

“Enology!” (the science of Wine)

I. **INTRO:**

- A. **Sanctity of Human Life Sunday:** The Consequences of *Roe v. Wade* decision?
49,915,603 total Abortions since 1973 (Stat: *National Right To Life*) - Watch 30 sec YouTube.
- B. The text is as follows: The child's future is a broken home. He will be abandoned by his father. His single mother will struggle to raise him. Despite the hardships he will endure, this child will become the first African Amer President. Tag line, Life:Imagine the Potential
1. The **pro-life road** that lies ahead of us is **full of challenges!**
 - a) **Facts:** Abortion is legal **until the moment of birth** in all 50 states(Dobson asked, “Is there any fundamental diff between a baby who resides in his mother’s uterus & one who has made an **8” journey** down the birth canal?”); There are between **1 & 2 million couples** waiting to love & care for an **adopted child**.
 - b) **Fetus’ are a Living** (state of existing); **Human** (DNA, unborn child is fully human); **Person** (an individual human being).
- C. **Defend** the cause of the **weak & fatherless**; **maintain the rights** of the **poor & oppressed**. **Rescue the weak & needy**; **deliver them from the hand of the wicked**. Ps. 82:3,4
1. **To do?** - Wear “Precious Feet pin” (exact size/shape unborn baby’s @ 10 weeks); **Volunteer** time at *Birth Choice of Temecula*; **Support** these groups \$; **Share your convictions** to your children & grandchildren; **Donate** Pro-life books, DVD’s, or fetal models to your local libraries & schools.
 2. **This past Friday:** Pres, Obama quietly ended the Bush administrations **ban** on giving federal \$ to int. groups that perform abortions.
 3. **Now more than ever** is a time for Christians to **Pray**: For **our President, our nation, & the protection** of human life. **Let’s Pray!**
- D. **Intro:** **Rarest bottle of wine** ever sold purchased by *Christopher Forbes* for \$160,000.
1. It was an unmarked **green glass bottle** w/the inscription of **1787 Lafitte Th. J.** (thought to be owned by Thomas Jefferson), found behind a wall in Paris.
 2. Yet, the world’s finest wine was **not** made in the vineyard’s of France (nor Temecula) **nor** was it served in the finest international restaurants.
 3. It was made & served at an **unpretentious** wedding in Cana of Galilee, 2000 years ago. And **that wine** is valued to this day, **not for its rarity, but for what it reveals about its maker...Jesus Christ!**
 - a) **Last week**, Jesus the **Jeweler**, able to *see diamonds in the rough* (5 disciples).
 - b) **This week**, Jesus the **Vintner**/Winemaker, able to *turn water into wine*.

II. **ENOLOGY!** (*The Science of Wine*)

A. **THE WINEMAKER/VINTNER!** (11)

B. The beginning of signs - Gospel of John uses *sign* rather than **miracle**.

1. Signs served as **authentication** for Jesus' **nature & mission**.
2. A **sign** is a *miracle* that points beyond itself to a major truth about God, made known through Jesus Christ.

C. (11) Other sources outside the bible, say that Jesus performed miracles when He was a child. This refutes that..this was the beginning of signs/miracles.

D. **INVITATION TO THE WINEMAKER!** (1,2)

E. First miracle is in a **home**. Jesus brings **joy** to a home.

1. **Very dry wedding w/o Jesus!** (Wine represents **joy** in OT)

F. Change **water**(ordinary) into **wine**(life in the spirit). "*Lord, less water & more wine in my life.*"

G. Weddings were a prolonged feast usually lasting 7 days.

H. **COOPERATING WITH THE WINEMAKER!** (3-5)

I. (3) **Mary can't** solve the problem herself. She takes her problem **to Jesus!**

J. I believe we should be *followers of Mary!* [Protestants, never put Mary down, she is Jesus mother!!! Instead, point our Catholic friends to **follow** what she says!]

1. **Mary doesn't** have a lot of words in Scripture...but here they are.
2. Lk 1:34 "**how can this be?**" {didn't understand Gabriel, regarding her being pregnant}
3. Lk1:34 38 "**Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word**" {to Gods messenger Gabriel...submission}
4. Lk1:46-55 *Mary's Magnificat* "**My soul magnifies the Lord, & my spirit has rejoiced in God my savior.**"
5. Lk.2:48 Jesus at 12 "**Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously.**" And He said to them, "**Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?**" But **they did not understand** the statement which He spoke to them."

K. Here in Jn.2:5 mary says, **Whatever He says to you, do it!**

1. **These are the last words** recorded by Mary - That's why I said we should be followers of Mary. (Like when Paul said "*be an imitator of me*")
2. **Weird:** After 30 years, Jesus never vindicated His mom. (*It was a virgin birth!*)

