

THE KNOW SERIES

Who, What, When, Where, Why, How of the Christian Experience

LESSON # 24

“ARE MIRACLES POSSIBLE?”



OBJECTIVE: Many people say miracles do not happen, nor can they happen. That's usually before they need a miracle and seek one for themselves. We'll look at the idea of miracles and why Christians believe yes miracles DID happen, and yes they still do!

(I) MIRACLES

The Bible can't exist if you remove miracles from it. From the very beginning the opening verse, we find what we define as miracles.

The dictionary defines a miracle as;

“a surprising and welcome event that is not explicable by natural or scientific laws and is therefore considered to be the work of a divine agency.”

From the opening chapters of Genesis, to the Second Coming of Jesus, to the accounts of the prophet Elijah, Daniel, the life and ministry of Jesus, miracles are everywhere. If you remove the miracles from the Bible, the book completely falls apart. The Bible presupposes miracles.

We put miracles in the category of “the supernatural.” That means they are above, or outside of the realm of natural, or that which is natural. The universe is controlled by what we call “The Laws of Nature.” Miracles are possible with God for a few reasons:

- 1) The Laws of Nature are His Laws. He is the Creator and is not bound by the Laws
- 2) God stands outside of the creation. He is not part of the creation. He is the Creator. He can break in at any time and do anything He wants.



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3) A miracle is “a divine intervention” into the regular course of the world

(II) ARE MIRACLES POSSIBLE?

- A) If you believe in God, who is the Creator of everything, and is not part of
- B) The arguments against miracles is that they are violations of natural laws.
- C) This position assumes that ‘nature’ is the only thing that exists. That there is no God
- D) This position says that nothing can happen outside of the regular and normal “course of nature.”
- E) Again, if God exists, miracles are possible

(III) CAN SCIENCE PROVE OR DISPROVE MIRACLES

- A) Science depends on what we call “Scientific Method.” Basically this means:
 - 1) You have a theory. Make an observation
 - 2) Test the theory
 - 3) Replicate the theory (do it again)
 - 4) Analyze the data.
 - 5) Make a conclusion
 - 6) Communicate the conclusion
- B) Under this criteria some would say you can’t test miracles and they don’t hold up to scientific scrutiny and method.
 - 1) This might be true for some miracles, like Elijah going to heaven in a chariot of fire. Read 2 Kings 2:1-18
 - 2) It might be hard to “prove” that this even happened, so how would you prove if it were a miracle or not



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- 3) There are other miracles that might lend themselves to more scientific scrutiny. The resurrection comes to mind.
- 4) We know that Jesus lived and died.
- 5) The resurrection of the dead happened. Many have undertaken to disprove, and often rather than disproving it they become believers instead.
- 6) Miracles do in fact happen and are under the control of God

(IV) THE NATURE OF MIRACLES

Norman Geisler has given us a list of the nature of Bible miracles

- 1) They are under God's control
- 2) They are not available on command
- 3) They are supernatural in power
- 4) They are associated with good
- 5) Associated only with truth
- 6) Can overpower evil
- 7) They affirm Jesus is God in the Flesh
- 8) Prophecies are always true
- 9) Never associated with occult practices

(V) THE NATURE OF MIRACLES

- A) They are possible
- B) They are believable.
- C) They happened in real time / history.
- D) They do not go against science
- E) They are not myths, or parables with moral meanings



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F) They are real, they happened, they happen, they will happen

(VI) THE PURPOSE OF MIRACLES

A) Miracles show us that there is a God

(VII) SOME OF THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

Jesus was born of a virgin (Matt. 1:25).

Jesus changed water into wine (John 2:6-10).

Jesus caused the disciples to catch a large load of fish (Luke 5:4-6).

Jesus cast out demons (Matt. 8:28-32, 15:22-28).

Jesus healed lepers (Matt. 8:3, Luke 17:14).

Jesus healed diseases (Matt. 4:23, 24, Luke 6:17-19).

Jesus healed the paralytic (Mark 2:3-12).

Jesus raised the dead (Matt. 9:25, John 11:43-44).

Jesus restored sight to the blind (Matt. 9:27-30, John 9:1-7).

Jesus cured deafness (Mark 7:32-35).

Jesus fed the multitude (Matt. 14:15-21, Matt. 15:32-38).

Jesus walked on water (Matt. 14:25-27).

Jesus healed the sick (Matt. 8:5-13, 9:22).

Jesus forgave sins (Mark 2:5).

Jesus calmed a storm with a command (Matt. 8:22-27, Mark 4:39).



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Jesus was transfigured (Matt. 17:1-8).

Jesus rose from the dead (Luke 24:39, John 20:27).

Jesus appeared to disciples after resurrection (John 20:19).

Jesus ascended into Heaven (Acts 1:9).

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