



The Doctrine of Miracles – Part 3

Miracles as Characteristic of the New Covenant Age

I. Overview of New Testament Miracles

II. The Purposes of Miracles.

- 1) To authenticate the message of the gospel. (Joh 3:2; Heb 2:4)
- 2) To give evidence that God is truly at work and so serve to advance the gospel (Jo.4:29; Act 8:6-8, 9:35)
- 3) To bear witness to the fact that the kingdom of God has come (Mat 12:28; Luk 4:18)
- 4) To help those who are in need (Mat 20:30; Mat 20:34; Mat 14:14)
- 5) To remove hindrances to people's ministries (Mat 8:15; Phi 2:27; Act 9:40-41; Act 9:36 1Co 12:7)

6) To bring glory to God (Mat 9:8; Joh 9:3)

III. Miracles were not Restricted to the Apostles

IV. Should Christians seek miracles today?

- 1) There is nothing in appropriate in seeking miracles for proper purposes
- 2) After Pentecost, the church prayed for boldness to preach the Gospel *and* for God to grant miracles to accompany its preaching. (Act 4:29-30, 9:38; Jam 5:14)
- 3) 1 Corinthians 12-14 affirms the miraculous gifts functioning in the church and manifesting in the assembly of believers
- 4) James 5:13-21 affirms the praying for miracles of healing
- 5) Jesus promised that we would do His works (miracles) and greater works after He ascended to heaven and in response to believing prayer