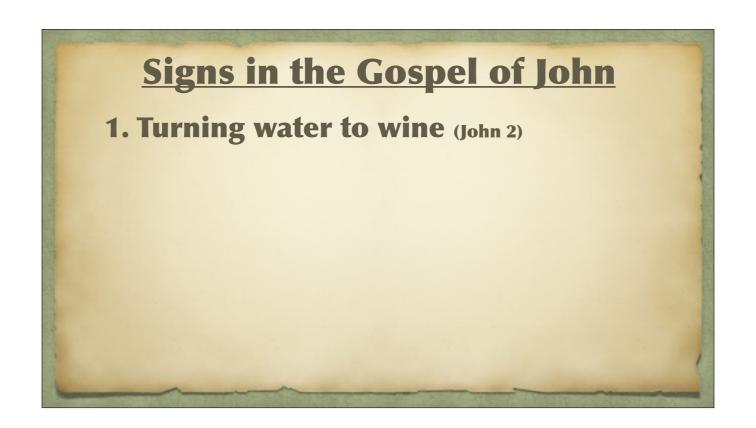


False Signs, Wicked Deception & Strong Delusion

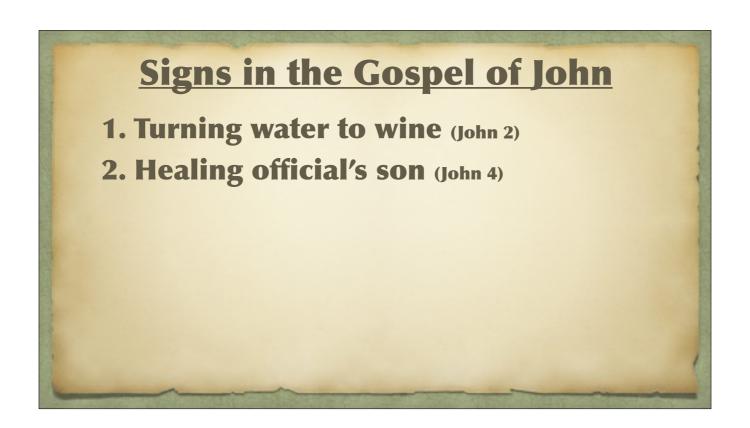


- Signs in the Gospel of John
 - 37 miracles of Jesus recorded in the gospels
 - John only 7.



Water to wine

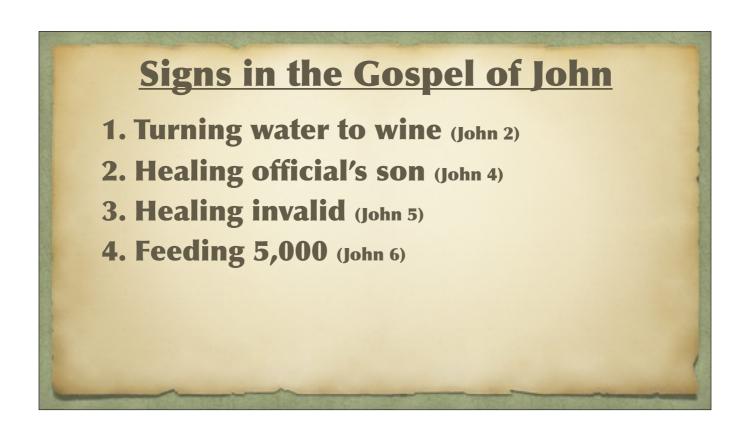
- John 2:9 (ESV) When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom
- John 2:11 (ESV) 11 This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.



- Healing Official's Son (at point of death)
 - John 4:48 (ESV) So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe."
 - John 4:50-53 (ESV) 50 Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man **believed** the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. 51 As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. 52 So he **asked them the hour** when he began to get better, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." 53 The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And **he himself believed, and all his household.**

Signs in the Gospel of John 1. Turning water to wine (John 2) 2. Healing official's son (John 4) 3. Healing invalid (John 5)

- Healing Invalid
 - John 5:8 (ESV) Jesus said to him, "Get up, take up your bed, and walk."
 - John 5:17 (ESV) But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working."



Feeding 5,000

• John 6:9-11 (ESV) 9 "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?" 10 Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. 11 Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted.

Signs in the Gospel of John 1. Turning water to wine (John 2) 2. Healing official's son (John 4) 3. Healing invalid (John 5) 4. Feeding 5,000 (John 6) 5. Walks on water (John 6)

- Walks on Water
 - John 6:19 (ESV) When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were frightened.

