

Show and Tell Series

Miracles

1 Cor 12 1-11

Definition of a Miracle

An extraordinary and welcome event that is not explicable by natural or scientific laws and is therefore attributed to a divine agency.

There are 4 types of Miracles in the Bible

1. Healing – people are healed who were sick or disabled
2. Exorcism- The act of freeing someone of Demons
3. Restoration of life- People raised from the dead.
4. Nature- Where power is shown over Nature.

I have purposely not given any examples of healing I am sure you all have your favourite and know of so many. Here are a few examples of the others.

Exorcism – Mk 1, 21-28, Mt 8, 28-33, Mk 5, 1-20, Lk 4, 31-37, Lk 8 26-34, Mk 9, 14-29

Restoration – John 11, 1-45, Mk 5, 21-43, Lk 7, 11-17, 1 Kings 17, 17-24

Nature – Mk 11, 12—14, Mt 8, 23-27, Mt 21, 18-22, John 21, 4-11, John 6, 16-21, Mk 4, 35-41.

Healing Mk 10 46-52 Blind Bartimaeus.

We notice that Bartimaeus was not put off by what the crowd were saying, they told him to shut up which only made him shout louder. V49 to me speaks volumes when Jesus heard him, he stopped and said “Tell him come to me” Bartimaeus threw his cloak away and went to Jesus and he then told Jesus what he wanted Jesus replied V52 “Go for your faith has healed you.” And Bartimaeus followed him.

Exorcism Lk 4 31-37 Jesus casts out a Demon.

We notice that the Demons were terrified of Jesus and they knew exactly who he was v 34 Go away! Why are you interfering with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – “the Holy One of God!” Jesus silences the Demon and orders it out of the man.

Look at the response of those who witnessed this v 36 Amazed, the people exclaimed “What authority and power this man’s words possess! Even evil spirits obey him, and flee at his command!”

Restoration 1 Kings 17, 17-24 Elijah and the Widow

Elijah is told by God to go to Zarephath where he meets a widow, Elijah asks her for a drink of water and something to eat, the Widow explains she is on her last bit of flour and oil, she is going to make her last meal for herself and her son and then they were going to then die. Elijah tells her not to worry and do as he has said. She does and she then has enough oil and flour to keep them in food later in the story V17 the son becomes ill and dies, Elijah takes the son and carries him upstairs where he does a very strange thing after crying out to God “Why have you brought tragedy to this Widow” V21 Elijah lies down on the son three times and then cries out to God “O Lord my God, please let this child’s life return to him. The Lord heard Elijah’s prayer and the boy was revived.

Nature Mt 8 23-27 Jesus calms the Storm

The Disciples who were accomplished fishermen were fearing for their lives because of the storm while Jesus slept! They woke him up shouting "Lord save us! We are going to drown!" Jesus responded "Why are you afraid? You have so little faith" Then Jesus rebuked the storm and there was a great calm. The disciples were amazed "who is this man? Even the winds and waves obey him!".

These examples have some things in common they called out to God/Jesus and he answered.

People who witnessed the events were amazed.

I am sure that we all have examples of when Jesus has done something miraculous in our lives or we have witnessed something miraculous.

Pam and I went to London one year and we usually jump on the underground from Euston off to where we are staying, on this occasion we decided to catch a bus which was outside what we realised was a Catholic Healing Seminar, Pam spoke with one of the ladies who told her that in the evening there was a speaker and it was free to enter. Well we liked that price and were a bit curious.

We went in the evening and we saw ladies who went to the front using walking frames running around the auditorium, we saw people who could not hear have their ears open, but we also saw people who were not open to the spirit even when people had words for them. On a personal note we got in to small groups and prayed for each other and I had a problem with my knee and it was healed, I was able to do our usual walking around London with no ill effect at all.

I Struggled with Show and Tell for Miracles and as I was praying about this I felt that we need to share our experiences (Testimonies), people are amazed when they see things they can't explain. Then they tell others, we heard last week about great healings. Martin talked about healing coming in a way he did not want but God worked through it for him and Karen to go deeper. At the 10:30 it was said about someone in this Church who had one leg shorter than the other, was prayed for and the leg grew immediately.

What miracle are you waiting for?

What is a miracle for you?

Jesus started his mortal life by a miracle, Miraculous conception, Jesus spent his life performing miracles, Jesus when he was crucified then rose again by a miracle.

Are we not called to be Christlike?

My prayer is that our Natural will be Supernatural. That we will come expectant. We will come open to the Holy Spirit and we will be willing to obey, We will be humble enough to serve in whatever we are called to. Wasn't Jesus the servant king?

We will see Miracles in our lives, our families, our communities and we will tell of the Wonders of our Glorious Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen