

## **BBC - 7/7/24 AM Home Bible Study Outline – “The ‘Double Portion’ of Marriage” – [John 2:1-11](#)**

The marriage at Cana of Galilee was where Jesus performed His first miracle of turning water into wine.

- The “‘Double Portion’ of Marriage” message sought to highlight the great symbolic significance of this miracle.

The 4 sub-themes for this Message were:

- 1) God prioritizes marriage; 2) He seeks the lowly; 3) He demands faith; 4) He expects ongoing obedience

### **1) God prioritizes Marriage:**

- He prioritized the importance of marriage by performing one right after the creation of man – [Genesis 2:18-22](#)
- Marriage was also prioritized as Jesus began His earthly ministry by attending a wedding where He did this miracle.
- Discussion: see [Genesis 1:9-13](#)
  - *What was unique about the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the 6 days of creation in terms of God declaring His blessing of it being “good”?*
  - *Does the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of creation give us a clue as to why this wedding celebration was launched on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day?*

### **2) He seeks the Lowly:**

- Jacob’s 12 sons founded God’s covenant nation of Israel. [Genesis 49](#) describes dying Jacob’s blessing on his 12 sons.
- After the Exodus, the 12 Tribes inherited the promised land. Jacob’s 8<sup>th</sup> son, Asher, inherited the Cana of Galilee area.
- Discussion: see 1) [Genesis 30:9-13, 49:20](#); [Deuteronomy 33:24-25](#) and 2) [Exodus 23:23-33](#); [Judges 1:28, 31-32](#)
  - *Does the blessing of Asher by Jacob & Moses reveal a generally lesser blessing than his brothers?*
  - *Did the 12 tribes (and in particular Asher) faithfully carry out God’s mandate when inheriting their land portions?*
- Further Discussion: see [John 1:45-47; 21:2](#)
  - *Was Jesus impressed by Nathaniel (from Cana of Galilee)? ...and by the marriage scheduled on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day (Tues)?*
  - *If Asher was one of the “lowly” brothers, why would Jesus debut His ministry with a miracle at Cana of Galilee?*

### **3) He demands Faith:**

- Jesus’ mother, Jesus, and His disciples (*only had about 6 of them at this early time*) were invited to this Cana wedding
- The wedding may have been a “low budget” wedding, in that they underestimated and soon ran out of wine.
- Mary informs Jesus of this predicament (*Jesus tested her faith*), and she immediately instructed them to obey Jesus.
- Discussion: see [Romans 1:17, 12:3, 10:17](#); [Hebrews 11:6](#); [James 2:17](#)
  - *If God equips every man with usable faith, what is it that stirs man to exercise that faith towards God?*
  - *When through the hearing of God’s Word, the Holy Spirit stirs our faith, is there any necessary action by man?*
  - *Did Mary struggle with faith; what action did she take? What’s required by us when confronted with God’s truth?*

### **4) He expects ongoing Obedience:**

- Jesus was resurrected on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day after His crucifixion. Biblically, “water” is a type of God’s Word & the Holy Spirit.
- Jesus instructed the wedding attendants to fill 6 ‘purification’ stone barrels with water, which then turned to wine.
- Discussion: see [John 3:5, 7:38](#); [Ephesians 5:26](#); [1 John 5:6-8](#); [Ezekiel 11:19](#)
  - *If we can see in this account, how symbolically; the 3<sup>rd</sup> Day is the Church age, the attendants are the NT Church, the 6 empty stone barrels are a picture of unsaved men; the water is God’s Word received by stone-hearted men; the water in the barrels turned into wine is the purifying regeneration of unsaved man unto new life, and the presentation of that new fine wine unto the governor of the feast is saved man received by a pleased Father...*
  - ***Then**, how is the Church called to present the Gospel, and what opportunity does God offer to unsaved man?*
  - ***Also**, what warning does Jesus alert us in [Matthew 9:17](#) with regards to our walk of faith & obedience to God? Can genuine born-again Christians be spiritually “sloppy,” and walk in worldly ways as unsaved men do?*
- Final discussion:
  - ***Why** was Jesus so pleased with Nathaniel (with a ‘lowly’ heritage) and the marriage feast held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day?*