Signs in the Gospel of John

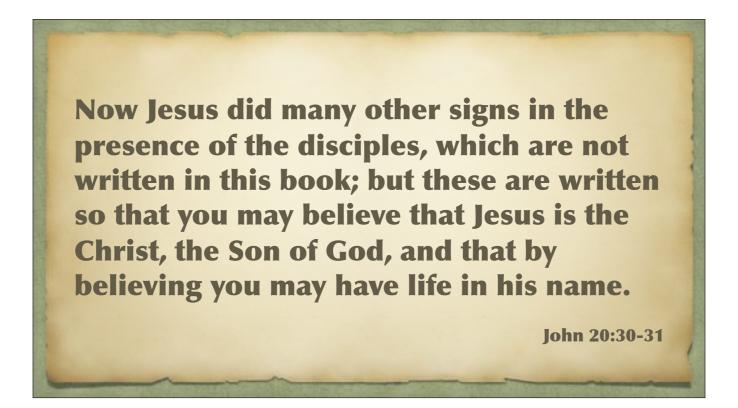
- 1. Turning water to wine (John 2)
- 2. Healing official's son (John 4)
- 3. Healing invalid (John 5)
- 4. Feeding 5,000 (John 6)
- 5. Walks on water (John 6)
- 6. Healing man born blind (John 9)

- Healing of Man Born Blind
 - John 9:3 (ESV) Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.
 - John 9:32 (ESV) 32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind.

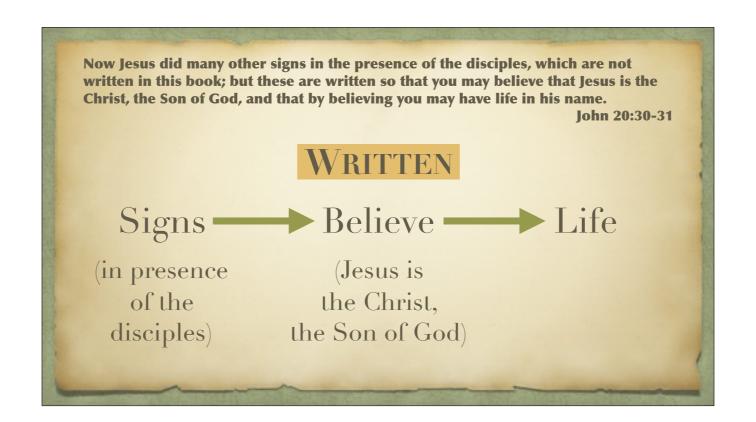
Signs in the Gospel of John

- 1. Turning water to wine (John 2)
- 2. Healing official's son (John 4)
- 3. Healing invalid (John 5)
- 4. Feeding 5,000 (John 6)
- 5. Walks on water (John 6)
- 6. Healing man born blind (John 9)
- 7. Raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11)

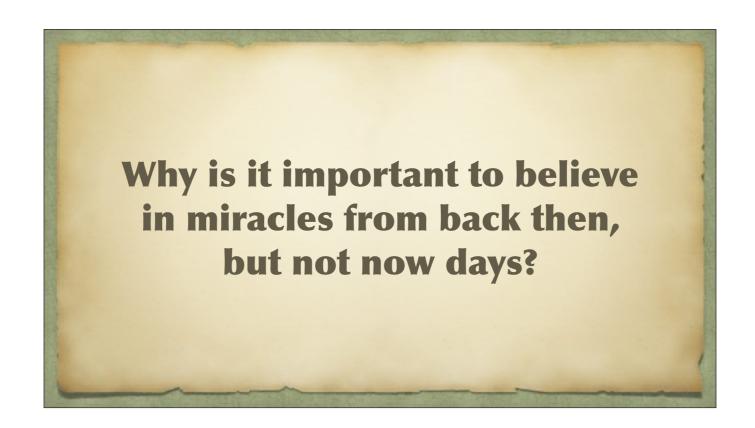
- · Raising of Lazarus from the Dead
 - John 11:4 (ESV) 4 But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."
 - John 11:43-44 (ESV) 43 When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." 44 The man who had died came out, his hands
 and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."



John 20:30-31 (ESV) 30 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.



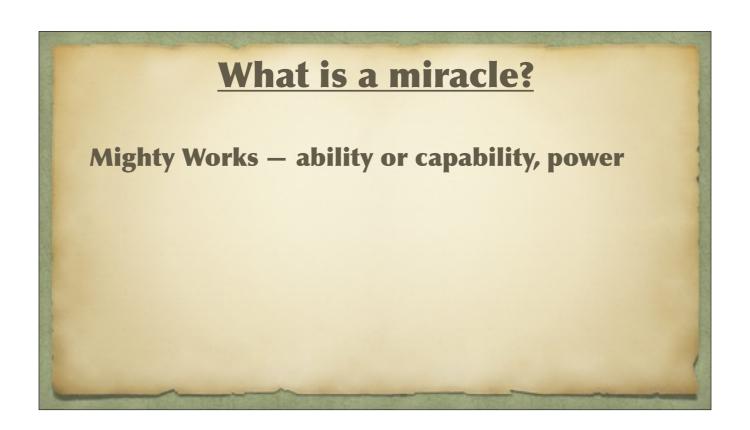
- Signs in presence of disciples (Verifiable)
- · Believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God
- Life
- WRITTEN



Why is it important to believe in miracles from back then, but not now days?



