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# The Gift of Miracles (Signs, Wonders, and Greater Works)

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## The Works & Sign Gifts of the Holy Spirit

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***Sermon: The Works & Sign Gifts of the Holy Spirit: The Gift of Miracles (Signs, Wonders, and Greater Works)***

***New Series Messages: “The Works & Sign Gifts of the Holy Spirit”***

- Theme Scriptures:
  - 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 28
- Sermon: The Gift of Faith (Wonder-Working Power)
- Sermon: The Gift of Discernment (The Power to Detect Unclean Spirits)
- Sermon: The Gift of Helps (The Power to Serve the Church)
- Sermon: The Gift of Leadership (Anointed with Power, Position, and Promotion)
- Sermon: The Gifts of Healing (The Physical, Faithful, and Spiritual Touch of Healing)
- Sermon: The Gift of Miracles (Signs, Wonders, and Greater Works)
  - The Signs of Miracles (Proof of God)
  - The Wonders of Miracles (Works of God)
  - The Greater Works of Miracles (Salvation of God)

***Lesson Text***

Mark 16:15–18 (AV)<sup>15</sup> And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.** <sup>16</sup> **He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.** <sup>17</sup> **And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;** <sup>18</sup> **They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.**

John 9:1–4 (AV)<sup>1</sup> And as *Jesus* passed by, he saw a man which was blind from *his* birth. <sup>2</sup> And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, **Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.** <sup>4</sup> **I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.**

John 14:12–14 (AV)<sup>12</sup> **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.** <sup>13</sup> **And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.** <sup>14</sup> **If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do *it*.**

***Introduction***

The final messages of this year focus three Gifts of the Spirit that we call the Sign Gifts.

The Sign Gifts, the gifts that demonstrate the obvious outward signs of the working of God, consist of Healings, Miracles, and Speaking in Tongues.

Last we looked at the Gifts of Healing: Physical Touch, Faithful Touch, Spiritual Touch.

Today we want to look at the Gift of Miracles.

In scripture we see Miracles used from three perspectives or purposes.

- We see them used as Signs or Proof of Authenticity
- We see them used as Wonders or Works based on the Will of the Father
- We see them used as Greater Works beyond what Jesus accomplished

Matthew 15:30–31 (AV)<sup>30</sup> And great multitudes came unto him, having with them *those that were* lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them: <sup>31</sup> Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.

Now if these signs are to follow us, why don't we see as many miracles today as in scripture?

Why do some people receive miracles and healings and others don't?

If Jesus healed the sick, caused the lame to walk, blind to see, and dead to get up; what are the Greater Works that we are to do?

Today's message will answer these questions and more concerning the Gift of Miracles.

***Series and Sermon: The Works & Sign Gifts of the Holy Spirit: The Gift of Miracles (Signs, Wonders, and Greater Works)***

### ***I. The Signs of Miracles (Proof of God)***

Mark 16: <sup>17</sup> **And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; <sup>18</sup> They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.**

What is the purpose of signs when it comes to miracles? Why did Jesus say here, "these signs shall follow them that believe"? The simplest answer is that signs mean proof!

2 Corinthians 12:12 (NLT)<sup>12</sup> When I was with you, I certainly gave you proof that I am an apostle. For I patiently did many signs and wonders and miracles among you.

So why don't we see many signs with our contemporary Apostles and in our churches today?

Some say it is a lack of faith or wickedness in the church; an implication or indictment on us.

The problem with that is Jesus often complained about his disciples' lack or little faith, and we know that the Corinthian church was so wicked that Paul has to rebuke them for allowing fornication to go unchecked. It was so bad that a man was sleeping with his Father's wife.

And yet Jesus walked on water to these doubting disciples, and Paul did many signs and wonders among the Corinthians as we read earlier.

So why did Jesus use so many signs? **To establish the Authenticity of His Lordship.** And why did the Disciples use so many signs? **To establish the Legitimacy of the Church.**

But today, we no longer use the miracles of signs to prove the Authenticity of our Lord, or the Legitimacy of the Church, we use the Miracle of Faith in God through His Word.

John 10:41–42 (AV)<sup>41</sup> And many resorted (followed) unto him, and said, **John did no miracle:** but all things that John spake of this man were true. <sup>42</sup> And many believed on him there.

