

acles and faith was emphasized on another occasion, of which it is said, "He did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief."

St. John tells us how Jesus began His mighty works, and points out how men came to know that Jesus was possessed of a wonderful power that separated him from all others. Satan knew of this power and asked for miracles in the wilderness; evil spirits acknowledged it when they first saw him; but men learnt of it from the mother of the Lord. It was the mother of Jesus who asked for this first miracle. The mother's knowledge of her Son led to the first sign, and brought his power into prominence.

At Cana of Galilee was the starting point, and as the knowledge of this sign spread, it brought Jesus many opportunities for the working of other signs. In those days miracles attracted men, and were accepted as signs of power, and as a revelation of character. St. John always speaks of the works of Jesus as *signs*. They are tokens that distinguish Jesus from others. The value of the miracle is not to be measured by the value of the wine obtained, but by the greatness of the power it revealed, and the consequences that followed from it. It was a sign of power over nature, a sign of in-dwelling power and divine character. It revealed that Jesus was no ordinary man. It was not merely a physical but also an ethical sign; it revealed goodness as well as power. It was a sign that influenced His followers for good; it called forth faith. The unusual occurrence strengthened His followers and advanced His cause. His glory shone forth in His deeds. There then became known what had hitherto been unknown, the personal excellence of Christ in which He excels, by virtue of His nature as the Divine Word. He gave a sign that revealed His majesty, His glory, His character, His power,

And "His disciples believed on Him." St. John looks back over many years and marks the day. They had known Jesus for some time, they had followed Him, they were disciples, but now they believe on Him, they have faith in Him. They had been ready to welcome the Messiah and had followed Him. Personal intercourse led them to become disciples. The manifestation of power, sign of divine Grace, converts discipleship into personal faith. What is