

SAVING THE BEST FOR THE LAST

(John 2:1 NIV) On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, (John 2:2 NIV) and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. (John 2:3 NIV) When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." (John 2:4 NIV) "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." (John 2:5 NIV) His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." (John 2:6 NIV) Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. (John 2:7 NIV) Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. (John 2:8 NIV) Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, (John 2:9 NIV) and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside (John 2:10 NIV) and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

1. JESUS AT THE WEDDING.

1. *Jesus was where people were.*

1. Jesus must have loved a good party.
2. He was where there was joy and rejoicing.

2. *It was on the third day.*

1. The third day is restoration. (Hosea 6:2 NIV) After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence.
2. The third day will see the completed task. (Luke 13:32 NIV) He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.'"
3. A day with the Lord as 1000 years.

3. *The wine ran out.*

1. There comes a time the wine must be replenished.
2. Shouldn't be so intoxicated that you will accept just anything.

4. *Jesus = time had not yet come.*

1. Set time of the father.

1. (Gal 4:1 NIV) What I am saying is that as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate.
 2. (Gal 4:2 NIV) He is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father.
 3. (Gal 4:3 NIV) So also, when we were children, we were in slavery under the basic principles of the world.
2. Full time. (Gal 4:4 NIV) But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, (Gal 4:5 NIV) to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

3. Dispensation of fulness of time.

1. (Eph 1:10 KJV) That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:

2. (Eph 1:11 KJV) In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:
 3. (Eph 1:12 KJV) That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.
 4. (Eph 1:13 KJV) In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,
 5. (Eph 1:14 KJV) Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.
5. ***Do what He tells you to do.***
 1. Fill the jars with water.
 2. Take a drink to the master of the banquet.
 6. ***There were six jars.***
 1. After the manner of the law.
 2. Each was 20-30 gallons.
 7. ***The response of the master of the feast:*** (John 2:10 NIV) and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."
 1. When you get intoxicated, it doesn't make any difference.
 2. Many are intoxicated on the initial wine without realizing that there is better to come.
2. THE EARTH IS YET TO EXPERIENCE ITS FINEST DAY. (And some of you are yet to experience your finest day).
 1. ***The anticipation of Jesus = first coming.***
 1. Could this be the one?
 2. My eyes have seen thy salvation. (Luke 2:25 KJV) And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. (Luke 2:26 KJV) And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. (Luke 2:27 KJV) And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, (Luke 2:28 KJV) Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, (Luke 2:29 KJV) Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: (Luke 2:30 KJV) For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, (Luke 2:31 KJV) Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; (Luke 2:32 KJV) A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. (Luke 2:33 KJV) And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. (Luke 2:34 KJV) And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken

against; (Luke 2:35 KJV) (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

2. ***The anticipation of His second coming.***

1. (Heb 9:28 NIV) so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.
2. The desire to see the fulfillment or consummation of the ages.

3. ***The anticipation of His revelation.***

1. (Rom 8:19 NIV) The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.
2. (Rom 8:20 NIV) For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope
3. (Rom 8:21 NIV) that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.
4. (Rom 8:22 NIV) We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.
5. (Rom 8:23 NIV) Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

3. WE=RE HEADED FOR THE FINALITY OF ALL THINGS.

1. ***This will represent fullness; completeness; perfectness; maturity.***
2. ***We=re moving from death unto life.***
3. ***The things which have worked so effectively in the past will not necessarily work with the same effect in the future.***
4. ***The glory of the latter house shall supersede the glory of the former.***

4. A REVELATION FOR AN APPOINTED TIME.

1. ***Though it linger wait for it.*** (Hab 2:1 NIV) I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint. (Hab 2:2 NIV) Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. (Hab 2:3 NIV) For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.
2. ***Seal the book.***
 1. King James. (Dan 12:4 KJV) But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.
 2. New Revised Standard Version. (Dan 12:4 NRSV) But you, Daniel, keep the words secret and the book sealed until the time of the end. Many shall be running back and forth, and evil shall increase."
3. ***Open the seal.***
 1. Who is worthy? (Rev 5:1 KJV) And I saw in the right hand of him that sat

on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. (Rev 5:2 KJV) And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?

2. No man was found worthy. (Rev 5:3 KJV) And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. (Rev 5:4 KJV) And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.
3. Stop your crying. (Rev 5:5 KJV) And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. (Rev 5:6 KJV) And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. (Rev 5:7 KJV) And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne.
4. Worshiping the worthy lamb.
 1. *Four beasts and 24 elders.* (Rev 5:8 KJV) And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. (Rev 5:9 KJV) And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; (Rev 5:10 KJV) And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.
 2. *Angels.* (Rev 5:11 KJV) And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; (Rev 5:12 KJV) Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.
 3. *Every creature.* (Rev 5:13 KJV) And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. (Rev 5:14 KJV) And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.