

The background features a light gray gradient with several overlapping geometric shapes. There are blue triangles and polygons scattered throughout, and a prominent yellow shape that resembles a stylized 'L' or a corner, with a white outline and a slight shadow effect. The text is centered within a white diamond-shaped area.

Paying
Attention to
Your Signs!
John 2:1-11

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Signs Have Been Used to Get Messages Across
(sometimes important vs. critical)

Observations

- In John chapter 2, we are told that Jesus' changing water to wine was the first of His "signs" performed that manifested His glory (put on display that He was the Son of God)

*"And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name."
John 20:30-31*

- Therefore, the signs that Jesus performed were meant for the people to see and to "PAY ATTENTION"
- This is the Son of God, to whom you need to listen
- The "Signs" were Jesus' "calling cards of His credibility" (authority), that Jesus was who He said he was; (Remember Nicodemus in John 3:2)

This Sign/Miracle In John 2 Was Apparently Unplanned

- Jesus was attending a wedding with His mother and His disciples, and His mother tells Him that the wine has run out
- Jesus says, “Woman what does that have to do with me? My hour has not yet come.”
- One preacher, when going through this story told the children in the audience, “*Don’t try this answer on YOUR mother!*”
- *Mom: “Son, take out the trash, or, “I need you to mop the kitchen!”*

Son: “Mom, what have I to do with you, my hour has not yet come!”

Mom: “Well, your hour may come quicker than you think!”

Observations

- But regardless of your impression here, Jesus does sound a little irritated at her request. What is He saying to His mom?
- Jesus is saying that He hadn't planned on doing this
- He knows what His plans are, and when He intends to do them; but His mother "wants to change His plans," or call an audible on Him (like a football play)
- Keep in mind that this is Jesus' first miracle. He hasn't done anything like this before. His mother had never seen Him perform a sign before, but she knows that He can do something
- So, He says to her "*my hour hasn't come yet.*" But it's almost like she ignores Him and tell the servants in John 2:5, "*do whatever He tells you,*" then she just leaves the conversation

Think About This!

- Jesus is God, King of Kings and Lord of Lords
- Jesus spoke heaven and earth into existence, John 1:1-3
- He has gone back to Heaven, but is coming back for us
- He doesn't have to listen to this woman

BUT HE DOES! (He listens and honors her)

- Do you realize that if you are a Christian, you have that same “pipeline to Jesus?” Hebrews 4:15-16
- As a Christian you can boldly approach His throne and ask in faith (according to His will), whatever you want to ask
- Now understand, there may be reasons that God knows that what we might ask for is not the best for us (not ready, not the right time, it's the wrong person, something better planned later, it violates His will)

BUT ASK IN FAITH ANYWAY! (If it doesn't violate His will)

His Momma Did!

Now Watch What Happens

- **There were six stone jars in the vicinity, normally used by the jews for ceremonial cleansing; each could hold 20-30 gallons of water**
- **Jesus told the servants there to fill the jars to the brim with water. They never had any wine in them (They weren't filling the old wine bottles that had run low).**
- **So that when Jesus performed this sign, they couldn't say that some wine was already in those bottles. He left no question as to the fact that this was a sign/miracle**

Remember Mary's Instructions to the Servants About Jesus, John 2:5

“Whatever He says to you do it!”

- **What if the servants hadn't followed Jesus' instructions? Would the water still have turned into wine? Possibly not**
- **The point is: When we don't follow Jesus' instructions, we run the risk of Him not doing some “miraculous signs” in our lives**
- **Did you not know that there are churches that won't do what God has asked of them to do?**
- **Did you not know that there are some preachers that won't preach/teach what God has asked them to teach?**



Matthew 15:8-9

“These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. And in vain they do worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”

- If you are a Christian, following Jesus’ and the Apostles’ “scriptural directions,” is a **NON-NEGOTIABLE REQUIREMENT!**
- Listen to Jesus’ plea in the Garden of Gethsemane, John 17:20-21:

“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word, that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe You sent Me.”

What Are Jesus' Instructions On Becoming a Christian?

Why Is This Important?

- There are some who believe that you don't have to do anything! They say, "Why?"
"After all, Jesus died for our sins!"
"How could we have to do anything if that's already done?"
"What possibly could I have to do that is just as important?"
- It is true that you can neither BUY nor EARN Salvation
- We depend on the blood of Jesus Christ for our salvation
- But I think that our, "Biblical Theology" is poor if it says that we don't have to Do Anything to accept God's gift of salvation

Look At the First Gospel Sermon By Peter in Acts Chapter 2

- Peter had been preaching to the crowd in Jerusalem about Jesus
- He told them that Jesus Christ was the fulfilment of Old Testament prophecy (Isaiah 9:6)
- He actually told the audience even though God had blessed them with Jesus, they were responsible for His crucifixion
- The people in the crowd were so convicted by Peter's charge, that they interrupted his sermon and asked him, "brothers what should we do?" Acts 2:37
- Here is my point: If Peter had bought into the theology of some modern day denominations, he have would rebuked them!

Observations

- *“How dare you ask a question like that!”*
- *“You can’t DO anything to earn/merit God’s grace!”*

But Peter’s Theology is Different!

- He does tell them What They **MUST DO**:

“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Acts 2:38

- They asked a direct question, and he gives them a direct answer to the question, of WHAT TO DO to remove the guilt of sin in their lives.

Look at Acts 16

- In Acts 16:30 we read that the Philippian Jailer asked Paul and Silas, *“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”*
- Some modern day denominational leaders would have rebuked the jailer for asking that question, because the question “infers” that you can do something to EARN your salvation, and they say that you can’t
- But listen to how Paul answers his question, Acts 16:31-33
“They replied, “Believe, in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in the house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all of his household were baptized.”
- The DUTY of Baptism was part of “the word of the Lord,” that Paul spoke. How else would the jailer have known to do that?

Why Did They Not Wait To Baptize the Philippian Jailer?

- Why not wait until the morning?
- Why not wait until they get out of jail?
- Why not wait until the weekend?
- Why not wait until the 1st of the month?
- Why not wait until they got more responses?

Because Baptism is the Sign of Our Response to the Instructions of Accepting Jesus' Free Gift Of Salvation

Acts 2:41; 1Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Matthew 10:32-33

Be Baptized

Acts 2:38

