

C H A P T E R

2

Read verses 1 and 2. In the last few verses of Chapter 1, we find the names of four followers of Jesus, who probably went with Him to Bethsaida and then to Cana. Locate Cana on your map. It is probable that the marriage was that of a relative of the family, since both Jesus and His mother were invited.

35. Who besides Jesus was invited to the marriage feast? His _____
and His _____.

Read verses 3 through 5. It would have been an embarrassing situation for the host if he ran short of wine. It was for this reason, to save him from this predicament, that Jesus' mother mentioned the critical situation. Jesus' answer was not as harsh as it sounds, but was entirely respectful. However, a gentle rebuke was implied in the words "my time has not yet come." She was being a little "pushy" as are most mothers when it comes to recognition of their offspring's talents. Mary's words to the servants "Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it," shows that she understood, and had faith that Jesus could and would supply the lack.

36. Mary believed that Jesus, through a _____ would meet the need.

Read verses 6 through 8. The servants were told by Jesus to fill six large water pots to the brim with water, and then to take this water to the governor of the feast. They were undoubtedly filled with wonderment, doubting what the governor might say when served water, instead of wine. But true to the traditional role of the servants, to obey orders without question, they carried out to the letter the orders given to them.

37. The servants _____ the orders of Jesus, having not the slightest perception that they were taking part in a miracle.

Read verses 9 through 11. Persons who try to bring a moral lesson, relative to the drinking of wine, from this incident, are missing the whole point of the matter: the meeting of an urgent need through miraculous means. The ruler of the feast proclaimed it the best wine yet. It is apparent that besides Jesus, only the servants knew the original source of the "wine" and undoubtedly, it was they who publicized it.

38. Underline the real reason why Jesus performed this miracle:
To please His mother, _____ to meet a need, _____ or to gain publicity.

Read verses 9 through 11 again.

39. Jesus accomplished two purposes; He _____ His _____,

and _____ the _____ of His disciples.

Read verse 12. This simply recounts the visit of Jesus to Capernaum. Probably the same visit was recounted in Luke 4:31 and Matthew 4:13. Capernaum was like a second home to Jesus. Peter's mother-in-law lived there. (See Matt. 8:5-15; Mark 1:21-31; and Luke 4:31-39).

40. His _____, _____, and _____ accompanied Jesus to Capernaum.

Read verses 13 through 17. Verse 13; Jesus went from Capernaum, "up to" Jerusalem, to attend the Passover. The Passover, which was the most important of Jewish religious feasts, commemorated the passing over by the Death Angel of the homes of the Hebrews, where the blood of a lamb had been placed on the doorposts and lintel.

41. Jesus journeyed to Jerusalem to attend the _____.

Verse 14. The animals which Jesus found in the Temple Court were placed there for the convenience of those who desired to make sacrifices. The money-changers probably changed Roman money into Jewish, which was necessary for the payment of the temple dues.

42. True or False? The cattle dealers and money changers served no useful purpose.

Verses 15 through 17. The incident recorded here is sometimes called "the first cleansing of the Temple." The drastic action which Jesus took was justified by the seriousness of the sin. A house built for the glory of God, and set aside and dedicated to spiritual purposes, had been degraded to a marketplace for material profit. His anger was justified, but it was His holy and awesome presence which caused the merchants to flee; the whip was used to drive out the cattle.

43. Jesus was angry because the Jews had made His Father's House a house of _____.

Verse 18. The Jews were angered by Jesus' action, and asked by what authority He had done this thing, suggesting that a miracle might establish His authority. Jesus sensed their hypocrisy, and refused to give them a sign from heaven,

44. True or False? Jesus performed miracles for two reasons; either to meet a human need, or to increase faith.

Verses 19 through 22. Jesus' answer was "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews were completely mystified. It had taken 46 years to erect the Temple of that time. He was speaking of the "temple" of His body, but even the disciples did not understand until after His resurrection. The body of the Christian is also a "temple" (I Cor. 6:19) and the resurrection (rebuilding) is also promised.

45. In this passage, Jesus referred to His body as a _____.

Verses 23 through 25. While in Jerusalem, Jesus performed many miracles. This created a lot of interest, and as the gossip about the mysterious powers of this stranger spread through the city, excitement grew, and great crowds came to follow Him. Jesus knew the common weakness of mankind; his love of excitement and his penchant for "jumping on the bandwagon." He also had the miraculous gift of being able to read the heart of the individual.

46. True or False? When Jesus saw the crowds coming to Him, He was delighted, for it meant His success as a leader.

ANSWERS:

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|--|-----------------|
| 35. Mother, disciples | 41. Passover |
| 36. Miracle | 42. False |
| 37. Obeyed | 43. Merchandise |
| 38. To meet a need | 44. True |
| 39. Manifested, glory, strengthened, faith | 45. Temple |
| 40. Mother, brothers, disciples | 46. False |