

The Miracles of Jesus: Part V

Sermon Title: **The Miracles of Jesus: Part V**

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C. Elijah Bronner: God doesn't give us talent to be buried. He gives us talent to be used.

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(Music Playing: 00:00:22 - 00:00:50)

And now for 7820, The Miracles of Jesus: Part V.

C. Elijah Bronner: Thank you for joining Brothers of The Word because brother, you need the word.

Well, a pastor went to visit elderly gentleman one day and the pastor told the gentleman seeing that he was advanced in age. He said, "You should really be thinking about the hereafter." And the elderly gentleman, he said, "Pastor", he said, "I think about the hereafter all the time." He said, "No matter where I am, in the living room, upstairs, in the kitchen or down in the basement, I'm always asking myself. 'Now, what am I hereafter?'"

We're doing part five of something we've been sharing for a few weeks entitled, "The Miracles of Jesus", and we are just basically on the second miracle. First miracle, we covered the fish and loaves. And the second miracle we're looking at as is taking place at the wedding in Cana of Galilee. So, you have your Bibles open up to John Chapter 2. Joh Chapter 2. We'll read down Verses 1 through 10. John Chapter II Verses 1 through 10. When you get there, say, "Amen."

John Chapter 2 Verses 1 through 10 and it reads there, "And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: And both Jesus was called, and His disciples, to the marriage. And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto them, 'They have no wine.' Jesus saith unto her, 'Woman, what have I to do with thee? Mine hour is not yet come.' His mother saith unto the servants, 'Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it.' And there were set there six water pots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. Jesus saith unto them, 'Fill the water pots with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. And he saith unto them, 'Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast.'

And they bare it. When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, and saith unto him, 'Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now.'"

And so, we are talking about The Miracles of Jesus: Part V. The Miracles of Jesus: Part V. Last time, we left off right at the point of the fact that not only was Jesus invited to the wedding, but His disciples were also there with Him and that saith to us that those that follow Christ shall also feast with Christ. They were with Him and it also let us know that to love Christ is to love those who belong to Christ.

See? The wedding part has showed their love to Christ by inviting His disciples because they belong to Him. And so, we show our love to Christ by loving those that belong to Him. And then, we look in Verse 4. Well, actually, I liked something we share. We talked about how Jesus' mother, she was not seeking this miracle on her own behalf, but she was seeking it on behalf of someone else. It lets us know that would it be interested in helping others, would it be interested in the things of others, would it be concerned for the needs of others, would always to be concern about the needs of others, and Jesus illustrate it in the way that He did miracles and He always care for others.

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He was always helping others, concern with others. He cares for us.

And so, there are some things we should try to do for people. I want to give 10 quick things I learned from John Maxwell, 10 quick things that we should do for people.

No. 1, people are insecure. We should give them confidence. No. 2, people like to feel special. We should sincerely compliment them. No. 3, people look for a better tomorrow. We should show them hope. No. 4, people need to be understood. We should listen to them. No. 5, people like direction. We should navigate for them. No. 6, people are selfish. We should speak to their needs first. No. 7, people get emotionally low. We should encourage

them. No. 8, people want to be associate with success. We should help them win. No. 9, people desire meaningful relationships. We should help provide community. And No. 10, people seek models to follow. We should be an example.

So, Jesus was always interested in helping other people. He was interested in being in touch with the people. Ministry is all about people. It's all about people.

And so, here's something I want to share in particular in Verse 4. Notice in Verse 4, it says, "Jesus saith unto her --." He's talking to His own mother and Jesus saith unto her, He says, "Woman --." And notice He calls her woman. He calls her woman there and He was not really being disrespectful and some scholars believe that the title woman, there was a title given to those in authority or those who had a higher rank.

And so, from one standpoint, He was actually being respectful when He called her woman. Speaking to someone in --. But other scholars believe that He was letting her know He didn't call her mother, He called her woman to let her know, "You might be my mother from the man part of me, but you are not the mother of the God part of me." And so, He had to call her woman to let her know her place. So, wait a minute now. "You gave birth to the man part of men, but you did not give birth to the God part of me. As a man, I am your son, but as God, I'm your master. I am your Lord."

