

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT MIRACLES, SIGNS AND WONDERS?

Many people want to know if God does miracles today. Others ask, "Why doesn't God still do miracles like He did long ago?" Still other people today look for signs about what God is going to do in the future of the world, or in their own lives. They look for signs to confirm what they "feel" God wants them to do, or what He is going to do for them. Why did God do miracles? What is the purpose of miracles, signs and wonders?

The following Scripture references address these questions. God had a purpose for miracles, signs and wonders. They were not accidental, but rather were done in accordance with His will, to accomplish His purpose.

You are encouraged to look up and read each reference in your own Bible. As you do this, look at the context of each verse to get the setting of the miracles. Notice what the results were. Ask yourself who initiated the miracle, who benefited and what were the results. Above all, ask what was God's purpose in performing or allowing these amazing testimonies to His power and greatness?

MIRACLES, SIGNS AND WONDERS IMPORTANT BIBLE PASSAGES

(Please take the time to read each passage in its context in your own Bible)

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 4:1-9; 7:3
Deuteronomy 4:38; 6:22; 7:19; 26:8; 29:3; 24:11
Nehemiah 9:10
Isaiah 8:18
Daniel 4:2-3 His signs and wonders
 6:26-27*

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 24:24 false Christs
Mark 13:22 false Christs
 16:17-20 confirmed the word
John 4:48 unless people see, will not believe
Acts 2:22 by Jesus attested to by God with
 2:43 through Apostles
 4:30 Peter - God through Jesus
 servants spoke while God extended hand
 5:12 at the hands of the apostles
 6:6 through laying on of apostles' hands
 7:36 Moses for 40 years
 8:6 Philip could not bestow, only apostles

8:18, 15, 16 ('fallen'); 18 Peter and John came to bestow Holy Spirit
 14:3 Lord was bearing witness to the word of His grace granting that signs and wonders be by their hands (Peter and Barnabas)
 15:12 what signs and wonders God had done through them
 19:11 Lord was performing extraordinary miracles through the hands of Paul
 Romans 1:11 that I may impart some spiritual gift (given through the apostles only; note that in 1 Corinthians 1:7 the NIV contains the word "spiritual," but this word is not in the original Greek text)
 15:19 Christ accomplished through Paul in signs and wonders and miracles
 2 Corinthians 12:12 signs of an apostle: signs and wonders and miracles
 2 Thessalonians 2:9 activity of Satan with all power and signs and false wonders
 Hebrews 2:1-4 Word spoken by Lord, confirmed by those who heard, God also bearing witness with them by signs and wonders and gifts of the Holy Spirit

KEY TOPICS

Signs and Wonders Done Through Apostles:

Romans	1:11
2 Timothy	1:6
Acts	5:12

Baptism with Holy Spirit Poured Fourth:

Acts	2:33	past tense
Ephesians	4:7	past tense; grow v. 15 present tense

Purpose of Signs:

Hebrews	2:1-4	God confirms His Word
Mark	16:20	Lord confirmed the word

Miraculous gifts to cease:

1 Corinthians	13:8-17	Miracles to cease, faith, hope and love to remain.
Hebrews	2:1-4	The purpose of miracles is to confirm the words God spoke

Related to Jesus and apostles:

Ephesians	2:20	foundation of Apostles
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God left no instructions on how to pass on the power to bestow the Holy Spirit or miraculous powers; if this was essential in every age, would God not have left us with instructions on how? Therefore, on what basis or authority do people claim to do this today?

Acts 2:1f Apostles received miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit
Acts 2:38-39 The regular receiving of the gift of the Holy Spirit through baptism is for
all Christians

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