2
 - a. Andrew, the brother of Peter. Jn. 1:37
 - b. John, the brother of James. Jn. 1:37
 - c. Peter, the one brought to Jesus by Andrew. Jn. 1:41
 - d. Philip was called by Jesus at Bethsaida, the town of Andrew and Peter. Jn. 1:42-44
 - e. Nathanael was brought to Jesus by Philip. Jn. 1:45-51
 - f. James possibly?
2. The procession was led by the groom and his friends.
 - a. They would arrive at the brides house at night, then would proceed to the grooms house for the feast that lasted a week.
 - b. The Mishnah, the Jewish oral tradition of the law containing interpretations and applications to specific questions of the law stated, that virgins married on Wednesday, widows on Thursday, the wedding lasting one week or two.

C. The servants are presented in relation to Mary. vs. 5a

1. They were the ones who were attending to the wedding. vs. 9b
 - a. They would be setting everything up.
 - b. They would be attending to the details of the wedding.
2. The word servants “diakonos”, means a waiter on tables for church servants.
 - a. The word is used for the office of deacon. 1Tim. 3:8
 - b. The word is used for the work of ministry. Matt. 20:28

D. The master of the feast is present. vs. 8c, 9a, c

1. He was the superintendent of the dinning room, the table master who presided over the feast.
2. He was one of the guests selected by lot to prescribe to the rest, such as the mode of drinking.
3. He also had the duty to place in order the tables, couches and arrange the courses, taste the food and wine before hand.
 - a. The phrase master of the feast “arkitriklinos”, means superintendent, found only three times in the New Testament, all are in John. vs. 8-9
 - b. The phrase is derived from the word “triclina” which were couches for three people to recline at dinner to eat.

* This is the way people ate and the reason why John tells us he leaned on the breast of Jesus! Jn. 21:20

E. The groom is the last to be mentioned as present. vs. 9c

1. He is mentioned only once.
2. He was responsible for all the arrangements with his family.
3. He and his family had invited the various guests to witness his commitment in marriage and to celebrate with him.

Illustration

Marriage is being attacked in America in every way through progressive liberals, humanist educators, the LGBGQ and the politically correct crowd that now has resulted in the oppression and tyranny of hard-working, moral and conservative U.S. citizens by forcing them to accept immoral and unjust laws.

* Isaiah the prophet declared, “Woe to those who call **evil good**, and **good evil**; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” Is. 5:20

Application

1. The Lord Jesus by His presence at the wedding at Cana approved and commended marriage for a man and woman as His institution.
 - a. The institution was the same one He gave it to Adam and Eve.

- 1) It is God’s institution not man’s.
 - 2) It is not a mere piece of paper.
 - 3) It is the only union God honors between a man and a woman, for saints and sinners.
- b.** The institution establishes a new home, new authority distinct from the parents.
- 1) Young men make sure you leave or have left, your mother and Father.
 - 2) Young ladies make sure you sever the authority from your father and mother, they no longer have authority over you.
 - 3) In-laws alias outlaws, stay out of the inner circle of your married children.
- c.** Marriage is for companionship, cohabitation to continue the human race, community and contentment in life.
- 1) All nations in the world is below the needed population growth to maintain their national future existence, except the U.S. due to immigrants.
 - 2) They keep teaching that the world is over-populated, it is a lie, the entire world population can be placed in the state of Texas with a three-bedroom house, leaving the entire world empty.
 - 3) Due to this lie of the past 70 years people had and are having less children or none at all, we have murdered 60 millions babies by abortion since 1973 Roe vs Wade, singles are marrying at average of 30 and the growth of homosexual life-style cannot

produce children, the problem is not going to be overpopulation but the inability of the human race to sustain and maintain the economic and material needs in the future.

* “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.” Gen. 2:24-25

2. The union of marriage today is viewed as outdated and other arrangements have been accepted as valid to substitute God’s design for men and women.

- a.** Purity and virginity are scoffed at and thought to be Puritanical and old fashion in our day.
- b.** Being sexually active before marriage is accepted and expected, facilitated by the Public Schools and Planned Parenthood with condoms and easy abortions without parental permission.
- c.** Our American society has become amoral, teaching and believing that man is but an extension of the animal kingdom evolving and believe it is a waste of time to teach morality, ethic, self-respect and personal responsibility.
- d.** The evidence of the past sixty years, 1960-2020, reveals that the theory that immoral permissiveness can be controlled by perverted sex education and indoctrination is a lie, for instead of pregnancies decreasing they have only dramatically increase, not to mention murder of million by abortion and the spread of

STD’s and the AIDS Virus that is so small that it passes straight through the condom.

e. Living with each other is a very common practice believing that in this way they can be sure and not suffer a divorce, but the statistics prove that those who live with each other before marriage have a higher rate of divorce.

f. Sexual diversity is a contradiction in itself and condemned clearly by God, homosexuality, lesbianism, transsexualism, cross-dressing or bestiality, etc. Ex. 18:22; 22:19; Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Deut. 22:5; Rom. 1:26-27; 1Cor. 6:9

* “There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.” Prov. 14:12

3. The Father and Jesus use the institution of marriage as one of the key metaphors for man’s relationship with God in both the Old and New Testament.

