

“Cheers!”

(John 2:1-11)

INTRODUCTION: *“Cheers!” with church wine in the sacristy ☺*

I. JOY: THE OUTWARD MARK OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

- A. Just a few passages
(John 15:11; Psalm 32:11; Nehemiah 8:10; Philippians 4:4)
- B. Jesus was not a “fun-killer”. He was invited to the Cana wedding
(John 2:1-2)
- C. Our grumpiness or lack of joy can convince others that to be a Christian must be a terrible ordeal

II. BACK TO THE WEDDING:

FREE-FLOWING WINE A SYMBOL OF JOY

- A. Note also: Psalm 104:15 & Isaiah 5:1
- B. The wedding host had a problem: running out of wine (John 2:3)
- C. What are ways people today try to find fleeting happiness instead of lasting joy?
- D. JOY: the lasting security of being in God’s care regardless of outward circumstances (Nehemiah 8:10)
- E. Jesus is the JOY-GIVER, the source of true & lasting joy
- F. Jesus’ mother asks Jesus to provide wine for the Cana wedding
(John 2:3-4)



III. JESUS PROVIDES MORE WINE (JOY) THAN ANYONE COULD USE

- A. Note also: John 6:35; John 15:11; John 10:10
- B. Jesus comes not just to give us a “taste” of joy but to fill us with joy
(John 2:10)
- C. He provides the “real stuff”, not a cheap imitation (John 2:10)
- D. His gift is free, but it does not come cheap (See the price paid at the cross!)
- E. John calls Jesus’ wine miracle a sign (*a sign points to a reality beyond itself* – John 2:11)

CONCLUSION: *Not ‘Amen!’...
not ‘Praise the Lord’...
but -- ‘Hot Dog!’*