## Water To Wine <br> Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.
A. Text: John 2:1-11.
B. John has particularly noted the third day here because of its symbolic meaning pointing to the resurrection.
C. The miracle of changing water to wine was a miracle of transformation--bringing life from death.
II. Mary expected Jesus to do a miracle to supply for lacking wine at the wedding, but Jesus refuses to do exactly what Mary asks.
A. Jesus is saying that what Mary is asking Him to do would not convince the nation that He is Messiah.
B. Mary tells the servants to do whatever Jesus asks, which is good advice.
III. Jesus performs the miracle with simplicity and dignity.
A. This all happened within the limits of a natural process.
B. The Lord demonstrates His marvelous ability to master the processes of nature.
IV. The disciples believed.
A. The miracle was a sign, which is a miracle with a meaning intended to convey something that would not be otherwise known.

1. It suggested that men do the commonplace while God does the miraculous.
2. It demonstrated what the ministry of Jesus would be like.
B. The miracle manifested Jesus' glory, which is the fullness of grace and truth. It pointed out that Jesus was the Lord of nature.
C. The disciples believed that Jesus was God's man put in dominion and authority over the entire natural world.

## Application questions:

1. Why did Jesus initially reject Mary's request?
2. What does the miracle suggest about the distinction between God's activity and man's?
3. How are Jesus miracles intended to draw people to Him? In what ways is it wrong to be drawn to Jesus by His miracles? Explain.