- a.** “For your maker is your husband... your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.” Is. 54:5
- b.** “For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.” 2Cor. 11:2
- c.** The double analogy is uniquely found in Ephesians of Christ to the church and husbands to their wives in marriage is the epitome of honor. Eph. 5:21-33
- d.** The truth of the matter is that if you are not married, but living with a person, then you are dishonoring God, yourself and the person you

are living with in fornication, in need of repentance.

* One man to one woman, not two men or two women, God created Adam and Eve!

The people at the wedding were all present honoring God's institution of marriage!

II. The problem at the wedding. vs. 3-8

A. The mother of Jesus came to Him and declared that they were out of wine. vs. 3

1. Mary knew who Jesus was, the Son of God.
 - a. Did she think he had brought some?
 - b. Did she think He would go get some?
 - c. Did she see an opportunity to vindicate herself, proving to all that she had conceived Him by the Holy Spirit, if Jesus did a miraculous work?
 - 1) Remember she must have suffered much through life, through gossip, being looked down upon for her pregnancy prior to marrying Joseph!
 - 2) Pharisees said to Christ, "We are not born of fornication." Jn. 8:41
 - a) This was 30 years after His birth!
 - b) Remember Simeon prophesied that a sword would pierce her soul, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. Lk. 2:35
2. Mary knew the potential social problems.

- a. The inadequate provisions for the wedding was a family embarrassment.
- b. There was a reciprocal liability in the ancient east, that made a person liable for improper preparations or bringing an improper gift. (N.T. Commt: 177)
- c. This was no way to start their marriage.

B. The Messiah Jesus having begun His ministry mildly reprovved Mary. vs. 4-5

1. Jesus' mother was pressured by the circumstances and attempted to have Jesus act on her petition.
2. Jesus responds with honor and respect. vs. 4a-b
 - a. The phrase "Woman" in the Aramaic is used for respect.
 - b. The phrase is uses from the cross by Jesus for her and Mary Magdalene. Jn. 19:26; 20:15
 - c. The phrase indicated that the natural ties to her were no longer binding.
3. Jesus reprovved Mary gently communicating very clearly that He was guided now by the will of God, His heavenly Father, not her earthly motherly authority, "What does your concern have to do with Me?" vs. 4c
4. Jesus declared that His, "Hour had not yet come". vs. 4d
 - a. The phrase is repeated in John's gospel. Jn. 2:4; 7:30; 8:20; 12:23, 27; 13:1; 17:1

- b. The phrase in context could be interpreted to mean that the specific time to act was not according to her, but God.
 - c. The phrase certainly points to the ultimate hour He came for, to die for the sins of the world.
5. Mary submitted to the clear communication of Jesus. vs. 5
- a. She understood what Jesus said.
 - b. She addressed the servants to do, as He would bid them.
 - * The servants might have been surprised at this!
- C. The only provisions they had was water. vs. 6-8
1. Jesus took what they had and made it sufficient. vs. 6
 - a. The purification pots were for people to wash their hands and feet at the start of meals and between courses, according to their rites.
 - b. The cups, plates and many other things had to be washed beforehand.
 - c. There were six containing around 120 to 180 gallons.
 - a. Six is the number of man and imperfection.
 - b. The stone pots represented the law that was insufficient through the weakness of man to bring us to God

- and could only lead us to Christ!
2Cor. 3:7-18
2. Jesus told the servants to fill them to the brim. vs. 7
 - * What must have the servants thought?
 3. Jesus then told the servants to draw some out and take it to the master of the feast and they did so. vs. 8
 - a. The servants knew they had put water into the stone waterpots.
 - b. The servants knew that only Jesus was responsible for the content.

Illustration

On February of 2011 President Obama endorsed a new bill by Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California to repeal the federal Defense of Marriage Act that defined and protected the institution of marriage that was passed by Congress and signed by Ex-President Bill Clinton, Obama said the Defense Marriage Act was unconstitutional and he would no longer defend it in court.