- What is a miracle?
 - Acts 2:22 (ESV) "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—

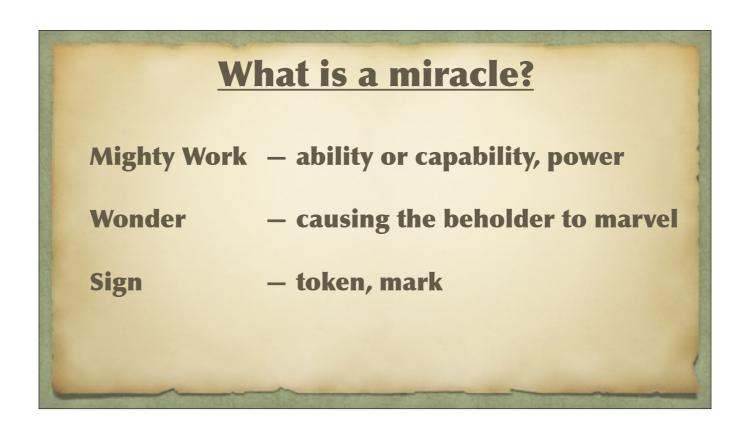


- Power (miracle, mighty work): ability or capability
 - not "magic"
 - not "natural law"
 - accomplished by word

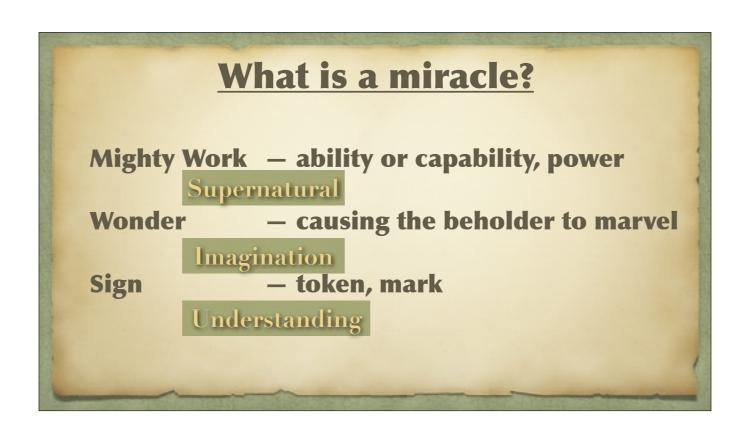
What is a miracle? Mighty Works — ability or capability, power Wonder — causing the beholder to marvel

Wonder

- Vine: Causing the beholder to marvel
- (CWSB Dictionary) connoting that which due to its extraordinary character is apt to be observed and kept in the memory. It is a miracle regarded as startling, imposing or amazing.



- Sign
 - (CWSB Dictionary) Sign, mark, token, miracle with a spiritual end and purpose.
 - (CWSB Dictionary) In the pl., miracles which lead to something out of and beyond themselves; finger-marks of God, valuable not so much for what they are as for what they indicate of the grace and power of the Doer (Mark 16:20).



Power: SUPERNATURAL

Wonder: APPEALS TO IMAGINATIONSign: APPEALS TO UNDERSTANDING



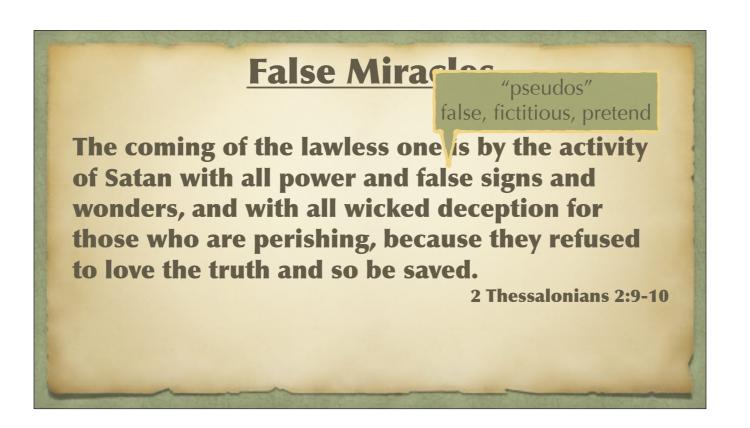
False Miracles

False Miracles

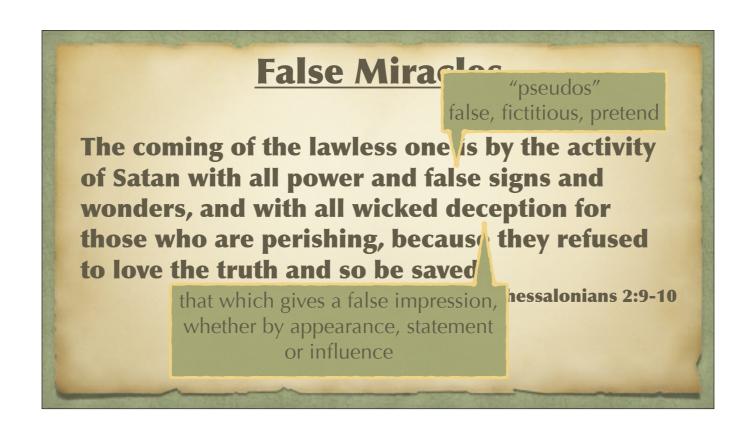
The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, and with air wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

