

The **Good News** that John Wrote

***...that you may believe that
Jesus is the Christ, the Son of
God, and that believing you
may have life in his name.***

John 20.31

Life in the Spirit

Objectives of the Class

- To behold in our hearts the glory of Christ
- To participate more deeply in life in the Spirit
- To become more conformed to His image

Overview

John 2.1-12

Prayer Before Reading Scripture

Shine within our hearts, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of Your Gospel. Instill in us also reverence for Your blessed commandments, so that having conquered all sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You. For You, Christ our God, are the light of our souls and bodies, and to You we give glory together with Your Father who is without beginning and Your all holy, good, and life giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Watch
John 2.1-12

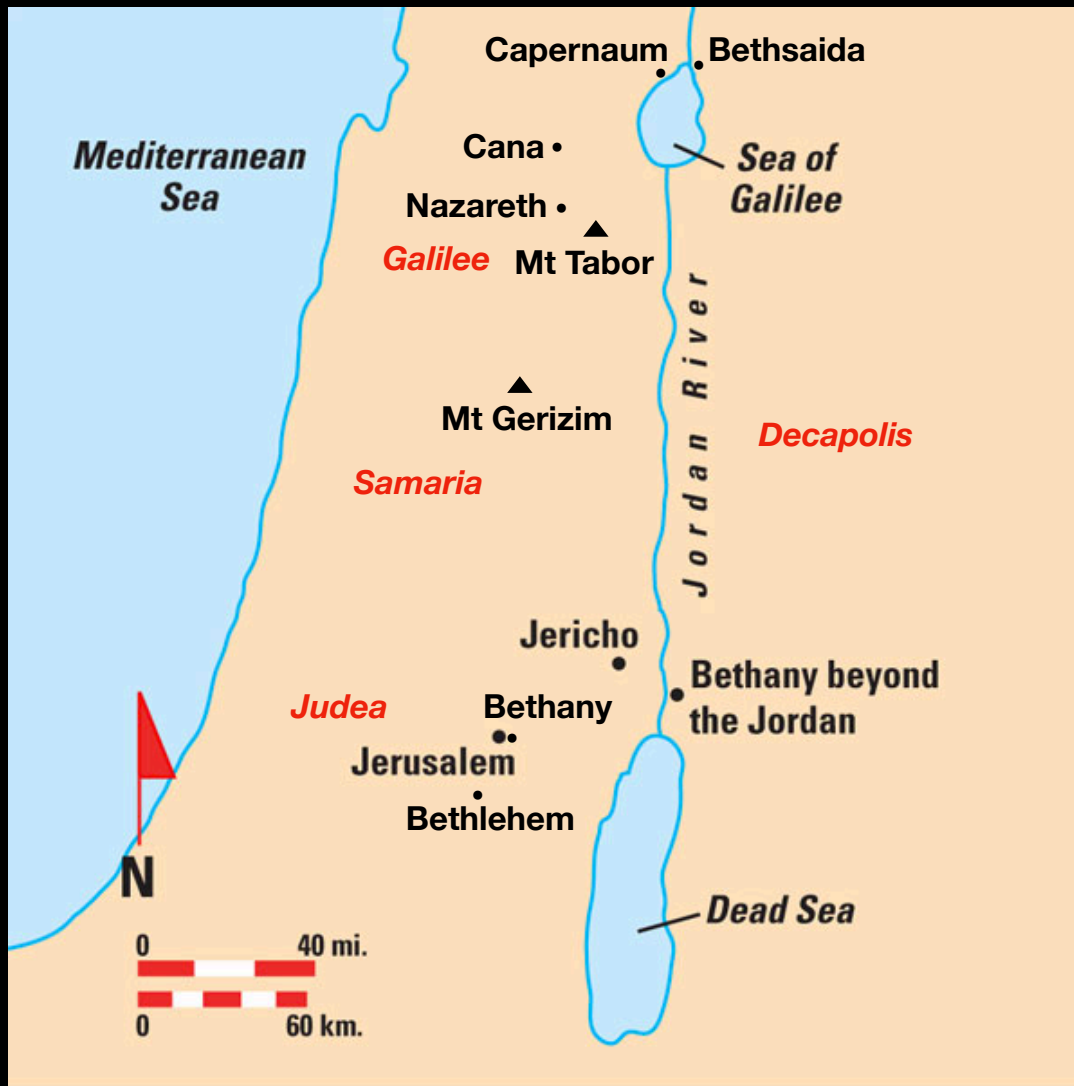
Study

John 2.1-12

John 2.1-2 Two days later there was a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. (TEV)