* In 2020 we have the product of 60-70 years of promiscuity, no fault divorce, living together, believing the indoctrinated lie of “Disfuncionalism” in order to excuse, justify and escape our personal responsibility for our decisions and actions.

Application

1. The most important person in a wedding is always Jesus, to insure the success of the marriage.

- a. This is evident by the fact that Jesus was the focus of the wedding in Cana.
- b. The groom was mentioned only once.
- c. The bride is not even mentioned at all.
- d. The focus was Jesus, as He is to be in every marriage.
* "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing." Jn. 15:5

2. The groom and bride are certainly necessary, but without Christ they will never experience marriage as God intended.

- a. The union of two sinners in marriage results in a number of problems, due to selfishness, pride and independence, the daily solution is submission and obedience to Jesus. Rom. 3:23
- b. None-believers never experience what God desires for them in marriage, they can't, Jesus is not their Lord.
- c. Those Christians that are carnal living for themselves without dying to self, not being graceful and loving to each other live in frustration, knowing they have the potential to be truly happy and have joy, but they aren't, sowing and reaping to the flesh. Gal. 6:7-8
* The solution, "O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?" Rom. 7:24
- d. Divorce Magazine.com: 2005

- 1) Percentage of unmarried couples living together that are male-female unions: 89%.
 - 2) Percentage of women who cohabited before they turned 30 in 1995: 50%
 - 3) Percentage of couples living together for more than five years who eventually marry as of 1995: 70%
 - 4) Number of people divorcing each year as of 1997-2005 was 2.5 million.
 - 5) A drop in standard of living of females after divorce as of 2000: 45%.
 - 6) Number of women stalked by a husband or ex-husband every year from 1997-2005 was 380,000.
 - 7) Number of men stalked by a wife or ex-wife every year in 1997-2005 was 52,000.
* The problem has only become worst!
3. The Lord Jesus must be invited to be part of the wedding and the marriage throughout life.
- a. There are no perfect marriages, it was ruined in the Garden and the many problems of today we bring upon ourselves, due to our selfish, self-centered, immoral and unethical society by believing the philosophy of the "goodness of man" of humanism, "dys-functionalism" of sociology and psychology and "entitlement" of socialism and now diversity and relativism.
* Paul warned in his day, "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men,

according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.” Col. 2:8

- b. If you call yourself a Christian, you must line yourself up with the Scriptures, seeing all these philosophies and practices as apposed to God and destructive to marriage.
 - 1) A three-fold cord is not easily broken. Eccl. 4:12
 - 2) If two abide together it is better than one. Eccl. 4:9, 11
 - 3) “Can two walk together unless they are agreed?” Amos 3:3
 - 4) “Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.” 1Pet. 3:7

The problem at the wedding was resolved by Jesus for the continuation of the marriage!

III. The proclamation at the wedding. vs. 9-12

- A. The master of the feast commended the groom. vs. 9-10
 - 1. The table master as his duty required him, tasted the water made into wine. vs. 9a
 - a. We are not told when the water was turned into wine.
 - b. Some think the water was turned into wine as the servants dew it?

- 2. The table master did not know where the wine came from. vs. 9b
 - a. The servants who withdrew the wine were the only ones who knew where the wine came from.
 - b. Jesus knew He had done it.
 - c. Most likely Mary knew and perhaps His disciples, but we cannot be sure.
- 3. The table master called the bridegroom. vs. 9c
 - a. The groom was the natural connection to the wine, it was his wedding.
 - b. The eyes of all are upon the groom.
- 4. The groom was credited with doing something he did not nor could he do. vs. 10
 - a. The master of the feast acknowledged the custom of putting out good wine at first. vs. 10a-b
 - b. The master of the feast declared that once the guests had drunken sufficiently and their taste buds had been savored then an inferior wine would be put out discretely. vs. 10c-d
 - 1) The expression “have well drunk” does not mean intoxicated or drunk
 - * The liberty may be handled by you, but how about others you stumble or your children!
 - 2) The practice was discrete and saved the groom money.

- c. The master of the feast praised the groom for keeping the best until now, towards the end. vs. 10e
 - 1) The KJV says “contrary to tradition”.
 - 2) On a parallel line young ladies do contrary to our perverted tradition of giving away your virginity, save the best for your husband to be, this applies also to the young men!
- B.** The miracle at Cana was the first miracle of Jesus. vs. 11-12
- 1. The miracle was the beginning of signs Jesus did. vs. 11a
 - a. The first of seven in John’s gospel.
 - b. The second one also took place in Cana, the healing of the nobleman’s son from Capernaum. Jn. 4:54
 - 2. The miracle manifested His glory. vs. 11b
 - a. The miracle was a sign and the word for sign “semeior” is not so much focusing on the power or the miracle as much as pointing beyond the miracle to the deity and person of Jesus as God.
 - 1) Signs point you in a direction, the sign pointed to Jesus!
 - 2) Too many people get caught up with signs and wonders and not with Jesus, running from church to church.
 - b. The word manifested “phaneroo” means to reveal or make visible His glory.