2 Thessalonians 2:9-10

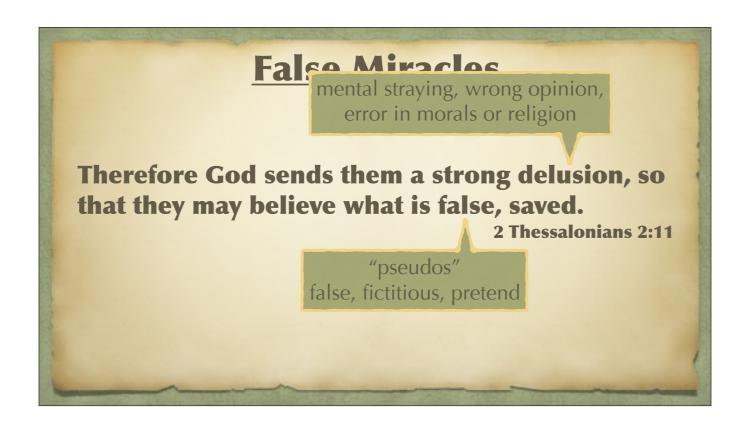
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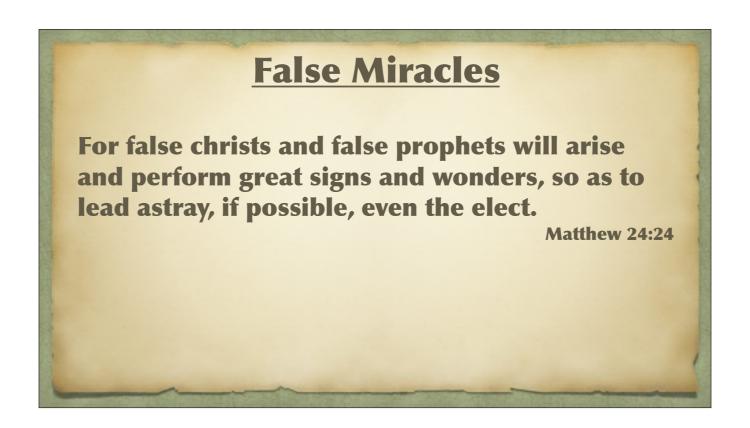
- Activity of Satan
- False
- (CWSB Dictionary) A lie, falsehood (John 8:44 [cf. Col. 3:9; 2 Thess. 2:11; 1 John 2:21, 27]; Sept.: Ps. 5:6; Jer. 5:2). Lying in general (Eph. 4:25). 2 Thess. 2:9 refers to false, fictitious, pretended miracles.
- (Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary) in 2 Thess. 2:9, "lying wonders" is lit. "wonders of falsehood," i.e., wonders calculated to deceive;
- Titus 1:2 (ESV) 2 in hope of eternal life, which **God, who never lies**, promised before the ages began



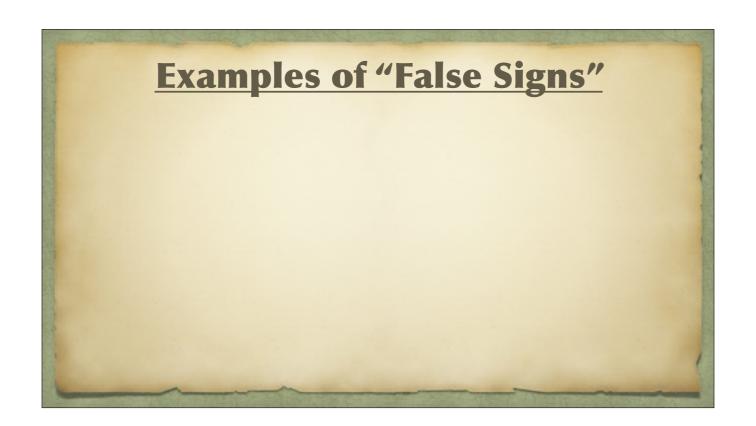
- deception
 - (Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary) that which gives a false impression, whether by appearance, statement or influence,



- 2 Thessalonians 2:11 Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false,
- Delusion
 - (Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary) lit., "a wandering," whereby those who are led astray roam hither and thither, is always used in the NT, of mental straying, wrong opinion, error in morals or religion.



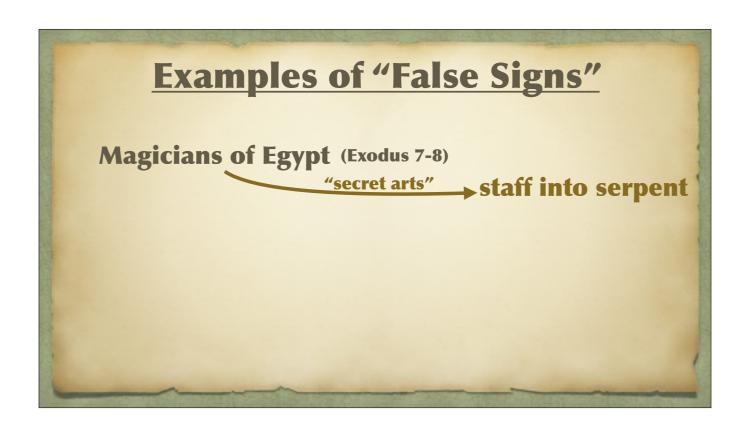
• Matthew 24:24 (ESV) For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.



