

Paul's Letter to the
Romans

Ch. 12:3-8 supplemental



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6 QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.



1. What was/is the purpose of miracles?
2. Do miracles guarantee salvation or belief?
3. What is FAR more important than miracles?
4. Does Scripture hint that they are going away?
5. Are the supposed “miracles” of today the same as the early church?
6. Does that mean God no longer does miracles.

QUESTION # 1.



1. What was/is the purpose of miracles?

- ✓ ANSWER: To substantiate God's message and His messengers as having come from Him.

PURPOSE OF MIRACLES

Exodus 9:14-16 “For this time I will send all My plagues on you and your servants and your people, so that you may know that there is no one like Me in all the earth. “For if by now I had put forth My hand and struck you and your people with pestilence, you would then have been cut off from the earth. “But, indeed, for this reason I have allowed you to remain, in order to show you My power and in order to proclaim My name through all the earth.”

Joshua 2:9-11 [Rahab] “I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land have melted away before you. “For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. “When we heard it, our hearts melted and no courage remained in any man any longer because of you;



ONLY 3 TIMES IN SCRIPTURE
WHERE YOU SEE A
CONCENTRATION OF MIRACLES

1. Moses.
2. Elijah
3. Jesus/Apostles



KINGS 18:20-39

The Prayer of Elijah and the Prophets of Baal



“At the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet came near and said, “O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, today let it be known that You are God in Israel and that I am Your servant and I have done all these things at Your word. “Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that You, O LORD, are God, and that You have turned their heart back again.” Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, “The LORD, He is God; the LORD, He is God.”

QUESTION # 1.



1. What was/is the purpose of miracles?

- ✓ ANSWER: To substantiate God's message and His messengers.
- ✓ To reveal God as the One True God, to reveal His truth and to point people to Him.

MIRACLES TESTIFIED TO WHO JESUS WAS



[Peter] Acts 2:22 “Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know—”

[Jesus] John 10:36:-39 “If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father.”

[Nicodemus] John 3:2 “Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with Him.”

2 Cor. 12:12 “The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.”



QUESTION # 1.



1. What was/is the purpose of miracles?

- ✓ ANSWER: To substantiate God's message and His messengers.
- ✓ To reveal God as the One True God, to reveal His truth and to point people to His Son Jesus Christ.

QUESTION #2



Do miracles guarantee salvation or belief?

- ✓ ANSWER: NO!
- ✓ Not with Pharoah, Prophets of Baal, or many in Jesus' time.
- ✓ John 12:37 "But though He had performed so many signs before them, yet they were not believing in Him."

MIRACLES



- ❖ Miracles are good but miracles only substantiate what is FAR more important—the MESSAGE of the one DOING the miracle.
- ❖ It's what they're telling you, it's the message that they bring that is FAR more important than the miracles themselves. That is why the miracles are done, so that you can not look at the miracle but **look** at the truths they are declaring to you.
- ❖ They are merely a spotlight that points to something greater!

QUESTION #3



What is FAR more important than miracles?

- ✓ ANSWER: The message they substantiate!
- ✓ The Bible!
- ✓ The Word of God!

THE BIBLE!

Joshua 1:8-9 "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success. "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

2 Tim. 3:14-17 "You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."



HOW RELIABLE IS SCRIPTURE?

2 Peter 1:16-21 “For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, “This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased” — and we ourselves heard this utterance made from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. **So we have the prophetic word made more sure,** to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place.



- Literally “We have more sure the prophetic word.”
- “The prophetic word (Scripture) is more complete, more permanent, and more authoritative than the experience of anyone. More specifically, the Word of God is a more reliable verification of the teachings about the person, atonement, and second coming of Christ than even the genuine first hand experiences of the apostles themselves.” MSB

THE POWER OF THE WORD

Heb. 4:12 "For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do."



6 QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS.



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| 1. What was the purpose of miracles? | (to substantiate the message) |
| 2. Do miracles guarantee salvation or belief? | (no) |
| 3. What is FAR more important than miracles? | (The bible) |
| 4. Does Scripture hint that they are going away? | (Yes) |

1 COR. 13:8-10



“Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part; but when the **perfect** comes, the partial will be done away.”

WHEN THEY WERE WRITTEN



<u>1 Corinthians</u>	55 AD
2 Corinthians	55 AD
<u>Romans</u>	<u>56-57 AD.</u>
Ephesians	60-62
Philippians	60-62
Colossians	60-62
<u>Philemon</u>	60-62
<u>1 Timothy</u>	62-64
<u>2 Timothy</u>	66-67
Hebrews	67-69
1 Peter	64-65
2 Peter	68
Jude	68-70
1-3 John	90-95

Epaphroditus is sick "to the point of death" in Phil 2:26-27

Timothy has "Frequent ailments" in 1 Tim. 5:23: Remedy? A little wine

Trophemus is left in Miletus "Sick" (2 Tim. 4:20)

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✓ No!

1 JOHN 1:1-4



What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life— and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us— what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. These things we **write**, so that our joy may be made complete.

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6. Does that mean God no longer does miracles.
 - ✓ ANSWER: God is STILL doing the miraculous!
 - ✓ But He does so at His own discretion and through the prayers of the saints.
 - ✓ We CAN pray for miracles and God CAN do them—