- c. The word glory “doxa” means His magnificence, excellence and preeminence of His person, God incarnate, the Son of God. Jn. 1:14
3. The miracle caused His disciples to affirm their belief in Jesus. vs. 11c
- a. They had already believed in Him as Son of God and King of Israel. Jn. 1:49
 - b. They were actively believing in Jesus.
 - 1) John uses the verb “pisteuo” in his gospel not the noun.
 - 2) Faith is active for John and the climax of every encounter is that through these signs written people will believe that He is the Christ, the Son of God and that believing they might have life. Jn. 20:31
4. The miracle moved Jesus on to His ministry headquarters. vs. 12a
- a. Capernaun was about 20 miles from Cana on the Sea of Galilee, Jesus pronounced “woes” over it for her privilege of having the greater light. Matt. 11:23
 - b. The company was divided. vs. 12c-e
 - 1) His mother believed in Him. vs. 12c
 - 2) His brother did not believe in Him. vs. 12d, 7:5
 - * The miracle did not save them or even produced saving faith!
 - 3) His disciples believed. vs. 12e

Illustration

It has been said that too many people marry for better or for worse, but not for good.

Application

1. The Joy of any marriage comes from Jesus in the life of both mates, symbolized by the wine.
 - a. Wine in the Scriptures is symbolic of joy not for us to get intoxicated, for it is condemned. Ps. 104:15, Song Sol.
 - b. The only ones who will know where the joy of your marriage comes from will be other Christians, like the servants who drew the wine.
 - c. The people who do not know Jesus will want to attribute the success of your marriage to your own stability, finances, character, etc, do not rob Jesus of His glory, tell them.
 - * The fruit of the Spirit is agape love and the first manifestation of agape love is joy. Gal. 5:22a-b
2. The joy that Jesus gives in a Christian marriage cannot be compared to a marriage without Jesus.
 - a. But often that joy only comes through the most difficult situations and painful times.
 - b. If we are willing to admit that we are out of wine and trust Him to provide it.
 - c. The lessons and brokenness that will come through dying to self will be of greater value and benefit than refusing to die to self.
 - d. The truth being is that after the fact, you would not exchange them for all the money in the

world, because they made you more like Jesus, though you would not want to repeat them.

* “He must increase, but I must decrease.” Jn. 3:30

3. The quality and joy of a Christian marriage is to increase contrary to tradition by increasing and thriving in this day and age, causing you to be thankful to Jesus and trusting Him more.
 - a. Most marriages and relationships begin good and passionate, then after the newness and passion of lust is worn away, the commitment and passion wanes.
 - b. The Christian is to begin with fervent love and joy with a commitment to increase daily, in order to sustain and keep oneself faithful to their mate, contrary to the world and the flesh.
 - c. Being thankful for His ability to change you and transform you through the difficult times in your marriage through His abundant grace, mercies that are new every morning and His perfect wisdom.
 - d. The pain that you will experience through obedience is short-lived but nothing compared to the pain of disobedience that lasts for a life-time!
 - e. Marriage costs every day or one day it will cost you everything.
 - * “Many waters cannot quench love, Nor can the floods drown it. If a man would give for love All the wealth of his house, It would be utterly despised.” Song Sol. 8:7

4. The goal of marriage is the glory of God not ours.
 - a. When husbands love their wives as Christ loved the Church and give themselves for her, God is glorified.
 - * Husbands cultivate your love with your mate and be passionate towards your wife!
 - b. When wives submit to their own husbands and honor them, God is glorified.
 - 1) Recognizing God's created order.
 - 2) Recognizing God's word as the standard not one's emotions.
 - c. When parents bring up their children in the Lord, God is glorified.
 - 1) You are the parent, act like it!
 - 2) You are responsible for ministering to your children by the standard of the Word, restraining them and insuring consequences for their disobedience or your authority will be destroyed.
 - * "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us." 2Cor. 4:7

The proclamation at the wedding resulted in joy to the glory of God for the provisions at the marriage!

Conclusion

The source of joy in marriage is revealed in the wedding feast at Cana by these three things.

- I. The people at the wedding were all present honoring God's institution of marriage!

- II. The problem at the wedding was resolved by Jesus for the continuation of the marriage!
- III. The proclamation at the wedding resulted in joy to the glory of God for the provisions at the marriage!