text

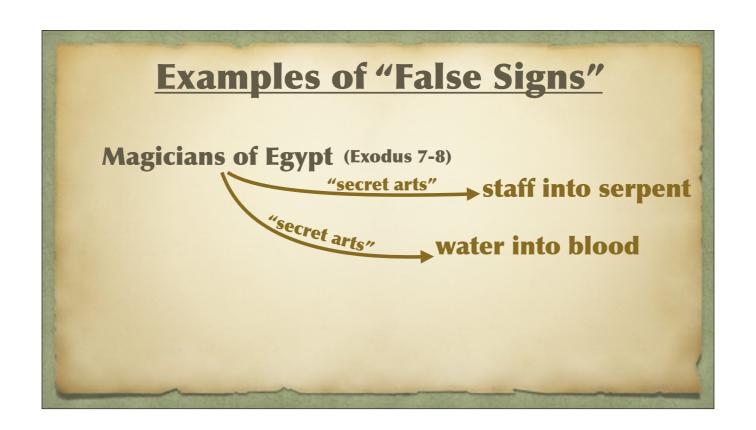


Magicians of Egypt (Exodus 7-8)

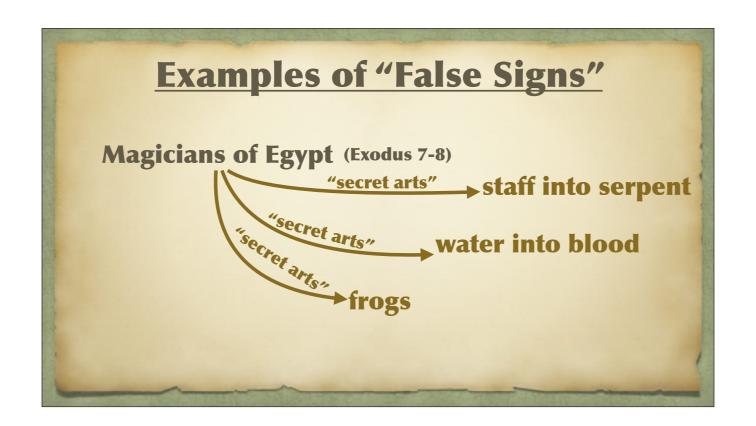


Staff to Serpent

- Exodus 7:8-9 (ESV) 8 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.'"
- Exodus 7:11 (ESV) 11 Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers, and they, the magicians of Egypt, also did the same by their **secret arts** (KJV: enchantments).



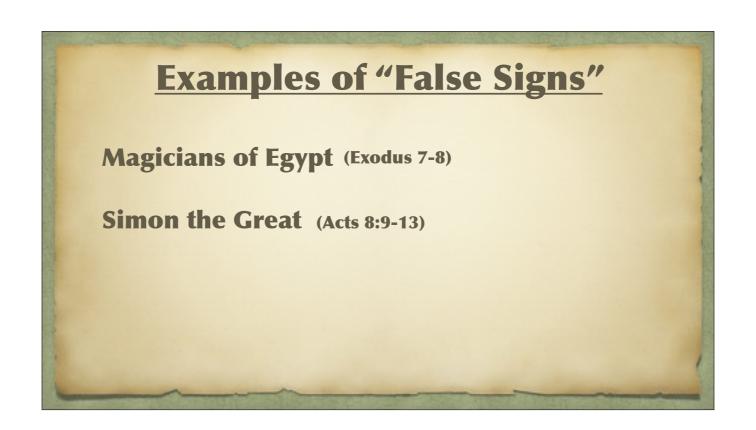
- Water to Blood
 - Exodus 7:21-22 (ESV) 21 And the fish in the Nile died, and the Nile stank, so that the Egyptians could not drink water from the Nile. There was blood throughout all the land of Egypt. 22 But the magicians of Egypt did the same by their secret arts.



- Frogs:
 - Exodus 8:7 (ESV) But the magicians did the same by their secret arts and made frogs come up on the land of Egypt.

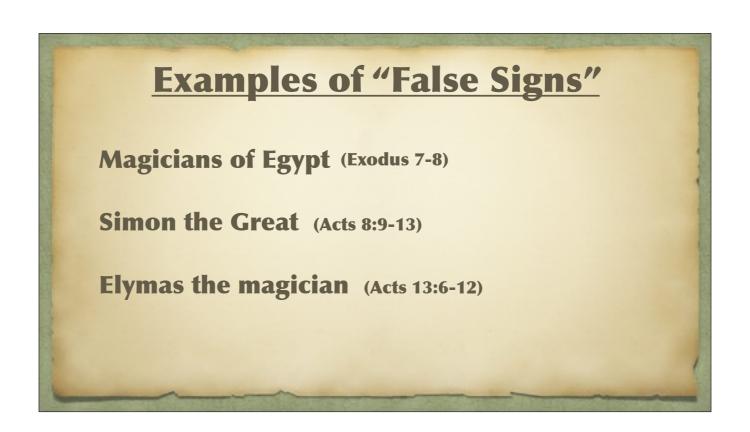


- Gnats
 - Exodus 8:18-19 (ESV) 18 The magicians tried by their secret arts to produce gnats, but they could not. So there were gnats on man and beast. 19 Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God."
- Whatever trickery or power the magicians were involved in, it clearly did not compare to the power of God: no gnats, flies, plague on livestock, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, death of firstborn.