John 2.1-2 On the third day there was a marriage at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; Jesus also was invited to the marriage, with his disciples. (RSV)

1. Why does TEV have “two days later” and RSV “on the third day”?
2. Where is Cana in Galilee? Which disciple was from there?
3. His mother was there, but where was Joseph?
4. What is significant about the phrase “his disciples”?



John 2.3-5 When the wine had given out, Jesus' mother said to him, "They are out of wine." "You must not tell me what to do," Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." Jesus' mother then told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." (TEV)

John 2.3-5 When the wine failed, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "O woman, what have you to do with me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." (RSV)

1. How long did Jewish wedding celebrations last?
2. "They are out of wine."
3. WEB: "Woman, what does that have to do with you and me?" (τί ἐμοὶ καὶ σοί, γύναι;)
4. "my hour has not yet come" (οὐπω ἤκει ἡ ὥρα μου)
5. "Do whatever he tells you"

John 2.6 The Jews have rules about ritual washing, and for this purpose six stone water jars were there, each one large enough to hold between twenty and thirty gallons. (TEV)

John 2.6 Now six stone jars were standing there, for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. (RSV)

1. What is significant about noting that the purpose of these jars was for purification?

John 2.7-8a Jesus said to the servants, “Fill these jars with water.” They filled them to the brim, and then he told them, “Now draw some water out and take it to the man in charge of the feast.” (TEV)

John 2.7-8a Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the steward of the feast.” (RSV)

1. Why didn't Jesus just cause wine to appear in the jars, or cause water to appear, and then turn it into wine?
2. What is the significance of “to the brim”

John 2.8b-10 They took him the water, which now had turned into wine, and he tasted it. He did not know where this wine had come from (but, of course, the servants who had drawn out the water knew); so he called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone else serves the best wine first, and after the guests have drunk a lot, he serves the ordinary wine. But you have kept the best wine until now!” (TEV)

John 2.8b-10 So they took it. When the steward of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, “Every man serves the good wine first; and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the good wine until now.” (RSV)

1. Why was it important for the steward of the feast to taste the wine?

John 2.11 Jesus performed this first miracle in Cana in Galilee; there he revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. (TEV)

John 2.11 This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory; and his disciples believed in him. (RSV)

1. What is the significance of “sign” (σημεῖον) in the Gospel of John?
2. What is the source of faith?

John 2.11 This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory; and his disciples believed in him. (RSV)

“Signs” point to the Logos

1. What the wedding in Cana point to (signify) prophetically?
2. What does the wedding in Cana point to (signify) mystically?

St. Maximus the Confessor (+ 662)

Ques. 40 What is Signified by the number of the six jars at the wedding in Cana of Galilee? (On Difficulties in Sacred Scripture: the Responses to Thalassios)

The six jars signify the six days of creation and the creative power of human nature.

