

THE DOCTRINE OF GOD: THE GOD WHO WORKS MIRACLES

QUESTION: WHAT IS A MIRACLE?

God _____ to do something _____.

Miracle as _____

See Exodus 14.

Exodus 7:8–13 says, "Then the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, ⁹"When Pharaoh says to you, 'Prove yourselves by working a miracle,' then you shall say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and cast it down before Pharaoh, that it may become a serpent.'" ¹⁰So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did just as the Lord commanded. Aaron cast down his staff before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent. ¹¹Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers, and they, the magicians of Egypt, also did the same by their secret arts. ¹²For each man cast down his staff, and they became serpents. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs. ¹³Still Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said."

Exodus 8:19 says, "Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." But Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said."

Exodus 12:12 says, "For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord."

Exodus 15:11 says, "Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?"

This power was manifest in _____.

Mark 5:30, when Jesus healed the woman with her bleeding ailment, says, "And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?""

Luke 5:17 says, "On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal."

Luke 6:19 says, "And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all."

Acts 3:12 says, "And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk?"

Miracle as _____ **or** _____

Exodus 4:1–5 says, "Then Moses answered, "But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, 'The Lord did not appear to you.'" ²The Lord said to him, "What is that in your hand?"

He said, "A staff."³ And he said, "Throw it on the ground." So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses ran from it. ⁴But the Lord said to Moses, "Put out your hand and catch it by the tail"—so he put out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand—⁵"that they may believe that the Lord, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you."⁶

1 Kings 17:24 says, "And the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth."⁷

2 Corinthians 12:12 says, "The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works" (see also **Ex 7:9–13; Matt 9:6; 11:4–6; Luke 4:18–21; John 5:19–23, 36; 10:24–26, 38; 20:30–31; Acts 2:22; 14:3; Rom 15:18–19; Heb 2:3–4**).

John 20:30–31 says, "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

Luke 7:18–22 says, "The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John,¹⁹ calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?"²⁰ And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'"²¹ In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight.²² And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them."

Not only do miracles attest a prophet or apostle, or more specifically, divine revelation, but miracles in themselves ARE revelation.

1. Our dependence on God for life (**Deuteronomy 8:3**).
2. His power to forgive (**Mark 2:1–11**). Jesus heals a paralytic and thereby reveals that he has authority to forgive sins.
3. There is the miracle of creation which brought the world into being (**Genesis 1:1**). His self-existence and source.
4. The incarnation which was the means of our salvation (**Matthew 1:21**).
5. The flood which was for the purpose of judgment (**Genesis 6–9**).
6. We have Jesus' miracles as an expression of compassion (**Matthew 14:14; Mark 1:41; Matthew 15:32–39**).
7. God opens hearts to supernaturally spread the gospel to the ends of the earth. I.e., the miracle of the new birth (**Acts 13:48; 16:14**).
8. God preserves us in faith (**Heb 12:2; Jude 24; John 10:28–29**).
9. God conforms us into the image of Christ (**Philippians 2:12–13; Romans 8:29**).

QUESTION: HOW DOES GOD _____?

Joshua 3:14–17 says, "So when the people set out from their tents to pass over the Jordan with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, ¹⁵and as soon as those bearing the ark had come as far as the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the brink of the water (now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest), ¹⁶the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap very far away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷Now the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan."

Joshua 4:18 says, "And when the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the Lord came up from the midst of the Jordan, and the soles of the priests' feet were lifted up on dry ground, the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and overflowed all its banks, as before."

Joshua 4:23–24 says, "For the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan for you until you passed over, as the Lord your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up for us until we passed over, ²⁴so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty, that you may fear the Lord your God forever."

Joshua 5:1 says, "As soon as all the kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan to the west, and all the kings of the Canaanites who were by the sea, heard that the Lord had dried up the waters of the Jordan for the people of Israel until they had crossed over, their hearts melted and there was no longer any spirit in them because of the people of Israel."

QUESTION: WHY DOES GOD DO THEM?

God performs miracles or mighty acts so that people will know that _____

DO MIRACLES HAPPEN TODAY?

Notes/Questions:

OUR RESPONSE TO OUR MIRACLE WORKING GOD

Experience God's immanence or presence (**Luke 5:1–10**; cf., **Isa 6:1, 5**).

Worship (**Exodus 15:1–18**)