



Jesus' First Miracle

John 2:1-11

Since the dawn of time, man has longed to fly like the birds! The amazing twin pilots, the Bonzai Brothers of England, were two of those men. They loved to fly...and crash. In fact, every time they tried to fly, they would crash. Through all of those crashes, no one would have thought that their special talent of crashing could be used by God in the remotest places on Earth. But, many years later that is just what happened!

First they became Air Force pilots. Then they became missionary pilots who flew all over the world to tell others about Jesus. They could fly, and crash, into places deep in the jungle where they could tell people about Jesus. They also delivered supplies to missionaries who lived in those distant villages. Here is the first story of our crashing friends, the Bonzai Brothers: Colonel Algernon Bonzai and Colonel Chauncey Bonzai.

"Make way, coming through!" Algernon yelled as he pushed through the gathering crowd of locals who had just watched him crash his plane near their village. "Hullo. Colonel Bonzai here! Just flew in from the Fiji Islands. Sorry about the mess in the middle of your fields. I will fix my plane and get it out of there right away! I seem to have lost contact with my brother, Chauncey. You haven't seen him, have you?"

Just then, another plane sputtered and crashed into the same field.

"Uh-oh that's him now! Duck and cover!" Yelled Algernon as he and the villagers ran for the safety of the dwarf palmetto palms that lined the clearing.

Algernon's brother Chauncey emerged from the smoking wreckage of his plane and called out, "Tally ho! I say, that was quite a drop! Fortunately for me, I landed on my head!"

"Hullo, Colonel Bonzai!" Algernon called back. He waved from his spot behind a particularly leafy palm.

"Hullo, Colonel Bonzai! What are you doing way over there?" Chauncey asked.

"We were running for cover!" Algernon informed.

"I see!" Chauncey turned to greet the village leaders who were now emerging from the undergrowth. "Sorry folks, pardon the mess. I will clean that up right away. I almost had to land in the water so I was very glad to see your empty field!"

"Oh, speaking of water, I understand today's Bible story is all about water." Algernon waved for his brother to follow him to his own wrecked plane. "I stopped by Flight Command on my way back from dropping off those medical supplies. I picked up the Cargo Crate and I've got the Scriptures right here." After several yanks, he managed to free the cargo door on his plane and opened it to reveal a wood box. The box was made of rough yellow planks that were nailed together. "Here, Chauncey, why don't you open it up!"

Chauncey took the Bible out of the crate. "Good show Algie! Let's have a look at the book of John, chapter two. You know, it's the story about the first miracle of Jesus: the wedding at Cana. You see, Jesus and Mary, His mother, and His disciples were all invited to this wedding."

Algernon grinned. "Oh, I do love a good wedding! The food and the dancing and that delicious wedding cake! Weddings always make me cry." He began to snuffle and reached for his handkerchief to dab a tear.

Chauncey laughed. "Cheer up, Algie, weddings are happy occasions, especially when we toast the bride and groom! But, at this particular celebration there was a problem, the wine ran out early!"

Algernon frowned. "Oh no! Say it isn't so! What did they do?"

"The better question is what did Jesus do?" Chauncey replied. "There were six large, stone jars nearby so Jesus told the servants 'Fill the jars with water.' Then He told them to serve some to the master. When the master tasted it, that water had turned into the most delicious wine he had tasted all night!" Chauncey then read John 2:11 out loud. The villagers gathered closer to listen to the story. "This, the first of His miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed His glory, and His disciples put their faith in Him."

"Wow, that story is so full of wonder!" Algernon said thoughtfully.

Chauncey replied, "Well, we serve the God of Wonders!"

"Ah true," said Algernon. "But I wonder how the people felt when they saw Jesus do that miracle? The Bible says the disciples put their faith in Him. But hadn't they already put their faith in Him?"

Chauncey replied, "Up until that time, they liked Jesus very much. They even trusted Him or they wouldn't have been following Him. But that day they saw something special. They saw Jesus do something that only God could do; a wondrous miracle! That was when they realized that He was more than who they first thought He was. He was more than just a good leader and a godly man. This miracle revealed His glory."

Algernon stopped and thought for a moment, then said, "Glory! That means something that shows how great God is! Changing water into wine showed them Jesus is Lord! Is that why they put their faith in Him?"

"Absolutely and we can do the same thing!" Chauncey turned to the villagers. "You know, folks, Jesus did so many wonderful miracles in His lifetime! We can't wait to tell you about the God of Wonders and about all of His miracles."

Algernon exclaimed cheerily, "I can't wait! And just like the disciples, we will all come to realize that we serve a mighty God! In fact, it's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!"

Chauncey smiled. "Oh, I like that! I like that quite a little bit. It's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!"

Algernon nodded. "Well, Chauncey, we'd best be going. We've got to get some medical supplies to those Missionaries in Namibia! And we must fix our planes to do so!"

Chauncey ran toward his plane with Algernon right behind him. The pilots waved to the villagers and yelled promises to return with more stories of Jesus' miracles.