Jesus teaches us this point in his teaching of Lazarus and the Rich Man.

Luke 16:27–31 (AV)<sup>27</sup> Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him (LAZARUS from the DEAD) to my father's house: <sup>28</sup> For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. <sup>29</sup> Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. <sup>30</sup> And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead (MIRACLE), they will repent. <sup>31</sup> And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

If people won't believe the Word of God, then they won't believe a Miracle as Proof of God!

## ***II. The Wonders of Miracles (Works of God)***

John 9: <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, **Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. <sup>4</sup> I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.**

As we stated earlier, we still have the Gift of Miracles among us, but they are not for signs to prove to people that we are of God; the Word of God is proof enough!

So, what is the purpose of the Gift of Miracles today? To do the Work of the Father.

When we see miracles, wonders and works of God, it is not because of the will of man, but because of the purpose of God:

- Healings don't happen simply because a person is sick, but because God wants to work through the sickness.
- Miracle money doesn't just show because we're broke, but because the assignment God has for us requires money.
- When God uses us to move a mountain, is not to prove how powerful we are, but because the mountain is in the way of God's purpose.

Romans 8:28 (AV)<sup>28</sup> And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, **to them who are the called according to his purpose.**

John 9: **<sup>4</sup> I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.**

Just as Jesus has to do the work of the Father, we must do the work of Father. We must do the work of the Father in our homes, do the work of the Father in our marriages, do the work of the Father in our families, in our churches, on our jobs, in our ministries.

And if it takes a Miracles, I must work the Work of him that sent me!

## ***III. The Greater Works of Miracles (Salvation of God)***

John 14: <sup>12</sup> Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; **and greater works than these shall he do;** because I go unto my Father.

What are the greater works than these?

When Jesus was on the earth, he healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, caused the lame to walk, cleansed the leper, and raised the dead.

When God uses us to heal the sick, that is cause the lame to walk, the blind to see, and dumb to talk, this is not greater works, this is the same work. Doing the same work is more, not greater!

John 14: <sup>12</sup> Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; **AND (In Addition) greater works than these shall he do;**

So, what is greater than these works? It is doing something that Jesus did not do: to win the lost not through signs and wonders, but through preaching the Gospel without signs and wonders!

Jesus attracted multitudes with signs and wonders, but in the last days, God said he would pour out His Spirit to preach the Gospel to the multitude.

Acts 2:16–17 (AV)<sup>16</sup> But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; <sup>17</sup> And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

Acts 2:37–41 (AV)<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard *this*, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, what shall we do? <sup>38</sup> Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost... <sup>41</sup> Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls.

Mark 16: <sup>15</sup> And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.** <sup>16</sup> **He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.**

We have Power to Heal, Power to Deliver, Power to Set Free, Power to Touch and Agree, Power to Bind and Loose on Earth and it will be Bound and Loosed in Heaven; But he Greater Works, the Greater Power is the Power unto Salvation.

Romans 1:16 (AV)<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Acts 1:8 (AV)<sup>8</sup> **But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

**Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: The Gift of Miracles (Signs, Wonders, and Greater Works))**

**Lesson Text**

- Mark 16:15–18, John 9:1–4, John 14:12–14
- Book: [The Complete Guide To Understanding The Holy Spirit](#): Read “Sign Gifts, Healing”

**Sermon Outline (Notes)**

**I. The Signs of Miracles (Proof of God)**

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**II. The Wonders of Miracles (Works of God)**

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**III. The Greater Works of Miracles (Salvation of God)**

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**Questions**

**I. Getting to Know “Me”**

1. What does Christmas mean to you?
2. How do you celebrate the Christmas holiday?

**II. Into the Bible**

1. John 6:28-29 NLT says, [28] They replied, “We want to perform God’s works, too. What should we do?” Jesus told them, [29] “This is the only work God wants from you: Believe in the one he has sent.” Does Jesus’ reply really mean that our only work is to believe? Explain.
2. On the day that Moses came down from the mount after receiving the Commandments, 3000 people died (Exodus 32:28) and after God’s Spirit arrived on the day of Pentecost, the miracle of salvation occurred for 3000 people (Acts 2:41). Please explain what The Spirit can do that The Law could not.

**III. Life Application**

1. What miracle(s) have you seen or experienced firsthand?
2. What would you say to someone seeking a miracle as proof that God exists and cares?