

# John 2:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom,

## Analysis

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The governor tastes the water 'that was made wine' without knowing its origin. The text specifies 'the servants which drew the water knew.' This creates an epistemological divide—those who obey and serve understand what those in authority may miss. The water had genuinely become wine; this was transformation, not merely addition or mixture. The miracle is complete and public yet the source remains hidden except to those directly involved.

## Historical Context

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This transformation (water to wine) is qualitatively different from later multiplication miracles. It demonstrates Christ's creative power, changing one substance into another—appropriate for the Logos through whom all things were made (John 1:3). The knowledge gap between servants and governor pictures how humble faith sees what proud authority cannot.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. What role does humble service play in understanding spiritual reality?
2. How does the transformation (not just improvement) of water to wine picture regeneration?

## Interlinear Text

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ὥς	δὲ	ἐγεύσατο	ὃ	ἀρχιτρίκλινος	ὃ	ὔδωρ	
When	(but	had tasted	which	the governor of the feast	which	the water	
G5613	G1161	G1089	G3588	G755	G3588	G5204	
οἶνον	γεγεννημένον	καὶ	οὐκ	ᾔδεισαν	πόθεν	ἐστίν	ὃ
wine	that was made	and	not	knew	whence	it was	which
G3631	G1096	G2532	G3756	G1492	G4159	G2076	G3588
δὲ	διάκονοι	ᾔδεισαν	ὃ	ἠντληκότες	ὃ	ὔδωρ	
(but	the servants	knew	which	drew	which	the water	
G1161	G1249	G1492	G3588	G501	G3588	G5204	
φωνεῖ	ὃ	νυμφίον	ὃ	ἀρχιτρίκλινος			
called	which	the bridegroom	which	the governor of the feast			
G5455	G3588	G3566	G3588	G755			

## Additional Cross-References

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**John 4:46** (Creation): So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum.

**John 7:17** (Parallel theme): If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.