

MT. OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH, 3500 Edwards Mill Road, Raleigh, NC 27612
NEWS & EVENTS – JANUARY 2022

Phone... (919) 787-1910
E-mail: office@mobc.org
Web Page: www.mobc.org

SAM GORE, Senior Pastor
NANCY MCBRAYER, Office Manager
MIKE KING, Maintenance Supervisor

*1 On the third day there was a **wedding** in Cana of Galilee, and the **mother of Jesus** was there; 2 and both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. 3 When the **wine** ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "**They have no wine.**" 4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the **servants**, "Whatever He says to you, do it." 6 Now there were six stone waterpots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each. 7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the waterpots with water." So they filled them up to the brim. 8 And He said to them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it to him. 9 When the headwaiter tasted the water which had become wine, and did not know where it came from (but the **servants** who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom, 10 and said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first, and when the people have drunk freely, then he serves the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now." 11 This beginning of His signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and **manifested His glory**, and His disciples **believed** in Him. (**John 2:1-11**)*

Change of Life is a term I've heard that describes a declining life condition that is a common experience in humanity. When we read about Sarah, the wife of Abraham, we are reminded of the meaning. The Word of God proclaims she was beyond the age of childbearing and Abraham was as good as dead as far as his physical and natural contribution to God's promise of having a child that was promised to them. But the Lord God Almighty was the One making the promise. And He was the One who would bring it to pass. The ability of a supernatural God can change the nature of things. As far as life change goes, it is often said that human beings will not change until they are faced with a crisis and have the desire to change. Crises are like mileposts in our life journey that cause us to examine what we believe about God. The natural state of things can be described as *entropy*, defined as a winding-down of any system. The natural state of things is designed to decline into disorder. In other words, life will naturally degrade. Life as we know it is limited in this natural realm and will surely come to an end one day. Life is winding down from the moment it begins. Life doesn't get better from a physical perspective. *Growing old isn't for sissies*, I've heard it said. As I get older, I know I am wearing down in the natural order toward disorder. My body system is breaking down. I am in need of a change to my natural condition. This natural life has a time clock assigned. Only eternal life will be realized in eternity.

Death's contagion is universal in the human genome. And it has a 100% mortality rate. Only the power of a supernatural designer can change the outcome of humanity. It has been decreed. John's gospel reveals the first of the miracles of Jesus in Chapter 2. There was a family crisis at play. The wine was running out. The mother of Jesus said to Him, *They have no wine*. Implied seems to be the request for Jesus to do something about this issue. Evidently the mother of Jesus was distressed over the reality. A wedding without wine was a disgrace among their people. She has faith in the ability of Jesus to change the circumstance. She gives an admonition that we all would do well to follow. *Whatever He says to you, do it*. Be careful to do what the Word of God says to you. Disobedience degrades life. Wine is symbolic to life, new life, and a wedding is symbolic to the reality of two becoming one. That is God's intention. No human being saw the transformation of water into wine. Only the servants knew that wine was once water. No human being sees the spiritual transformation process of how the Word of God transforms a natural mind into a supernatural one and how we begin to think thoughts about God, or consider thoughts that come from God. We cannot explain how we can understand the Word of God apart from spiritual understanding. We can't explain how our will becomes aligned with the will of God, like a marriage of two becoming one. The exchange of our desires is the result of a miraculous transformation.

How fitting it is for the Lord Jesus to change the natural state of a man into a supernatural creature. A new creature from one who is naturally predisposed into disorder. A natural slide into death's permanent domain can be abruptly changed into a supernatural journey. Jesus came to restore a winding-down kind of life and lead us home. Along the way there will be servants who want to fill your waterpot. Not every teacher is teaching the way of God. There will also be witnesses that see the life change within us. Do people see the miraculous change in you? Whenever God does something that only God can do, it is to manifest His glory. We will need to be changed to get where we are going. The best wine is like the best life with Him. Our natural lives will degrade without God's intervention. Following Him is the only path for good life change. Choosing to follow Him brings about an upgrade. We no longer are winding down...we are climbing up...to the place where God abides. Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. Make the choice today to follow the One who has chosen you.

**Blessings to you,
Pastor Sam**