

## Gospel of John - The Parable of Joy Chapters 2 and 3

### John 2:1-11

1. Jesus' ministry started at a wedding feast and will end at a wedding feast. (2:1)
2. "My hour has not come yet" implies that a time is coming for Jesus (2:4). Many believe this is referring to Daniel 9. See Luke 19:38-44.
3. Many of us have lost the mentality of feasting. We have so much every day that a feast isn't that much different than our normal day. Feasts were important to God because they reminded the people of His intention for them. Isaiah 25:6-9. Rev. 19:9.

### John 2:12-22

1. Interesting that Jesus cleared the Temple twice. Once, early in his ministry and the other at the end. See Luke 19:45-48. When did the event in John 2 happen compared to the one in Luke 19?
2. The marketplace was always held on the Mount of Olives. There is no reference of its being at the Temple before A.D. 30. The market was run by the Sadducees.
3. It is implied in some other writing I have read that Jesus was a Pharisee. This is not spelled out in Scripture but destroying the market in the Temple would have been a very Pharisaic thing to do.
4. Dove dealers are specifically mentioned. These were for the poor. Joseph and Mary offered a dove for Jesus as an infant, to redeem their firstborn son. Jewish writings suggest that outside the Temple a dove costs about four cents. Here it was 7 cents. Part of Jesus' indignation was that the poor were being cut off from sacrificing to their God.
5. Notice no one condemned Him for cleaning out the Temple. Everyone knows it was justified. They just ask by what authority He did it.
6. The Jews (including the disciples) continually misunderstand Jesus. Michael calls this the 'Motif of Misunderstanding'. This motif continually repeats throughout John's gospel. (2:19-20)
7. See Acts 6:14. Jesus' words about the Temple are not forgotten.

### John 2:23-3:13

1. Jesus is seek followers who are willing to believe without seeing, that is, followers with true faith. Those who demand a sign are actually impeded by their demand to see first before believing. (2:23-25)
2. See, again, the motif of misunderstanding. (3:4)
3. Nicodemus will represent Israel's wisdom; Jesus will represent the wisdom of God. (3:10)
4. Discussing being born again and being born of water and spirit, Jesus is probably referring to Ezekiel 36:25-26.
5. I like how Michael referred to Nicodemus as having "...questions, mixed with a thousand hopes,...". Every one has hopes and dreams. Even those we may not like. We should remember this when we interact with others.

#### John 3:14-15

1. "As Moses lifted up the snake in the desert...". (Numbers 21:4-9).
2. The brass serpent was an image of their sin of not trusting in God, of calling His provision detestable.
3. It is vital for us to look intently at the suffering symbol of the cross if we are to find healing.
4. "Lifted up" is always used in the Gospels as a metaphor for crucifixion.

#### John 3:16-21

1. As the Light and darkness were divided "in the beginning" by the Word of God, so now the coming into the world of the Light of the World has divided those who love the Light from those who embrace the darkness. (3:20)

#### John 3:22-36

1. John the Baptist says "This joy is mine and has been made full." (3:29). John was the soshben (best man).
2. The soshben's job was to watch over the bride until the groom arrived. Once the groom arrives his job is done. He can go away rejoicing.