

## THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - PART IX THE WORKING OF MIRACLES (Part 2)

Text: I Corinthians 12:10a2

**Key Word:** Miracles

**Key Thought:** The Bible Has Many Examples of the Working of Miracles

The last time I spoke on the working of miracles we looked at the "**miracles of supply**" and the "**miracles of raising the dead.**" Since it was not possible to cover all the topics in one sermon I decided to divide this sermon into 2 parts. Today we are going to look at 2 more groups of miracles.

### III. MIRACLES OF JUDGMENT

### IV. MIRACLES OF OVERRULING NATURE

#### III. MIRACLES OF JUDGMENT

##### A. Judgment of Pharaoh/Egyptians (Exodus 14:10-31)

Can you picture for a few moments the scene wrote about here? Millions of men, women and children with their flocks and herds encamped beside the Red Sea. Finally they had escaped the cruel grip of Pharaoh. Or did they. A cloud of dust and the rumble of chariots and horses from the west placed a sickening feeling in the stomachs of the Israelites. Trapped! An impassable sea. An inescapable enemy. Feelings of helplessness and hopelessness gripped their thoughts. The people cried out in despair. Even Moses complained.

God speaks! A rod is lifted. The east wind breaks in upon the calm waters of the sea. It begins to swirl in turbulence. Mountains of water form a wall. **A wall of protection** for the Israelites but **a wall of destruction** for the unknowing Egyptians.

Who is like unto the Lord - doing wonders. Jehovah's arm is not shortened to save His people. His breath is not exhausted. The sea bed is dried up like a paved highway for His people to cross. The Egyptians foolishly attempt to find safety in their driven madness. Their carcasses become proof the God performs miracles of judgment.

"Experience is a hard teacher. She gives the test first and the lesson afterward."

The thunder god went for a ride Upon his favorite filly "**I'm Thor,**" he cried.

The horse replied, "**You forgot your thaddle, thilly.**"

Last of Clean Jokes  
p. 49

### III. MIRACLES OF JUDGMENT (Contd.)

God uses miracles of judgment to wake up a sleeping nation and bring humility to its leadership. I believe that God can use disasters to bring nations to repentance.

#### B. Judgment of Korah (Numbers 16)

The day came when pride and rebellion found root in the hearts of Korah. The scriptures made it very clear.

*"you have gone too far."*

*Numbers 16:3,7*

I finally believe that the church of God is beginning to understand that world leaders have gone too far. The judgement day is soon coming for those who refuse to hear God voice when He will issue another command much like that in the days of Moses.

*"Then the LORD said to Moses,  
24. Say to the assembly, 'Move away from the tents  
of Korah, Dathan and Abiram."*

*Numbers 16:23*

The ground began to rumble. A force greater than any man, opened the ground surrounding the rebellious families. It swallowed up all of them along with their households and possessions (Numbers 16:32). When the earth had its fill, it returned to its original position.

Before the people could catch their breath, fire came down from heaven and consumed the 250 other men who foolishly burned incense before God.

**God used every means available before resorting to divine judgment.** Every means of persuasion was used to secure repentance and submission to no avail. **God's authority was defied and His mercy was rejected.** Judgment was God's final alternative.

*"When the sentence for a crime is not quickly  
carried out, the hearts of people are filled with  
schemes to do wrong.*

*Ecclesiastes 8:11*

*"For God will bring every deed into judgment,  
including every hidden thing, whether it is good or  
evil."*

*Ecclesiastes 12:14*

### III. MIRACLES OF JUDGMENT (Contd.)

#### B. Judgment of Korah (Numbers 16) (Contd.)

\*\*\* On the shores of Lake Kisali in Mr. Hodgson's section of the Congo Evangelistic Mission, of which Mr. Burton was chief, lived a number of witch-doctors who were opposing the gospel.

They threatened to annihilate the families of believers who were attending the mission meetings. They even schemed to destroy the evangelists.

One evening a native evangelist found sorcerers taking scrapings from his bed and threads from his coat in which to "bewitch" him.

*"At last" shouted the chief sorcerer as he was exposed, "we have all that is necessary to bring about your end. You will fall dead at sunrise tomorrow morning."*

Next morning a large crowd gathered at the door of the evangelist's hut to see if the witch doctor's magic would accomplish its goal.

At sunrise the evangelist opened his door, and went to beat his drum to summon the people to the sunrise prayer meeting.

At that moment awful cry was heard from the far end of the village. The sorcerer was seen running from his hut. He suddenly threw his arms into the air with a shriek of agony and fell back dead. \*\*\*

Harold Horton  
*"Gifts of the Spirit"*  
p. 114

## IV. MIRACLES OF OVERRULING NATURE

One of the signs that Jesus said would take place in the last day would be those in the heavens. This is nothing new for God.

### A. Elijah's Drought

This miracle was actually 2 miracles. These miracles were separated by 3 ½ scorching years. God had enough of the wicked reign and rebellion of king Ahab and his wife Jezebel. The prophet took a great chance when he stood up against the idolatrous king. The message from heaven made its way into the chambers of Ahab's palace.

*"As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word."*

*I Kings 17:1*

This was not some whimsical act of the prophet. It was God who directed him to speak such words of warning.

*"O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command."*

*I Kings 18:36*

The notorious wicked acts of Jezebel had reached their peak in the halls of heaven. She had introduced the worship of Baal and outlawed the worship of Jehovah. God's people were forced to find refuge in caves. No black magic could change the judgment call of God.

God used a new method to send forth His answer to the cries of His obedient servant, Elijah.

*"Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench."*

*I Kings 18:38*

Soon the rain was drenching the sun scorched land. James (the half-brother of Jesus) reminded the early church what had happened.

#### **IV. MIRACLES OF OVERRULING NATURE (Contd.)**

*"Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.  
18. Again he prayed, and the earth produced its crops."*

*James 5:17,18*

#### **B. Falling of the Walls of Jericho**

This is one of the most dramatic miracles recorded in the O.T. The liberal mind has made several attempts to explain away what happened. I've heard everything from a natural fault that happened to let go by the weakening that took place with the rhythmic trampling of the soldiers. Others suggest that a disintegration took place because of the sudden blast of the horns combined with the incredible sound of the people shouting.

All of the excavations of the site have had to lead the archaeologists to conclude that God's Word is true. A further point of truth was that no one would rebuild the city.

*"Cursed before the LORD is the man who undertakes to rebuild this city, Jericho: 'At the cost of his firstborn son will he lay the foundations; at the cost of his youngest will he set up its gates.'"*

*Joshua 6:26*

It was 666 years later that Hiel the Bethelite refused to listen to the warning of God (I Kings 16:34).

**Today God is supernaturally tearing down the walls of protection which have given a false hope to His enemies.**

I could go on to speak of the story of the sun standing still in Joshua chapter 10 or the stilling of the winds and waves that tried to overcome the disciples in Matthew 8.

**God still has dominion over the earth He created.**

You may need a miracle today. God is still able to perform one. He is no respecter of persons. Allow Him to have His way in your life. Believe that He is able to do what He said He could do.

Miracles are NOT something of the past. They are once again becoming a common occurrence in these last days for those to believe God is able.

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Date: Aug 23/20

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: Our God is Lifted Up

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THE WORKING OF MIRACLES (Part II)**

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Numbers 16:32; Ecclesiastes 8:11; Ecclesiastes 12:14*

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