

Parallels between the miraculous sign at Cana in Galilee and Jesus' cleansing of the Temple in John 2

The texts of the wedding at Cana and Jesus' cleansing of the Temple can be read side by side and compared. John indicates this by bracketing each story with the event and its location in John 2:1 and 2:11, 2:13 and 2:23. Then we see each story has a postscript which can also be compared.

	2:1	Wedding in Cana in Galilee	↔	2:13	Jewish Passover in Jerusalem
	2:11	Cana in Galilee His disciples believe	↔	2:23	Passover in Jerusalem Many believe
Postscripts	2:12	Jesus entrusts himself to his immediate family and His disciples	↔	2:24	Jesus does not entrust Himself to them

Once we know that the two stories are intended to be compared, we begin to see other parallels. I have listed some below. You may be able to find others.

JESUS TURNS WATER INTO WINE (John 2:1-12)	JESUS CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE (John 2:13-25)
A sign of His kingdom	A 'sign' of his judgment

Marriage	Passover of the Jews
In Cana of Galilee (countryside)	In Jerusalem (city)
Jesus invited	Jesus went there
Jesus' mother and disciples were there (in obedience)	Those selling animals and money changers were there (in rebellion)
The wine failed	Temple worship failed
Jesus appears not to act - by questioning His mother	Jesus acts immediately - by clearing the Temple
Faith of the Galileans who obey Jesus	Unbelief of the Jews who question Jesus
Jesus performs a sign	Jesus doesn't perform a sign - but promises one
The disciples (immediately) believed in Him	The disciples (later) believed in the Scripture and the word Jesus had spoken
Jesus entrusts himself to his family and his disciples	Jesus does not entrust himself to them

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. [John 1:12]	He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. [John 1:11]
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