

GOD SAVES THE BEST TILL LAST

John 2:1-10 (v.10 key)

Introduction: In the days of Jesus weddings celebrations could last for over a week and food, drink and entertainment had to be provided for all the guests. It would be a disgrace to the family if there was not plenty through out the time of the celebration. That was what was happening at the celebration Jesus was attending and His mother, Mary, asked Him to do something about the wine shortage. Thus the wonderful miracle of Jesus turning water into wine occurred. Serving the best of everything at the first of the celebration was the normal thing to do but when the wine Jesus provided was served everyone was amazed for it was far better than what was served at the first and so the comment: *"...but thou has kept the good wine until now..."* This comment brings to mind a truth about God: "God saves the best till last" in the Christian's life - Heaven, with a new body, a new name, the presence of Jesus, Himself.

I. LIFE ALWAYS SAVES THE WORST TILL LAST

1. Birth, childhood and all the joys, wonders and mysteries come first.
2. Youthful years of dreams, dares, and adjustments follow.
3. Young adulthood comes so quickly with marriage, hopes, plans, and goals.
4. Before one is ready, the middle years come bringing changes in health, finances, family situations, children in college and a kind of weariness sets in.
5. Too quickly come the senior years, bringing dimming eyesight, dull hearing, bent over backs, stumbling steps, missing teeth, lapses of memory except for childhood years. Everything is slowed to almost a standstill and attention is needed.
6. Then comes the worst that life can give - death. That once bubbly, excited, active life is over.

II. LIFE LIVED WITHOUT GOD IS BAD

1. There is no one greater than dad or mom in the eyes of a child, nobody can do better and they never can do wrong.
2. Growing up changes those childhood thoughts about parents as being the best and never doing anything wrong especially when God is not in the home and parents are not christians and thus do not influence their children in Godly ways.
3. Is there a more happy time than getting married? Yet how much happier that marriage could be if God was in it. Sadly most marriages last but for a short time and gone is the man who was so loving, thoughtful and courteous. Gone is the woman who was so sweet and caring. The honeymoon days have been replaced by irritability, tempers, coldness followed by separation and divorce. Without God in a marriage, marriage is difficult.

III. SIN GIVES IT'S BEST IN THE BEGINNING

1. Things look harmless, innocent, no harm can come, have a little fun, enjoy life, "you're only young once," "try it, you'll like it," nobody will ever know, it won't be missed, etc.
2. What's a tiny, little pill, a little sniff, a little nip, a little peek, a little taste, a little bite, a little kiss, a little harmless fun, etc.?

3. Ah, but then comes the drug addiction, the alcoholism, the pregnancy, the arrest, the prison, the ruined life.
4. None of the disaster that comes is seen at the beginning, only the prospect of having a little fun, some excitement, a thrill, only an experiment, etc.
5. Sin is never seen as harmful at the beginning, only innocent, harmless, fun, but it turns into something deadly, destroying the person and even those around him/her.

IV. SIN ALSO CONCEALS THE WORST

1. Drug addiction, alcoholism, pregnancy, arrest, prison, ruined life, etc. as horrible as these things can make a life to be, they are not the worst things that can happen to a person.
2. Sin conceals the worst about all it causes, but there is something greater than all so far mentioned, sin conceals the fact of eternal separation from God and an eternity to be spent in agony in the flames of God's Hell fire.
3. Sin is enjoyable and innocent at first but in the end it is eternal damnation by God.

V. GOD HAS ALWAYS MOVED TOWARD THE LAST BEING THE BEST

1. The creation shows how God started changing things to make it ready for man.
2. Each step God took was better than the last one, although He said, "*...it's good...*" with each step but His best was yet to come.
3. Look at God's final step as He made man, His supreme act of creation, yet His best was yet to come.
4. Yet God's supreme creation fell into sin, but God was not through, His best was yet to come.

VI. MAN'S HISTORY REVEALS THAT GOD WAS STILL WORKING

1. Generation by generation, prophet after prophet, promise after promise of better days to come, a redeemer, a savior, a Messiah, yet something better was to come.
2. God has told each generation to look onward for His best was yet to come

VII. GOD'S BEST WAS AT CALVARY

1. All through the centuries God was pointing to Calvary, prophet after prophet spoke of a promised one, a coming one, a Messiah, and it happened: Christmas! Yet God's best was yet to come
2. The life of that Christmas child, known as Jesus, was filled with wonderful things He did, taught and showed. His life is one that God wants everyone to imitate, but God had more to come.
3. Then it happened. God's best happened. Calvary! What happened at Calvary was very terrible yet it was what God had in mind from the very beginning, for on that cross God took the sin of all mankind and put it on His son, Jesus and "*...whosoever believeth in Him shall never perish but have eternal life...*"
4. Died on a cross, buried in a tomb, raised from the dead on the third day, ascended back to where He came from, God's best had finally happened, Jesus came, did, returned.

VIII. THE BELIEVER'S BEST IS AFTER HIS/HER DEATH

1. Every day of life brings the believer closer to his/her best - death.
2. Death for the believer does end a physical existence on this earth, but it takes that believer to the place God has prepared just for His children, called Heaven. There the believer will be given a new body, perfect in every way, a new name, rejoin family and friends who were also believers, plus meet men and women he/she had read about in God's Word, and will know everybody and be known by them as well. Above all Jesus will be there among all God's children. An eternity planned by God for His children.
3. No, believer, this world can't begin to compare with what God has waiting for you. Don't be afraid to die for the best is yet to be.

CONCLUSION

1. No matter how great life seems to be, God has something better.
2. No matter how much excitement sin seems to bring, God has something better.
3. No matter what Satan does, he cannot change what God has waiting for the believer.
4. Without Jesus though, what God has waiting will not be experienced.
5. God's best can only be received and experienced through His Son, Jesus. Jesus is the only way to the Father and the only way to receive God's wonderful gift of eternal life.
6. If you are not a believer in Jesus Christ, then be afraid to die.
7. If you are a believer, look forward to death as it will bring you into the place God has for you.