So, some scholars believe that He called a woman there to make that distinction. So, you can choose whichever path you prefer to follow on that. And then, in Verse 5, notice what He says too in Verse 4. He says, "Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come." So, Jesus is basically saying, "Look, it's not time for me to work miracles yet. You know, you're asking something that's from the God part of me, which you have no dealing with because you're the mother of the natural part of me." And so, He says, "Mine hour is not yet come." But notice His mother didn't pay Him any attention at all.

In Verse 5, that teaches us something. It teaches us that we can go to God in prayer. We can wrestle with God. This is what this is actually teaching us. Jesus had told her, "It's not my time." She went right on and -- look at Verse 5. "His mother saith unto the servants, whatsoever He saith unto you, do it." She expected,

notice that. Mother still had expectancy even though it wasn't His time. She's now moved over until the realm of faith. And so, she is wrestling with God. She is using her expectancy. Expectancy is the breathing ground for miracles. Expectancy is the breathing ground for miracles.

She didn't know what he would do, but she knew He would do something. And so, even though it wasn't His time, she wrestled with God. So, it lets us know that even when it doesn't seem like something is God's time or the things that are not working out the way they should, we can go to God. And so, we can use our faith and we can go to God to change some things and that's exactly what she did. She said, "Whatever He does, whatever He tells you to do, do it." So, she submitted. Now, notice this. She submitted to His way of doing. She submitted to His way of doing. She didn't try to figure out how He would do it. So, she submitted to whatever way He was going to do it. She submitted to that.

So, so often we have an idea on how we think God would do certain things in our lives. We already have a preconceived notion, and a plan and all of that, but we should submit and let God do it His way. Let God do it His way. We don't know how God will do certain things in our lives. And so, she submitted it to God. She said, "Whatever He tells you to do, do it. Whatever He tells you to do, do it."

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Now, also, that lets us know we need to be doers of the word, doers of the word. Jesus is the Word. She says, "Whatever He tells you to do, do it." So, we're to be doers of the word, not -- turn to your neighbor and say, "I'm a doer of the word." I'm a doer of the word. So, whatever He tells you to do, just do it. Just do it. Whatever He tells you to do, do it. Be a doer of the word.

And so, we talked about before that in order to have a biblical miracle, you must have a need, you must be willing to participate and you must have faith and obedience. You have to have those three elements to receive a biblical miracle. You must have a need, must be willing to participate and you must have faith and obedience. Those that expect His favor must obey His orders.

If you expect the favor of God, you have to be willing to do what He tells you to do. Look at Verse 6, "And there were set there six

water pots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece.” So, there were six water pots there. Now, these water pots, these were used for ceremonial cleansing. So, according to the law, they will wash their hands or wash certain parts of the body.

So, these were actually water stones that were used for cleansing and they contain two to three firkins apiece. Most scholars estimate that to be 20 to 30 gallons apiece. So, these six containers, these six water jars or water pots would equal 120 to 180 gallons of water. So, that’s a lot of water. That’s a lot water turned into wine.

And so, what Jesus was doing, He was making more than enough wine because that’s just the way He operates. Jesus gives the way He is. He gives abundantly. That’s the way He is. They didn’t need that much, He made more than enough so that the wedding party can have wine to take home with them and to share with friends. And that’s the way Jesus give. Jesus gives the way that He is. He gives abundantly. So, He was making more than enough wine.

In Verse 7, notices He says this, “Jesus saith unto them, ‘Fill the water pots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.’” I love that. They filled them to the brim. Now, that says something. Now, the scripture put the brim in there for a reason. Don’t do the minimum. Don’t do the minimum. Don’t settle for less. No, don’t settle for less. Grow to your maximum potential. Grow to your maximum potential. Enlarge your capacity. Believe with all your heart. Enlarge a vision, maximize the moment. What is it you should be doing right now? Maximize the moment. This is what He is saying, they filled them to the brim. They didn’t leave any room. They could’ve filled them half way or three-fourths. They filled them to the brim, maximize the moment. Increase your capacity. Believe God for more. You want to grow to your maximum potential.

John Maxwell said there’s a principle called, “The Know, Grow and Sow Principle.” Know your purpose in life, grow to your maximum potential, then sow, sow seeds that benefit others. Everybody say, “Know, grow and sow.” Find your purpose in life, grow to your maximum potential. Grow to your maximum potential and then sow seeds that benefits others. So, they filled them to the brim. Live your fullest life in Christ, Jesus. Read

great books, visit great places, attend great events, be around great people because you're enlarging your capacity.

