

Miracles of Jesus

Based on AP Article in Defending the Faith Bible

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Throughout the Bible, God has used miracles:

- God created the Universe out of nothing (Genesis 1)
- God flooded the entire Earth with water (Genesis 7).
- He sent 10 plagues upon the Egyptians (Exodus 7-12),
- Parted the Red Sea (Exodus 14)
- Caused water to come from a rock twice during Israel's wandering in the wilderness (Exodus 17; Numbers 20).
- He healed a leper (2 Kings 5), raised many from the dead (1 Kings 17; Matthew 27:52-53),
- On two different occasions translated men from Earth to heaven so that they never tasted death (Hebrews 11:5; 2 Kings 2:1-11).

2 Peter 1:21 "prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit."

- Some only accept "natural processes" that can exist without a supernatural Being.
- They start with their premise, "there is no God" and then reject all observations and even critical data that conflicts with their premise.

Rom. 1:28 "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;"

Miracles Confirmed Authority of Message

Why were miracles needed?

- God's spokesman worked miracles in order to validate their divine message

Why did they need to be validated?

- No reference to compare their message to in order to confirm what they said was valid

Acts 17:11 "These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so."

Ex. 4:1-5 "1 Then Moses answered and said, "But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, 'The LORD has not appeared to you.' " 2 So the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A rod." 3 And He said, "Cast it on the ground." So he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it.

4 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail" (and he reached out his hand and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand), 5 "that they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you.""

1 Kings 18:36-39 "36 And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word. 37 Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again."

38 Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench. 39 Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!"

Miracles Confirmed Authority of Message

Matt. 3:1-3 "1 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 2 and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" 3 For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying:

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight! "

Matt. 3:5-6 "5 Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him 6 and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins."

- Even though foretold in Old Testament prophecies over hundreds of years, Christ the Messiah's coming to the earth leading a perfect life and His message was a huge paradigm shift for them.
- Jews were only aware of in their short life time the result of hundreds of years of devolution of Israel's faith and lack of adherence to God.
- The Pharisees, doctors of the Law, desperately wanted to maintain status quo. They didn't want anything to change because it would remove them from power.

Matt. 3:7-10 "7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, 9 and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. 10 And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.



Mark 6:5-6, "Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching."

Mark 3:22, "And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebub," and, "By the ruler of the demons He casts out demons.""



John 5:3, 8-9, "3 In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. 8 Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." 9 And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked."

Matt. 14:13-14, 19-21 "13 When Jesus heard it, He departed from there by boat to a deserted place by Himself. But when the multitudes heard it, they followed Him on foot from the cities. 14 And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.

"19 ...And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. 20 So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. 21 Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children."

Thousands of Witnesses, Miracles of Jesus

Acts 2:22, "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know."

Enemies of Christ Confirmed, Miracles of Jesus

- **John 11:47-48**, "47 Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? For this Man works many signs. 48 If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation."

Recorded by Numerous Writers, Miracles of Jesus

- First-century Jewish historian, Josephus, mentioned Jesus as being One Who "was a doer of wonderful works (paradoxa)" and Who "drew over to him many of the Jews, and many of the Gentiles."
- Jewish leaders wrote in the Babylonian Talmud , "On the eve of the Passover Yeshu [Jesus] was hanged. For forty days before the execution took place, a herald went forth and cried, 'He is going forth to be stoned because he has practiced sorcery and enticed Israel to apostasy."

Christ's Miracles Had Purpose, Miracles of Jesus

John 20:30, "30 And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen."

- Jesus record of miracles, though not complete, saturate the Gospel message with at least 37 separate supernatural acts. If including miracle birth, transfiguration, and reading of minds, this list reaches to 50.
- Christ's miracles served immediate needs of singular people around Him.
- They were never grandiose staged displays lacking purpose as a magician would try to deceive through trickery.
- Christ healed sick immediately, He overcame nature, He raised the dead.

John 14:26, "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."

Acts 1:5, "for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

Miracles are not performed today

- Importantly, once the Gospels were recorded and the letters of inspiration of the Apostles and others were written, God's message was complete and finished.

2 Tim. 3:16-17, "16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

1 Cor. 13:8-10, "8 Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part. 10 But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

Miracles are not performed today

- Miracles are no longer needed when all of God's communication is complete. There is no need for further authority.
- People promoting new or differences (additions to, alterations, or partial and misleading messages) from the Bible have no authority to do so and are accursed.

Gal. 1:6-9, "I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed."

Luke 16:27-31, " '27 Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, 28 for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.'

29 Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' 30 And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' 31 But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'

- God has said His message is complete. Whose message then are these later claimers of "a new message" actually following?
- Who is the father of lies? Satan.

John 8:44, " You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it."