

Initial Proofs from the Giver of Life

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Series: Living the Good Life (Gospel of John)

Initial Proofs from the Giver of Life

[John 2:1-25](#)

-John's main purpose for writing his Gospel = to show that Jesus was indeed the Chosen One of God to bring eternal life to all who will receive Him.

-Today: Jesus & His actions are in the spotlight as we see *3 Initial Proofs from the Giver of Life* (Jesus) as He begins His adult ministry.

-Interesting: John stops and gives brief commentary statements (11, 17, 21-22) on these proofs Jesus demonstrates—seemingly to tell his readers (us) to stop and consider why Jesus did this/said this.

3 Proofs Jesus gives, that He is the Giver of Eternal Life and should be trusted as such:

I. A Glimpse of Glory ([John 2:1-12](#))

-Editorial comment from John (11): *This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.*

-This is the 1st miracle of Jesus John points out and the purpose of this miracle was to amplify Jesus' glory as God and to prompt belief in those who saw it.

-Let's read about this miracle and see what we are to believe about Jesus and why we see His glory demonstrated (1-12):

-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 (ran out of), the mother of Jesus saith unto him, 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 waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece (20-30 gallons each). Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots 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. This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him. After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples: and they continued there not many days.

-For the ones who had not yet placed their faith in Jesus, this miracle served to prompt them to belief in the first place.

-For the ones who already believed in Jesus, this miracle served to prompt their continued faith in the power of Jesus along life's journey.

-We have a *water-to-wine* kind of Savior that we get to follow in this eternal life that started the moment we received Christ!

-This wedding miracle gives of a glimpse of God's glory that prompts our trust.

II. The Importance of Worship ([John 2:13-17](#))

Editorial comment from John (17): *And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house*

-Editorial comment from John (17): *And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.*

-[Psalm 69:9](#), *For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me.*

-David had a pursuit in life that included a desire to build a temple where the presence of God is sensed and where God is worshipped.

-Let's read what Jesus did here that reminded His disciples of David's passion to have a temple where God is worshipped and what that prompts in our own belief and practice (13-17):

-And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise. And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.

-Animals were being sold for sacrifice purposes and money was being converted for a temple tax.

-The problem was not necessarily that this business was taking place, but that it was taking place IN the temple where the focus was supposed to be on God and not on these traditional practices.

-Jesus (v.16): *Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise.*

-Worship is not about what man does for God or what he does to get close to God—worship is about seeing and praising God for Who He is and what He does.

III. A Focus on the Resurrection ([John 2:18-25](#))

-Editorial comment from John (21-22): *But he spake of the temple of his body. When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.*

-Jesus said something here that referred to His body being killed and Him rising from the dead that prompted belief in the significance and power of His resurrection.

-Let's read what happened (18-25):

Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things? Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? But he spake of the temple of his body. When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said. Now when he was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did. But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men, And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.

-The religious Jewish people in the temple area wanted to know by what authority Jesus was overturning tables and kicking people out of the temple!

-Jesus then turns the focus to an event that was coming in the near future that would validate His authority as God—His resurrection!

-It was His future resurrection that was a legitimacy-factor of Jesus being the Chosen One of God to bring eternal life.

-Our hope for eternity and even every next step in life hinges on the fact that Jesus rose from the dead.

-Because our Savior ultimately rose from the grave, victorious over sin and death, we, too, are victorious over sin and death when we accept Jesus's salvation for ourselves.

Action steps as we see these proofs from Jesus:

1. Trust in Jesus as the ONLY Solution for your sin if you haven't.

2. Let the truth that Jesus is the Giver of Éternal Life defeat the doubt that you carry.

-(J. Bunyan, Pilgrim's Progress) *Christian and His traveling companion, Hopeful, are captured by the Giant Despair. They are taken to the Doubting Castle, where they are thrown into a dungeon cell. Christian and His companion are beaten mercilessly by the Giant Despair. One morning they are taken out of their cell and shown the bones of other pilgrims, out in the castle yard, who never escaped Doubting Castle. Christian and Hopeful refuse to give up, however, and one night, Christian remembers a way to escape. He is able to unlock their cell door and the outer gate as well, and they run for their lives. These pilgrims will escape the Doubting Castle and the Giant Despair, not by some show of force or some innate determination, but by a key called Promise.*

**What we need to conquer doubt is not a show of force or strength but a reminder of what we believe and more importantly in Whom we believe. The promise that unlocked the gates of Doubting Castle was nothing more than the testimony of Jesus Christ found in the Scriptures.*

-Through Jesus, we receive salvation.

- Through Jesus, we are granted forgiveness.

- Through Jesus, we are recipients of God's ultimate provision.

- Through Jesus, we experience the tremendous goodness of God.

*Spending time revisiting who we are and what we have because of Jesus goes a LONG way in dissolving that powerful doubt that seems to cripple our lives!

-The purpose of Jesus' proofs in John to is to aid our belief—our faith!

*He's worthy of your trust as the Giver of Eternal Life!

**Christ Exposition Commentary* aided the formulation of this study.