

Divine Visitation

“And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: And both Jesus was called, and His disciples, to the marriage” (John 2:1-2).

The recent visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and her husband, His Royal Highness Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburg, to the United States caused quite a stir. Thousands gathered in every location the Queen visited. Although the Queen and her entourage were in the States for six days, the highlight of the tour was a visit to the White House, where President Bush officially welcomed them with a military ceremony and a state dinner that evening.

Throughout the Scriptures, a visitation of God is usually a reference to His judgment. For instance, the Lord said to Israel through His prophet, “And what will ye do in the day of visitation, and in the desolation which shall come from far?” (Isa. 10:3). Regarding Jerusalem’s destruction, Jesus predicted, “They shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation” (Luke 19:44).

Nonetheless, as Jesus visited the wedding feast in Cana of Galilee, He did not visit to judge the young couple. He did not visit to show the city His wrath. Rather, as the divine narrative records, His visitation was to bless and reveal His glory. As God’s people, we long for divine visitations of Jesus’ grace and glory. Here we have several interesting facts about such special visitations.

A divine visitation underlines the personal concern of Jesus! Jesus was invited to this young couple’s wedding. He was not forced or coerced to come. He did not feel obligated to the family or the community. But out of personal interest in this little couple, He visited the grand occasion. As we contemplate this kindness, all we can say is, “What is man, that Thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that Thou visitest him?” (Psa. 8:4).

A divine visitation unleashes the full sufficiency of Jesus! Although the young couple ran out of wine, and the limitations of man were vividly set forth, the Lord Jesus was there to help in their helplessness. He had come to manifest His sufficiency in their deficiency. As we come short and run out of wine in life, we can also be sure that His grace will be sufficient, and His strength will be made perfect in our weakness (see 2 Cor. 12:9).

A divine visitation unveils the wonderful glory of Jesus! When the obedient servants brought the wine to the governor of the feast, he praised the young bridegroom, saying, “thou hast kept the good wine until now” (2:10). The ultimate goal, however, was the unveiling of Christ’s majesty and glory. In the manifestation of His glory, His followers see Him as the trustworthy Visitor. “This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth His glory; and His disciples believed on Him” (2:11).