

## John 2:1-11

### Jesus' First Sign: Water into Wine

- What is a "Sign?"
- The Setting and Problem
- What was the Sign?
- The Result

## What is a "Sign?"

- Miracles (*dunamis*) versus Signs (*semeion*)
  - Is there a difference?
  - Why the distinction in John?
- Key verses in John
  - 6:26 "You seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled."
  - 12:37 "But though He had performed so many signs before them, yet they were not believing Him."
  - John 20:31

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## The Setting and Problem

- First century Jewish weddings
  - Lavish, multiple days, lots of guests (Matthew 22)
  - Running out of wine was considered disgraceful
- Discussion with Mary
  - "What does that have to do with us?" (NASB)
    - Literally "What to me and to you?"
    - Jesus and Mary have nothing in common here
  - "My hour has not yet come"
  - "Whatever He says to you, do it."

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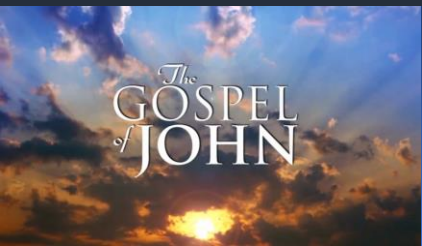
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## What Was The Sign?

- Context
  - Water jars intended for purification (cf. Mark 7:1-4)
  - Wine symbolic of joy/blessings from God in OT
  - First century Israel out of favor with God
  - Prophetic symbols: God restoring/dwelling with the people
    - Isaiah 25:6; Joel 3:17-18; Amos 9:13-15
- What could this sign be reflecting?
  - No more ceremonial washing; cleansing through Lamb
  - Wine has run out; Jesus has restored it abundantly
  - Wine (blessings) superior to anything prior



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## The Result

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- Disciples Believed

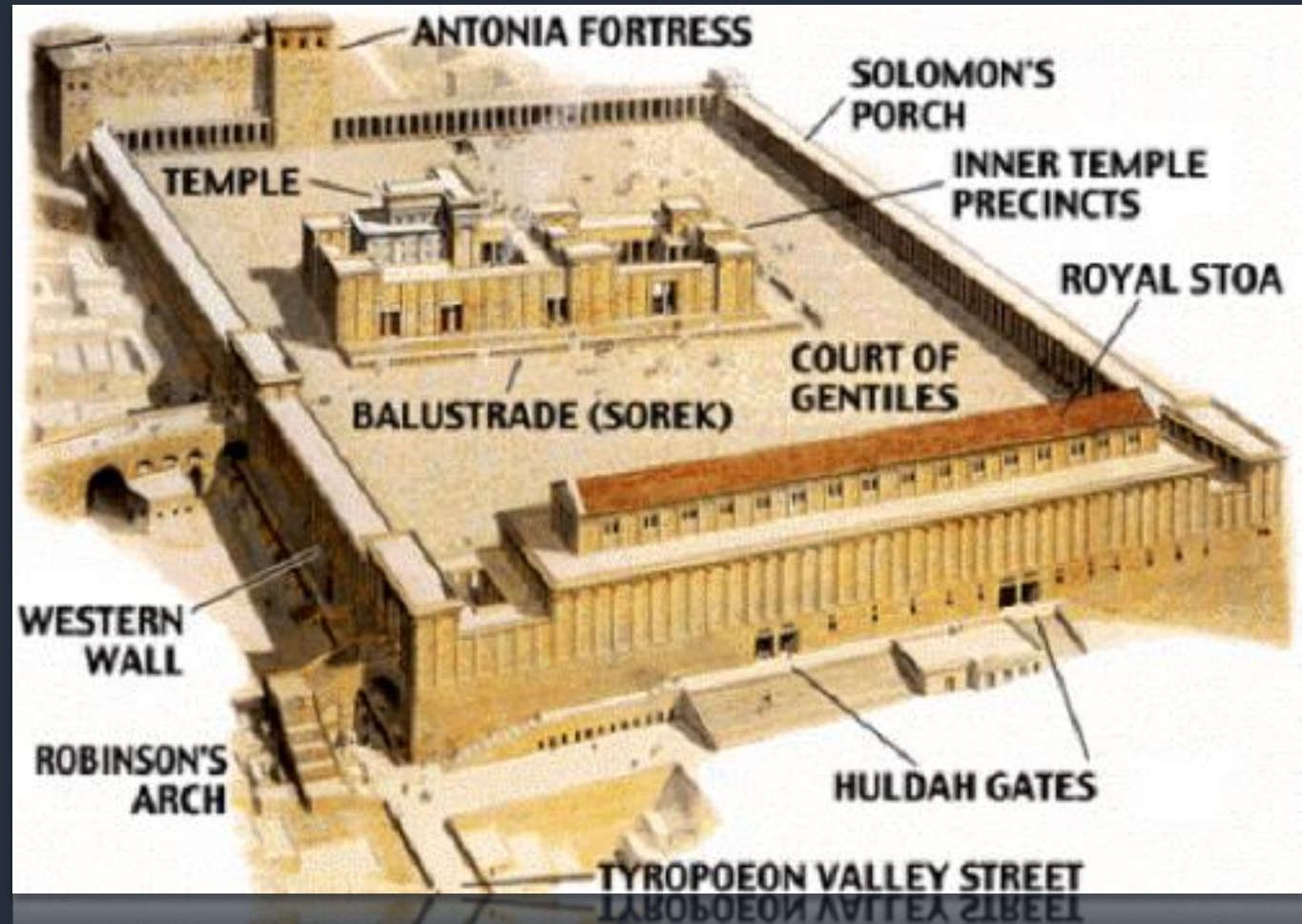
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## John 2:12-25

