

Matthew records 20 miracles, Mark records 18 and Luke records 20. John only records 8. 7 if you count the miracles during his life before his resurrection. For further study, spend some time with the number 7 and its significance in the Scriptures

“For Messiah to come (and this is the unexpected news) the old institutions must pass away. Jesus enacts his first miracle on a religious device of Judaism. What were these jars? The Mishnah indicated that stone jars could be used as permanent vessels for purification (ritual washing). Jesus has transformed their contents. In the previous chapter John the Baptist had offered a ritual washing, but he announced a more powerful baptism to come (1:33). Jesus has now taken up the necessary symbols as the fulfiller of Judaism.”

Burge, G. M. (1995). John. In *Evangelical Commentary on the Bible*

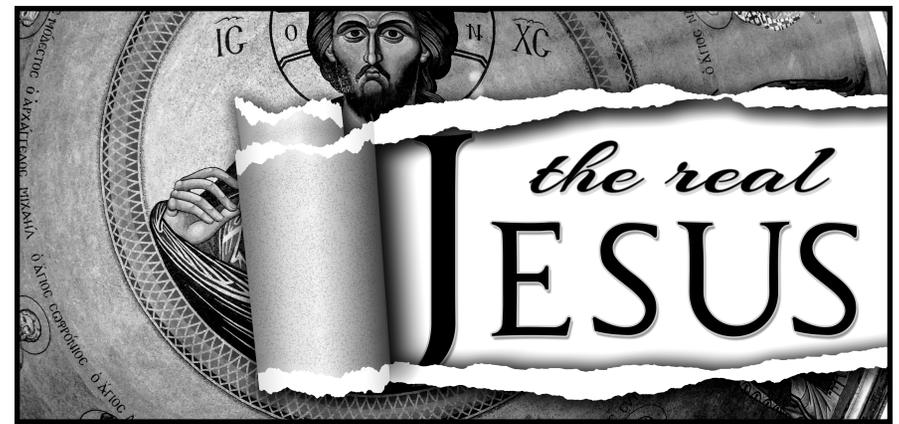
Wine in the first miracle (2:9), bread in the last (21:13). It's almost like John was trying to tell us something. The bread and the wine point us to something much greater themselves.

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes..

1 Corinthians 11:23–26

“What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.”

John 2:11



John 2:1-11 Water Into Wine

“...these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

John 20:31

2 On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus’ mother was there, ² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine was gone, Jesus’ mother said to him, “They have no more wine.”

⁴ “Dear woman, why do you involve me?” Jesus replied. “My time has not yet come.”

⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

⁶ Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

⁷ Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water”; so they filled them to the brim. ⁸ Then he told them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.” They did so,

⁹ and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside

¹⁰ and said, “Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.”

¹¹ This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

John 10:10

“The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son.”

Matthew 22:2

“When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, “Woman, here is your son,” and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.”

John 19:26

“Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.”

John 5:19

THE WEDDING BANQUET AND THE MESSIAH

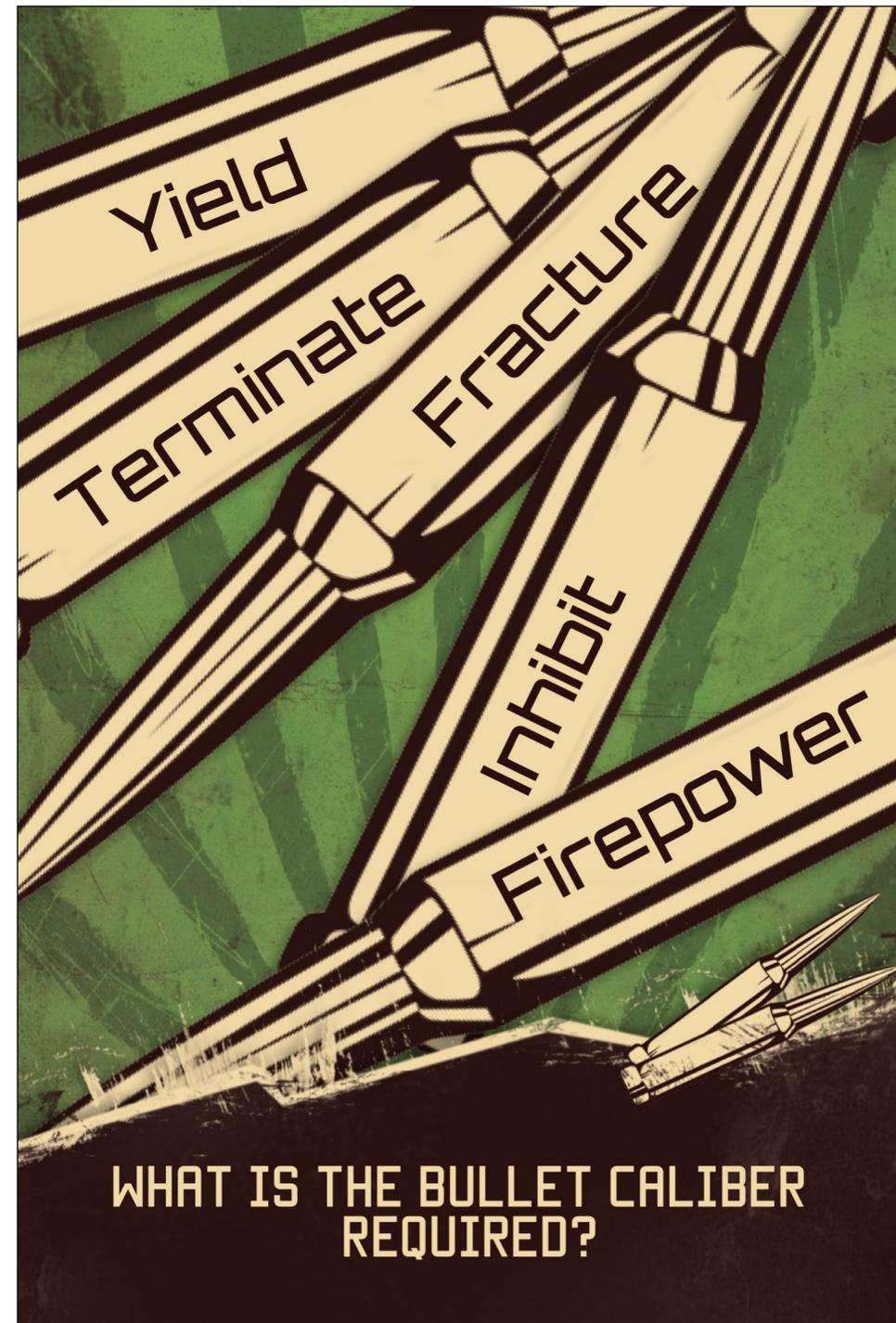
(Isaiah 54:4–8, 62:4–5)

“Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?”
Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.”

Mathew 18:21–22

Let’s put this all together. Jesus is invited to a wedding. Wedding ceremonies in the Old Testament were used to describe the abundance of God’s kingdom and the coming of the Messiah. The Bible calls Jesus the bridegroom and God’s people are called his bride.

The wedding runs out of wine (a symbol for joy), and Jesus restores that joy (wine) to the party. Jesus saves the groom and his family the embarrassment and shame of not being prepared for what the wedding actually costs. Jesus provides what they (we) cannot.



Hint . . . You’re looking for a number, but it isn’t in numerical form.