When you do those things and you're filling yourself to the brim, fill your life to the brim.

I like something that John Gardiner said. He says, "Most of us plateau when we lose the tension between where we are and where we ought to be, we plateau in life." And so, we want to grow to our maximum potential. Fill it to the brim. Everybody say, "Fill it to the brim."

Man, live life to the brim. Live life to the brim. Don't leave anything undiscovered, anything unexplored. Man, live life to the brim. Live life to the brim. Live life to the brim. Praise, God. I like Pastor Nathaniel. Pastor Nathaniel, he lives life to the brim. You should see his list of things that we want to do. He's already jumped out of an airplane and say he has on his list, he's going to go walk this trail that's 500 miles long.

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So, he has an exciting list. He is living life to the brim. He is leaving nothing undone, no stone unturned. And so, you have to enlarged your capacity to dream and imagine and make a list of things you wanted to do, places you want to go, and events you want to attend, and people you want to see. Make a list and begin to work and live life to the brim. Live life to the brim. Turn to your neighbor and say, "Live life to the brim." Live a fulfilled life in Christ, Jesus. Maximize your opportunities. Maximize the moment. Seize the day. Seize the day. Seize the day.

I like something that Bishop Dale said. He says, "Doing just enough to get by is never just enough to get promoted." So, don't do just enough. They filled it to the brim. Give it all you got. Do your very best in everything. Be filled it to the brim.

And also, now that it relates to the spirit, be filled with the spirit. Be filled with the spirit. Ephesians 5:18, 19, 20, "Speaking to yourselves in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God." Being filled with the spirits.

So, when they fill those water pots, keep in mind, we are vessels ourselves. We are vessels of clay and water is a type of the spirit. So, He is saying, "Be filled with the spirit." Live your life out of the overflowing spirit-filled life. Be filled with the spirit. Be filled with the spirit. Everybody say, "Be filled with the spirit." Be filled with the spirit. We don't do anything without God's power, can't accomplish anything without God's power, without His infilling, without His indwelling presence. And so, we rely on Him. Be filled with the spirit. Be filled with the spirit.

"It's not by might nor by power, but by my spirit," saith the Lord. And so, I believe we get the imagery there of being filled with the spirit. Being filled with the spirit. And look at Verse 8. Look at Verse 8, "And He saith unto them, 'Draw out now.'" I like everybody to say, "Now." Notice that. It happens suddenly.

This represents the suddenness of God. This didn't take years. This didn't take months. This did not take weeks. This didn't take days. This didn't even take hours. This happened suddenly. He said, 'Draw out now.' It was suddenly. The suddenness of God. God can do some things instantaneously in our lives. Instantly, God can change us. Instantly, God can change our circumstance. Instantly, God can change our status. Instantly, God can change our lives.

The suddenness of God. It happens suddenly. Everybody say, "Suddenly." Suddenly, now. Everybody say, "Now." That's what He told them, "Draw out now, now." Now is the time. Now, faith is. Now. Now. Now is the acceptable time of the Lord. Now. And so, He said, "Draw out now." It happened suddenly.

Now, I want you also to look at the words draw out. Draw out. Notice this. He didn't tell them to leave the wine in the barrels for observation. He didn't say, "Just leave them there and we'll just keep them there to look at them." No. He said, "Draw it out so that it can be used." It can be used. This wine was not meant to be admired in a barrel, it was meant to be used to drink. And so, God doesn't give us talent to be buried, He gives us talent to be used. Draw it out. Turn to your neighbor and say, "Draw it out." Draw it out.

And so, I like something that George Eliot said. He said, "It's never too late to be what you might have been." It is never too

late to be what you might have been. Draw it out now. There's talent on the inside of you. There's treasure on the inside of you. Draw it out now. It's meant to be used. Draw it out now. Use the wine. Use the wine. He made the wine for it to be drink. So, use the wine. Use your gifts. Use your talents. Draw it out now. Draw it out now. Draw it out now.

I was reading a story about a woman, she was over in her 90s and she had lived her whole life. She was now in a nursing home. She had lived her whole life knowing that she was born to sing, but she never sang. And now that she is in a nursing home in her 90s, she decides to draw it out now. And she started singing in the nursing home. And her voice was so beautiful and so powerful that people came from all over and packed that nursing home up just to hear her sing.