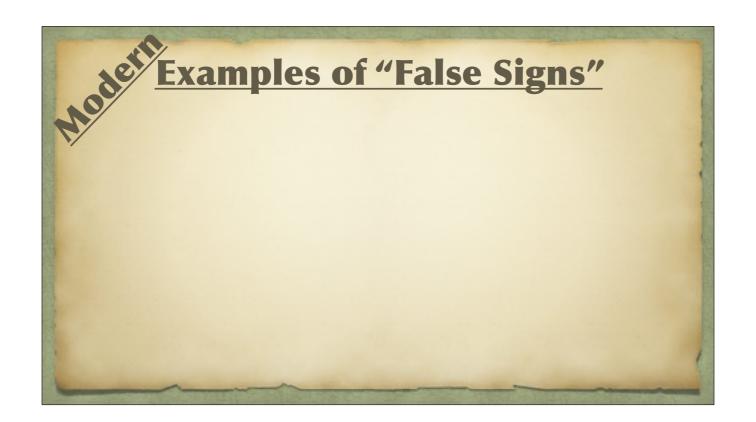
Simon the Great

• Acts 8:9-13 (ESV) 9 But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. 10 They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the power of God that is called Great." 11 And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. 12 But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. 13 Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed.

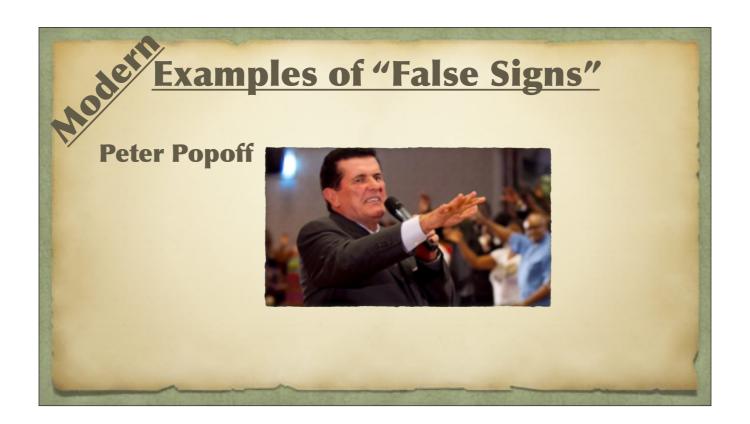


Elymas the magician

• Acts 13:6-12 (ESV) 6 When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. 7 He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9 But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10 and said, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? 11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time." Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. 12 Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.



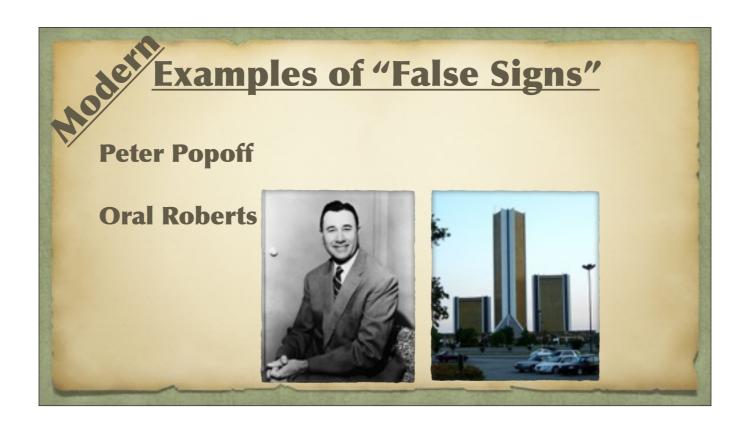
- Peter Popoff
- Some instances of faith healings are pure fakery. Consider the case of Peter Popoff, miracle-working cleric of Upland, California. Popoff, who claimed the supernatural ability to provide secret information about people in his audiences (in conjunction with "healing" them), was receiving such data through a tiny hearing aid, the messages being transmitted by his wife from backstage.
- Prominent magician James Randi exposed the entire affair on nationwide television (1987, 139-181). Randi also demonstrated that Popoff was providing rented wheelchairs for people who could actually walk; then, at his services, he was pronouncing them healed.
- A physician in Toronto, Canada investigated thirty cases in which Oral Roberts claimed miraculous healing was effected; he "found not one case that could not be attributed to psychological shock or hysteria" (Randi 1987, 288). Dr. Sadler affirmed that after twenty-five years of sympathetic research into faith-healing, he had not observed a solitary case of an organic disease being healed.



