

“Do whatever Jesus says.” Jesus had told us, **“Come and you will see.”** And one of the first places he took us was to a **wedding** in the town of Cana in Galilee. But as we celebrated this man and woman being united to each other in the Creator’s love, the wine, which was essential to the wedding celebration, ran out. Jesus’s mother came to him and asked him to **help**. We didn’t understand why she would ask Jesus to help with **wine**. What could he do? He didn’t own a vineyard. It didn’t make any sense. And Jesus seemed to dismiss his mother as though he couldn’t help. But Mary was not discouraged. We saw her urgently track down the **“servants”** who were helping at the wedding. She earnestly spoke to the **“servants”** of the wedding, saying, **“Do whatever Jesus says.”** None of it made sense to us and it seemed like the servants were confused as well. But Mary was insistent, saying, **“Do whatever Jesus says.”**

After a short time we saw Jesus go over to the servants. Then we saw the servants filling these giant purification water jars. What on earth was Jesus wanting with all that **water**? Then we saw one of the servants draw a cup out of the water jar and take it to the master of ceremonies who was overseeing the wedding. Then we saw him drink it—and his face lit up. He was excited but clearly **confused**. We didn’t understand. Why was he excited about **water**? Then he announced to the whole wedding, **“Everyone serves the best wine at the beginning and then brings out the lesser wine after everyone is drunk. But you have saved the best wine until now!”**

Wait, what? Wine? The servants had given the master of ceremonies a cup of **water**. How could it be wine? We were shocked. What had just happened? What had **Jesus** done? What had happened when those servants **“did whatever Jesus said”**? Clearly, something really special was going on surrounding Jesus and we were just starting to **“see”** it, even if we didn’t understand it. Jesus had told us, **“Come and you will see.”** We had followed and we were starting to have our **eyes** opened to a reality we never knew existed.

Then we returned to Capernaum for a while. But when the **Passover** approached, we all journeyed 80 miles south to Jerusalem. When we got there Jesus took us into the **temple**, into the place where our leaders told us that Heaven and Earth were **married** together. But Jesus was not happy at all when he saw what was going on in the temple. Jesus sprang into action. Jesus **drove** the oxen and sheep, that were locked up and waiting to be sacrificed, out of the temple. He also **overturned** the money tables of the bankers. Then he told those selling doves to **release** them and set them free. Jesus threw **everyone** and **everything** out of the temple, shutting down the whole **sacrificial system** that was so important to the Law of Moses.

We thought Heaven and Earth were united and married through sacrificing the animals, sacrificing **others** so we could be close to the Creator. Jesus was showing us that we were dead wrong. The authorities were absolutely furious and demanded that Jesus prove he had the right to shut down the sacrificial system. Jesus said to them, **“Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.”** The authorities were beside themselves and said, **“It took 46 years to build this temple and you are going to rebuild it in three days?!”** They laughed at Jesus and mocked him. We too were deeply **confused** and almost embarrassed by Jesus’s words.

It was only much later that we realized what Jesus meant. Jesus had been speaking about the **true temple**. The true temple, the true **marriage** point between Heaven and Earth, was not the giant building made by human hands standing at the top of Jerusalem. The true temple, the true marriage point between Heaven and Earth, was Jesus’s **body**. When we began following Jesus, he had told us we would see **“the Creator’s angels ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”** And this is **exactly** what we were beginning to see. Heaven and Earth were connected in Jesus’s body. **Everywhere** Jesus went, Heaven and Earth were **married** together. It was **not** in a temple building, it was **not** in animal sacrifice—it was in Jesus’s body.

That’s what we had seen happening at the **wedding** in Cana. The **old wine**—the Law of Moses—was not adequate to complete the wedding celebration that had begun at the beginning of creation. The old wine of Moses’s Law had run out and run its course. It was okay wine, it did its job fine enough, but it could not **complete** the wedding celebration. Now there was **new wine**, not from Moses, but from **Jesus** and it was the **best** wine. Far superior to what Moses had offered. And this new wine from Jesus was able to **“finish”** and **“complete”** the marriage celebration. Our spiritual eyes were now being opened to **“see”** what was really happening all around us. There was a **wedding** taking place right before our eyes. Heaven and Earth, Spirit and Flesh were being **married** and united in Jesus himself, in his body and flesh. And we were the **“servants”** of that wedding feast and we had one job, **“Do whatever Jesus says.”** And when we, the servants, **“did whatever Jesus said”** then the Creator made **new wine** that was helping to **“finish”** and **“complete”** the marriage of Heaven and Earth.

“Do whatever Jesus says.” Heaven and Earth are being married, Spirit and Flesh are being married, the Creator and his Creation are being married, and Christ and the Church are being married. This **marriage** is happening right **now**—with us or without us. The Creator **will** make this marriage happen through Jesus and bring **new creation** to all the cosmos, to all the universe—and nothing we can do will stop the Creator from **completing** this work.

The only question is whether we will participate in this marriage feast or not. Because of the Creator’s great love, we have been invited to this **wedding** celebration, to this **marriage** feast—he does not want to leave us out. The Creator asks us to be his **“servants”** at this wedding feast and to help make it a glorious thing for all creation. He wants our own **bodies** and our own **flesh** to participate in this marriage. If we accept the Creator’s invitation to join this wedding party, then our job is very simple, **“Do whatever Jesus says.”** When he asks us to fill water jars, we do it in **faith**, trusting that he will make **“the best wine”** out of our simple obedience—we trust that he will **“finish”** the marriage of Heaven and Earth through our work as his **“servants”** who **“do whatever Jesus says.”**

So will you help with the marriage of Heaven and Earth? Will join in the wedding celebration of Spirit and Flesh? Will you be a **“servant”** who offers your own body and your own flesh to be part of the marriage of Heaven and Earth? Or will you be left out because you don’t want to help or are too busy with other things? Will you be left out because you want to do whatever **you** want? The world and your flesh is constantly urging you, **“Do whatever you want.”** Yet the Creator is on the other side urging you to join his wedding party, saying, **“Do whatever Jesus says.”**

The Creator has **“saved the best wine until now.”** The new wine has arrived in Jesus. Stop listening to the other voices within you and in our world. Just **“do whatever Jesus says,”** and the new wine will flow. **Amen.**