

Gospel of John: That You Might Believe

[John 2:1-25](#)

"Glory, Judgement & the Temple" – February 28, 2021



Introduction

Where can we find life – full, to the brim life? John, in his Gospel, shows us where to look ([John 20:31](#))...if we are willing to listen.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. Jesus provides a feast for the hungry ([2:1-12](#))
- II. Jesus is the Temple for the estranged ([2:13-25](#))

Read & Discuss

- 1) Read [2:1-12](#)

This first scene happens at a wedding. When the wedding ran out of wine, Mary came to Jesus looking for His help. Though He does help, he tells her it's not yet time. What does Jesus mean that His 'hour has not yet come'? (It may help to look up [13:1](#) and [5:28](#)).

Jesus' miracle was not a trick to impress people. John tells us in v11 that it was a 'sign' and signs point to something. Read [Isaiah 25:6-8](#). This is the future Jesus points us to – one we can begin to experience *now* and one that we'll experience to the full in the new heavens and new earth. The hope Jesus gives says to the weary Christian, "press on, the wedding feast is just around the corner".

How does this first sign shed light on what John said about Jesus in [1:14](#)? What can we learn from that for today?

Additional Reading: [Ephesians 5:18](#), [Psalm 104:15](#), [Psalm 16](#), [Psalm 25:3](#)

- 2) Read [2:13-25](#)

The Temple symbolizes the place where God dwells with His people. After sin entered the picture, the Temple also shows us how unapproachable God is in His holiness (apart from atonement).

Jesus' anger in the Temple wasn't due to the exchange of money or trade (that was necessary for travelers). Jesus was upset that they did so in the Temple, turning a place that was reserved for the reverent worship of God into a circus (see [Psalm 69:9](#))! The tables they

set up then represent the things we pursue or allow in our lives that belittle our view of God's greatness and shift our heart's affection away from God to other things. The tables represent things that make it hard for people to come to God through Jesus. Are their tables you've set up in your life? Tables you desire to sit at that Christ would flip over?

Jesus cleansing the Temple allowed for Him to announce that He had come to *replace* the Temple. He Himself is now the place sinful men and women must come to in order to find forgiveness, reconciliation and a seat at the table with God. The Jews demanded a sign to prove His authority for what He'd done. How does Jesus' answer authenticate His action?

If you had a friend who's primary reason for following Jesus was to give him his best life now: safety, health, happiness, belonging, etc. How might you use this passage to expand and challenge their understanding of who Jesus is and what He's actually come to do?

Additional Reading: [Psalm 69:9](#), [Malachi 3:1-5](#)

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

*Next week's sermon text: we turn to John 3:1-21 "For God so Loved the World"
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