Peter Popoff

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Wayne Jackson: https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/5-miracles



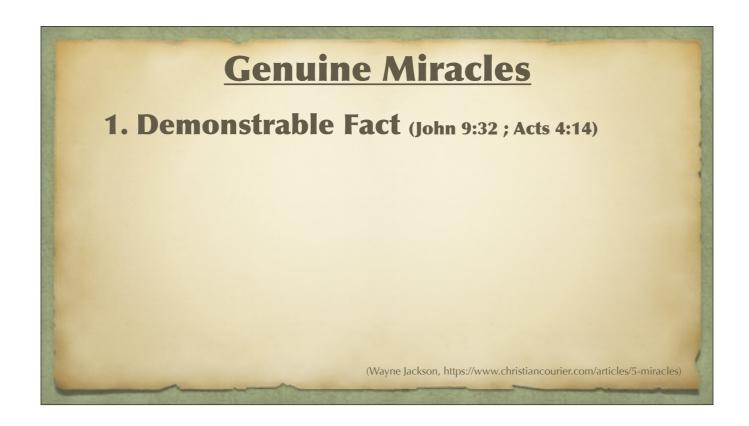
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- Oral Roberts Hospital in OK: "City of Faith Medical and Research Center"

Wayne Jackson: https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/5-miracles

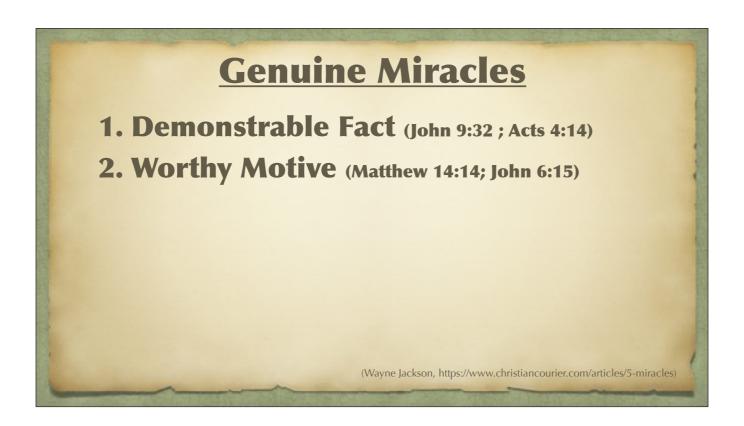


Genuine Miracles (Wayne Jackson)

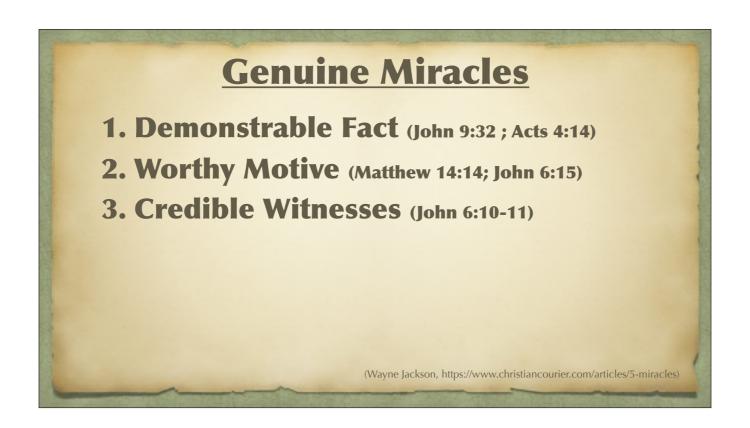


Demonstrable Fact

- Real, they happened.
- Man born blind: John 9:30-33 (ESV) 30 The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. 32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."
 - · Confirmed by Man, Parents, Neighbors
- Crippled man healed by Peter and John
 - Acts 4:14 (ESV) But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition.



- Worthy Motive
 - not done for personal gain or fame
 - Matthew 14:14 (ESV) When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.
 - John 6:15 (ESV) Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.



Credible Witnesses

- John 6:10-11 (ESV) Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. 11 Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted.
- Acts 26:26 (ESV) For the king knows about these things, and to him I speak boldly. For I am persuaded that none of these things has escaped his notice, for this has not been done in a corner.

Genuine Miracles 1. Demonstrable Fact (John 9:32; Acts 4:14) 2. Worthy Motive (Matthew 14:14; John 6:15) 3. Credible Witnesses (John 6:10-11) 4. Instantaneous Effects (Mark 10:52; Acts 3:7)

- Instantaneous Effects
 - Mark 10:52 (ESV) And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.
 - Acts 3:7 (ESV) And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong.

Genuine Miracles 1. Demonstrable Fact (John 9:32; Acts 4:14) 2. Worthy Motive (Matthew 14:14; John 6:15) 3. Credible Witnesses (John 6:10-11) 4. Instantaneous Effects (Mark 10:52; Acts 3:7) 5. Perceptible (John 2:9; 20:27; Luke 22:51) (Wayne Jackson, https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/5-miracles)

- Perceptible (objective reality, not subjective speculation or imagination)
 - Water to wine tasted:
 - John 2:9 (ESV) When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom.
 - Resurrected Body of Jesus:
 - John 20:27 (ESV) Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe."
 - Healed Ear:
 - Luke 22:51 (ESV) But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him.