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She drew it out. She waited to the end of her line, but she did draw it. Don't wait until you get to a nursing home. Draw it out now. Use your give now. Use the talent now. Use the treasure now. Use what God has put in you now. Use it now. Use it now. Draw it out now. It's never too late to be what you could've been.

Grandma Moses didn't start painting until she was 75 years old. She still had a 26-year career. It's never too late. Never too late. Turn to your neighbor and say, "It's never too late." It's never too late. Never too late to be what you could've been. Draw it out now. Use it now. Use it now. Use it now. Man, get busy now. Get busy working on it now. Praise God.

And notice, this other application I'm drawing out now, there are some things that God has laid up for us. He is saying, "Draw it out now." The Bible says, Psalms 31:19, He's laid up goodness. "Oh, how great is thy goodness, that you have laid up for the just." He's saying, "Draw it out now." He's laid it up for you. Draw it out now.

If you need some goodness in your life, draw it out now. He's there for you. He is to reserve wisdom and He's laid up wisdom for us. Draw it out now. If you need wisdom, that's why the Bible says, "If you lack wisdom ask of God, He gives -- draw it out now." God has laid up by inheritance for us if you need it. Now, draw it out now. Draw it out now.

So, we draw from the things that God has laid up for us. Draw the promises of God. Draw them out now. They are laid up for us. He is saying, "Draw it out now. You can use them now." Everything that God has entitled us to have and to use and He has given us, we can draw it out now. Praise God. I like that. How many -- anybody got to draw some stuff out, I'm going to be drawing some stuff out. Draw it out now. Draw it out now. Draw it out now. Praise God.

I'm almost done. Turn over to Verse 9 and notice this. "When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, and saith unto Him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now."

In other words, Christ's works are always the best. Always the best. His miracles are always the best whatever Christ work is, and this is always the best. He always gives us the very best. He has reserved some things, the best He saves for now. He has reserved some things. Notice what he said, "Thou had kept the good wine unto now." I believe the rest of your life can be the best of your life. He has kept the good wine until now. The rest of your life can be the best of your life. He has reserved the best for now. Thou have kept the good wine until now. The rest of your life can be the best of your life.

See? God, He always has something better. The book of Hebrews talks about all the saints of old and you know what the Bible says? He says that God, even though they had it great, He has provided something better for us now. So, they without us are not complete. We are enjoying His best right now because Jesus has come. They didn't have Jesus. We have Jesus who has come. So, he saved something better for us. Man, Christ works are always the best. He saved the best wine for now. Doesn't that excite you a little bit? He saved the best wine for now. Praise God. Praise God.

Well, I'm going to stop right there, I have pretty much covered everything I wanted to cover in this. I want you to also look at just this last final thought. Jesus' first miracle was turning water into wine. Moses' first miracle was turning water into blood,

which signifies the curse of the law. So, Moses' first miracle signified the curse of the law, took water and turned it into something that was a terror. He turned water into blood. But Jesus came, "He turned water into wine signifying the gospel of grace, the gospel of Christ Jesus. The blessing has come. The blessing has come. He has turned water into wine. Praise God. Give the Lord a hand clap for his word. Amen. Praise God. Praise God. Praise God.

I'm going to stop right now. I'm not done, but I'm just going to force myself to stop right here. Praise God. Amen. Amen. Amen. We're talking about the miracles of Jesus. The miracles of Jesus. Just looking back through some of His miraculous works and I want you to know that He's still doing miracles today and I want you to believe God.

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Believe God.

How can we ever see miracles if nobody is believing for Him? Nobody is believing for miracles; how will the church ever see miracles again? We have start expecting. We have to start believing He's the same God. He's the same God. In fact, God said in the Book of Isiah, He said, "You thought it was something when I parted the Red Sea?" He said, "Oh, I can do much greater than that." He said, "I have much more than that." He said, "I'm going to do some things that you've never heard or seen before." He said, "Don't just celebrate me parting the Red Sea, my power is much greater. It is much better. I have some wonderful things I want to do and show you." Believe God for miracles. Expect Him to do it. Expect Him to do it. He's the God of miracles. He is the God that doeth wondrous. Praise God.

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