- L. (5) **Whatever He says to you, do it!** - [J.Sidlow Baxter mom wrote fly-leaf of Bible, 16th b-day]
1. Moms, what a great **life-motto** for your children.
 2. **But it really is a great life-motto for ALL of us!**
 - a) Our obedience is to be **Entire** - **Whatever He says**, speaks of **scope & range**.
 - b) Our obedience is to be **Exclusive** - **Whatever He says**, to the exclusion of all others, if they differ from Him.
 - c) Our obedience is to be **Specific** - **Whatever He says to you, do it**. Not just something **like it**, or something **part-way**, or something **supposedly equivalent...** but **IT!**¹
 3. Let **whatever He says to you, do it** be our **governing-motto** for: **your choice in your career; love; dating; marriage**.
- M. **FERMENTATION IS A PROCESS!** (4, 6-8)
- N. (4) **My hour has not yet come** - Jesus, **never early, never late**:
1. 7:20 **Therefore they sought to take Him; but know one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come.**
 2. 8:20 **These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come.**
- O. **Then, the hour that mattered for eternity!**
1. 12:23 **The hour has come** that the Son of Man should be glorified.
 2. 12:27,28 **Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name."**
 3. 17:1 **Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You,**
- P. **Here, He opens up His hour!** (6-8)
- Q. **Apparently a large wedding feast:** As Jesus made approx 6 water pots; @ 20/30 gallons a piece = 150 gallons. **At servings of 1 cup each, this would provide 2,400 servings** (& the feast had been underway for some time)
- R. (7,8) 3 Aspects of obedience from the servants:
1. They obeyed **Immediately** - **and they filled them up.**
 2. They obeyed **Completely** - They filled them, **to the brim.** (nothing added; changed!)
 3. They obeyed **Successively** each new instruction as it came: **fill, draw, take it.**

¹ Richard Baxter; Awake My Heart; pg.21

- S. **WINE TESTING & QUALITY CONTROL!** (9,10)
- T. (9,10) **Master of the feast** - Among the Greeks, at all formal feasts, there was a *symposiarch* who was one of the guests, and was selected to take charge of the feast. It was his duty to **preserve order**, to **maintain liveliness** among the guests, to **assign** each one his proper place, to decide which proportion of water should be **mixed** with the wine, **how much** each of the company was to drink...and the **tasting** of the wine **before** it was offered to the guests.
- U. (11) **Signs** - So if a **sign** is a *miracle* that points beyond itself to a **major truth** about God, made known through Jesus Christ. **What is being represented here?**
1. **It Represents How Israel Failed!**
 - a) Israel's wine had **run out**, the people's supply was **emptied**, yet their Messiah stood their to help them.
 - b) The **6 waterpots** were used for **ceremonial cleansing** **but** the Jewish ceremonies could not help the spiritually bankrupt nation. **It was w/o Joy & w/o Hope.**
 - c) **The people had external ceremonies, but they had nothing to satisfy them within.**
 2. **It Represents How a Sinner is Saved!**
 - a) **Thirsty Crowd** - a good picture of the world today. They're tasting the worlds pleasures, but eventually their temporary fulfillment runs out.²
 - b) **Empty Waterpots** - Representing the **human heart**, which is **hard & empty**. **Paul calls us vessels**. The sinners life may look good on the **outside** **but** God sees it empty & useless **unless** He is able to work a **divine miracle**.
 - c) **Filled w/Water** - It's not our job to save souls, but it is our job to give people the Word(water) & let Christ perform the miracle of salvation.
 - d) **Water to Wine** - When the sinner's heart has been filled w/the Word, then Christ can perform the miracle & bring joy.
 - (1) **The Law came thru Moses**; in OT **water** was turned into **blood** [*Judgment*]
 - (2) **Grace & Truth came though Jesus**; in NT **water** turned into **wine**. [*Joy*]
 - e) **The 3rd Day** - Miracle was performed on 3rd day; Christ rose on the 3rd day; Also 3rd day is *Tuesday*, considered to be a day of **blessing** because 3rd day in creation account, only day it says, **"It is Good!"** **Twice!**
 - f) **The Beginning of Miracles** - Salvation is the beginning of miracles.
 3. **It Represents How to Serve Christ!**
 - a) As servants, they knew where the wine came from(9), but the *"important people"* didn't. When you serve Christ you learn His secrets. You move beyond servant

² Warren Wiersbe Outlines of the NT

status, “No longer do I call you **servants**, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you **friends**, for all things that I heard from My Father **I have made known to you.**” Jn.15:15

4. It Represents **How God saved sinners by sending His Son!**

- a) God saved the best for last,...**His Son!** - Like the parable of the Vinedresser in Mark 12. Vinedresser wanted to receive fruit from His field; sent a servant (was rejected) sent another; & many more (beating some, killing some), finally it says, **Therefore still having one son, his beloved, he also sent him to them last, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’**

5. It Represents **the Blood of Christ!**

- a) The **water**, used for **purification**, is replaced with **wine**, which would come to symbolize **the blood of Christ!** {when He took the cup/wine, He said this is My blood}
- b) The **real issue** at the wedding was not the *wine running out*, but who replenished it

6. It Represents **How Jesus is the Creator!**

- a) **Water to Wine** was a live demonstration that **all things were made through Him(1:3a)**

7. It Represents **How Jesus is the Lord over time!**

- a) Since the wine, which normally needs time to **age**, was **fermented** in only a fraction of a second.
- b) Thus His **Glory** was revealed...His earthly veil raised ever so briefly, ever so slightly, to let shine the *Shekinah* that resided within.

V. When Jesus is **left out of** a wedding, sooner or later, in a spiritual sense, the wine **fails**; **but** when He is **the guest of honor**, He turns the water into wine, raises our *poor human love* into a **joy** which is a very foretaste of heaven.

1. With a **touch**, **Jesus** can take the **murky water** of our **lives** (so in need of purification) & **transformation it into fine wine!** [Better than 1787 Lafitte/La-FEET!]
2. Be sure to **invite Jesus!** - And be sure to **obey what He says!**

W. **End Song:** As this family **invited** Jesus to this wedding feast; our last song says, ***I invite You to be Free to reign in every part of me!*** {Let’s make that our prayer!}