

WATER TO WINE

John 2:6-10 *Now there were six stone waterpots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each. 7 Yeshua 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."*

This was the first miracle that Yeshua performed. It was a wedding in the home of a Pharisee.



According to Pharisaical (Rabbinical) law, in order for water to qualify as water for purification ceremonies, the following had to take place. The Pharisees would fill to the brim the stone pots with water. Then they would carefully lower the pots, into a mikveh (running water mikveh), until the top of the pots kissed the flowing water in the mikveh pool. This made the water in the pots ceremonially clean. They allowed the water to cleanse the pot so there would be no possible taste of wine detected. The slightest taste of wine in a purification pot was considered catastrophic. Yeshua's first miracle was to show that the Rabbinical laws they were so hung up on were indeed foolish, for He had done the exact opposite of what the Pharisees did in their ceremonies, and to top it off the head Pharisee mentioned how unusual it was for the best wine to be saved for last. He didn't know that Yeshua's first miracle was to mock the ruling priests of the time, the Pharisees.

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