

## **The Miracle of Transformation**

By John Christopher

When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bride-groom, and said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first, and when *the people* have drunk freely, *then he serves* the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now." This beginning of *His* signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him (John 2:9-11, NASB).

I remember the day I got to visit a notable seminary in Texas. I, along with several other prospects, had the privilege of eating lunch with some of the professors. We could ask anything we wanted. There were a couple of guys on the tour who kept arguing about the water being turned to wine. Was the wine Jesus made fermented? They seemed intent on getting their answer—so much, in fact, this was the question they asked the professors. Imagine that! Those of us on the tour could ask these men of God anything we wanted, and all those guys asked about was wine! I couldn't believe it. Why be so obsessed with this question? Is that all there is to this story?

The miracle of the water turned into wine is probably the best example of how one can focus on a particular and miss the point of a story. Was it real wine? Whether or not it was makes no difference. The point is Jesus can take something as mundane and ordinary as water and transform it into something else entirely. This miracle was the beginning of Jesus' ministry, and there is within this story a picture of what His life and ministry was to become. He takes the things of the world and transforms them into objects of glory. Jesus is bringing heaven to earth, making transformation inevitable. He's continually changing water into wine. Look at His disciples. Jesus changed their lives altogether. He took them from what they were and made them into something they never dreamed possible. Christ wants to create the same change in us as well.

The miracle of water into wine finds its strongest analogy in the transformation of death into life. Someday we will be like fine wine. But right now, in this earthly body, we are like ordinary water. Someday, though, when the miracle of transformation takes place on a most grand scale, we will take on the heavenly. However, there will be more transformation to come besides our own. There will be a new heaven and a new earth as well. They will outshine the old much like the taste of wine surpasses that of plain water. The delight we will have is something we will enjoy forever.

The Lord Jesus Christ is always transforming things into something altogether new. This is His greatest work, and has been present from the beginning, when He spoke the worlds into existence, and has continued to the time He stood in Cana asking for jugs to be filled with water.

God wants to take our lives and make them into something we never thought they could become. Our lives are not meant to remain in the mundane. There is nothing ordinary about the child of God. God's desire is to transform us into something we never dreamed possible. We might be surprised at what our lives someday become. The miracle Jesus did that day in Cana was just the beginning of His signs. Since He did so much with mere water, imagine what all He has in store for His children.

(An excerpt from my book *Thoughts of a Modern-Day Sojourner*)