



The Doctrine of Miracles, part 2

Why is this so important?

- A. The nature of God
- B. Our understanding of the Bible
- C. What we can expect God to do in our lives
- D. Inspires and strengthens our faith

Definition: *A miracle is a less common kind of God's activity in which he arouses people's awe and wonder and bears witness to himself.*

Common explanations and definitions of miracles

Biblical terminology

- i) “Sign” (Heb. סְמֵן; Gk. σημεῖον): something that points to or indicates something else, especially God’s activity and power

- ii) “Wonder” (Heb. נָסָה; Gk. τέρας): an event that causes people to be amazed or astonished
- iii) “Miracle” or “mighty work” (Heb. נִזְרָא ; δύναμις): an act displaying great power, especially divine power
- iv) “Signs and wonders” is often a stock phrase for miracles. (Exo 7:3; Act 4:30; 2Co 12:12)
- v) God himself is the one who performs “miracles” or “wondrous things.” (Exo 15:11Psa 136:4; Exo 7:12; Exo 8:18-19; 1 Kings 18:17-40)
- vi) The incarnation of Jesus as God-man and Jesus’ resurrection from the dead are the central and most important miracles in all history.
- vii) We should consider unusual answers to prayer to be miracles

Miracles in the Old Testament

Small Group Questions:

1. What are some common definitions for miracles?
2. Why do you think it is difficult to believe in miracles?
3. According to JP, why do you think it is important to study what the Bible teaches about miracles?

- 4. JP quoted Dr. Wayne Grudem and gave a definition for miracles in the Bible. According to Grudem, what is a miracle?**
- 5. What miracles can you remember from the Old Testament?**
- 6. What do those miracles teach you about God?**
- 7. What is a practical take away from this study that you can apply to increase your faith?**