### Jesus Cleanses the Temple

- The Setting and Problem
- Jesus' Response
- Disciples' Response to Jesus
- "Destroy this Temple"
- Result

## The Setting and Problem



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## The Setting and Problem

- Context
  - Jews to come to Jerusalem for Passover (Deut 16:1-8)
    - Required to make sacrifices
    - Required to pay temple tax (Exodus 30:13-14)
      - Could not be in Roman coin (pagan symbols)
      - Roman coin must be changed to Tyrian coin
  - Temple rulers becoming extremely wealthy from trade
  - Exodus 12 – Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread
    - Verse 15 – Remove leaven from your houses
    - Verses 15,19 – Anyone who eats leaven is cut off

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## Jesus' Response

- What was the Problem (v.16)?
  - Matt 21:13; Mark 11:17, quoting Isaiah 56:6-7
  - Zechariah 14:21 "There shall no longer be traders in the House of the Lord of Hosts on that day"
  - Malachi 3:1-3
  - Jesus cleansing the temple (of leaven)?
- Applications for today?
  - Lazy, convenient worship vs. sacrificial worship
  - Corruption within the house of God

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## Disciples' Response to Jesus

- Remembered Psalm 69:9
  - David speaking of hostility he is enduring (verses 7-8)
  - David speaks of present/past ("have consumed me")
  - John foretells of Jesus future death ("will consume me")

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## "Destroy This Temple"

- Who do you think you are?
  - By what authority do you do these things?
- "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."
  - What is Jesus drawing their attention to?
  - What significance did the temple have for the Jews?
    - Dwelling place of God
    - Ark represented where atonement was made
    - Ten Commandments represented the Law
    - Aaron's rod represented miracles of deliverance
    - Manna represented God's provision and blessings
  - Not merely cleansing, but replacing the temple

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## Result

- Disciples Believed the Scripture and words of Jesus (v22)
- Many Believed (v23)
  - Did these "many" necessarily understand the signs?
  - What did they believe?

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## John 3:1-21

### Nicodemus

- The Context and Question
- Born of Water and the Spirit
- Jesus Must Be Lifted Up
- The Verdict

## The Context and Question

- Nicodemus was a Pharisee and “ruler of the Jews.”
- Context
  - Old Testament points to Christ and the Kingdom
    - Genesis 12 – All nations blessed through the seed
    - Isaiah 9:6 – Government will rest on His shoulders
    - Daniel 2:44 – Kingdom will never be destroyed
    - Isaiah 11:6; 65:25 – There will be peace
    - Zechariah – The Christ will be Priest and King

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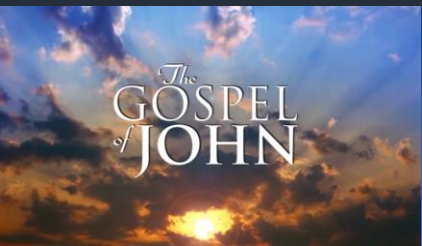
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## The Context and Question

- Question
  - What is the question that is asked by Nicodemus?
    - What would a ruler of the Jews be looking for?
  - Did Nicodemus believe in Jesus?
  - Jesus challenges an incomplete/incorrect belief



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## Born of Water and Spirit

- “You must be born again”
  - Jews considered being “in the kingdom” as a right conferred on them by being children of Abraham
- Water and Spirit – What should Nicodemus know?
  - Ezekiel 36:22-29
    - V.25 - sprinkle clean water on you
    - V.26 - new heart and new spirit
    - V.27 - My Spirit within you
  - Ezekiel 37: 1-14
    - V.5 – Cause breath (*ruach* – spirit) to enter you
    - V.14 – I will put My Spirit (*ruach*) within you

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## Born of Water and Spirit

- Water and Spirit – What should we understand?
  - Spirit – what is the Spirit’s role in our salvation?
    - 1 Corinthians 2:10-13
    - Romans 10:17
  - Water and Spirit together
    - Mark 16:16 – Believes and is baptized
    - Eph. 5:25-26 – Washing of water with the word
    - Titus 3:5 – Washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit

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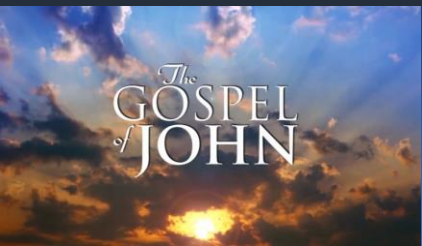
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## Jesus Must Be Lifted Up

- Moses lifting up the serpent – Numbers 21:5-9
  - Numbers 21:5-9



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