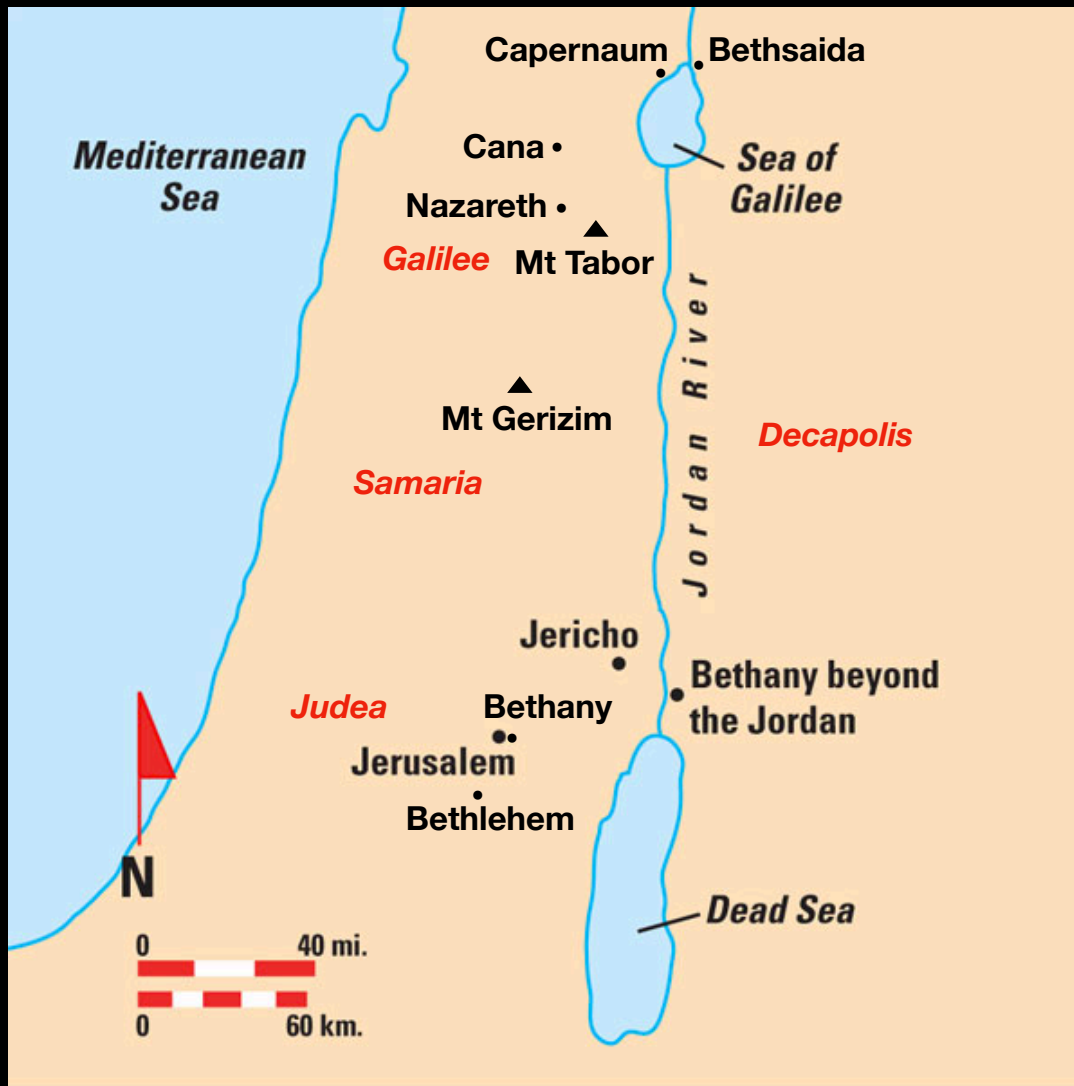
When God created human nature, He gave us the power to perform the divine commandments.

But, humans poured out the knowledge of this power through vain preoccupation with the things of this world. They could not cleanse themselves from the stain of evil.

When the Word, the creator of nature, came, He filled the power of natural knowledge. And now, it is possible to "...drink the "good wine", that is, the ineffable Word who brings about divination...."

John 2.12 After this, Jesus and his mother, brothers, and disciples went to Capernaum and stayed there a few days.
(TEV)

John 2.12 After this, Jesus and his mother, brothers, and disciples went to Capernaum and stayed there a few days.
(RSV)



Objectives of the Class

- To behold in our hearts the glory of Christ
- To participate more deeply in life in the Spirit
- To become more conformed to His image

Re-Read
John 2.1-12

Watch and Apply

John 2.1-12

Achieving the Objectives of the Class

- To behold in our hearts the glory of Christ
 - What did you observe that revealed to you the glory of Christ?
- To participate more deeply in life in the Spirit
 - What did you learn that can help you to participate more deeply in the life of the Spirit?
- To become more conformed to His likeness
 - What did you observe in Christ that you need to conform to?