

## "God's Time is the Right Time"

Jn 2.1-12

Ep-3/Jn - Risen Savior - 22 Jan 12

(wms-'53-'63)

Intro. How to know ~ "the right time"? Can you? On what basis?

How to know ~ God's timing? Only "right time"? Ecc 3 ...?

Keeping time \* score \* track = difficult ← rush of life / changes

To guess ~ Jesus' 1<sup>st</sup> sign ≠ some wine-fest @ wedding? ☺

Eternal God of Love → "tracks" with people: knows/does best for us!

Jesus: true Son of God → **GOD'S TIME IS THE RIGHT TIME!**

### It is Jesus' time for service

- Ready/willing → earthly, temporal needs ... even @ a party
- Wedding receptions = a week; "no wine" ← embarrassment
- Mother Mary ← no rush – wait for 'right' time – then, serve
- Humble action ↔ distressed bridal party // God-Man for them
- 'Minor' service → greater serving = "Suffering Servant" (Is 53)
- Lessons for us:
  - Jesus – one of us – understands our needs \* Jesus: cares about little things & "little" people
  - Jesus – sets example of humble, willing service \* Jesus: focus on deed --- not on person
- The ascended Jesus continues to serve us today
  - "Daily bread" ~ 4<sup>th</sup> Petition / Lord's Prayer \* Spiritual food = Means of Grace
  - "All that I need to support this body and life" (*Luther's Small Catechism*)

### It is Jesus' time for a sign

- Sign = significant act/event; sign of His glory → the Cross
- Many acts & miracles ≠ signs; greater spiritual significance
- 7 "signs" in Gospel acc. John = Jesus' divinity (perfect number)
- Hospitality: mother \* servants \* wine steward \* disciples
- A need for Jesus' loving power & authority --- for a "sign"!
- 6 pots - ? – incompleteness of Old Covenant/ceremonial Law
- "Water of Christlessness into the wine of Christianity"
- Right time - 1<sup>st</sup> sign ≠ the "hour" for Christ's ultimate glory
- Reminder: miraculous changes God brings to sinful lives

### It is our time to bring glory to God

- Godly purpose for miracles & signs
- Outpouring of wine = Messianic sign – OT prophets
- Shedding of His blood – joined to wine in His Supper: for us!
- Wine of wedding celebration → wine & blood of Eucharistic celebration → heavenly banquet
- A "foretaste of the feast to come" throughout eternity
- Jesus: manifests His glory
  - True Son of God \* Humble Servant for others
  - His disciples "believed" \* We are called to faith today!
- True glory --- at the "hour" of His crucifixion & death
- We glorify God - - → we bear the cross of Christ
  - Faithful witness – word & deed
  - Loving service, e.g., assistance, S.O.U.L., support
  - Endure defamation, slander, persecution - - - for the sake of the Name of Jesus
- We trust God – His timing is perfect --- all to His glory

Conclu. Jesus: uses the time – on time – the right time!

Beautiful ID with humans --- He: the true God-Man for our sake

Brings happiness to party . . . Joy to forgiven sinners

Leads us to lives of joyful worship, service & witness

St. Teresa: "Lord, deliver me from frowning saints" --- only happiness & joy @ this wedding with Jesus!

Trust in Jesus Christ – seek His will – know His Word – follow in His way – celebrate His Supper

Be assured: **God's Time Is The Right Time!**

Your ~ship to Jesus Christ? Today is the right time for you! Amen.

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