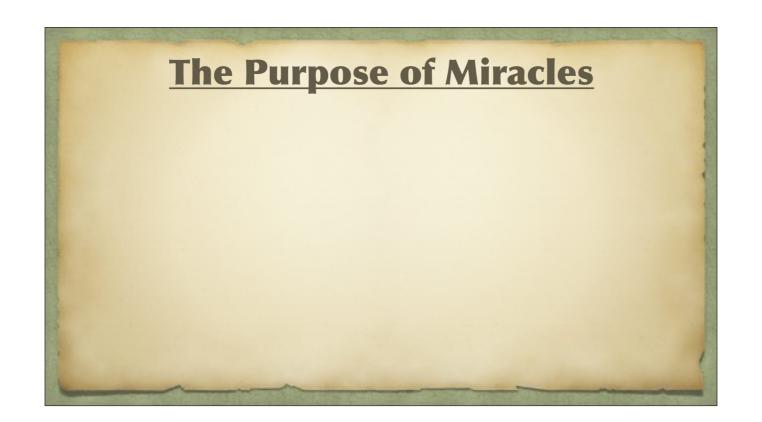
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- 5. Perceptible (John 2:9; 20:27; Luke 22:51)
- 6. Independent of Secondary Causes

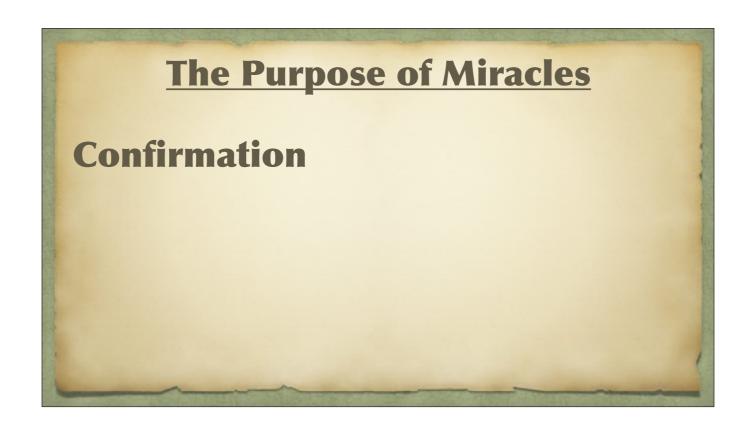
(John 9:32; Luke 22:51)

(Wayne Jackson, https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/5-miracles)

- Independent of Secondary Causes
 - No other possible way to explain the miracle in a natural fashion
 - Man born blind (John 9:32)
 - not psychosomatic
 - Cut off ear (Luke 22:51)
 - how restore an ear?



The Purpose of Miracles

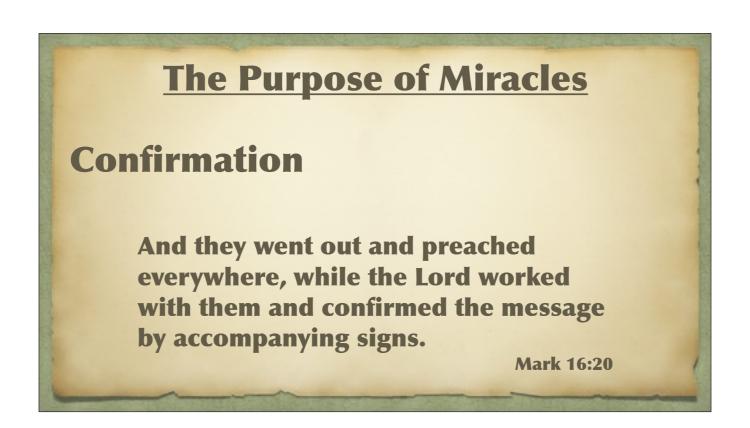


Confirmation

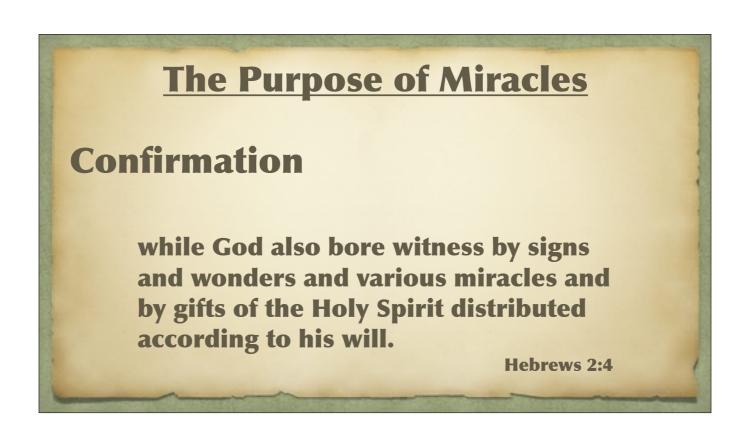
- Mark 16:19-20 (ESV) . 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.
- Hebrews 2:4 (ESV) while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.
- Acts 8:6 (ESV) And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip when they heard him and saw the signs that he did.

Belief

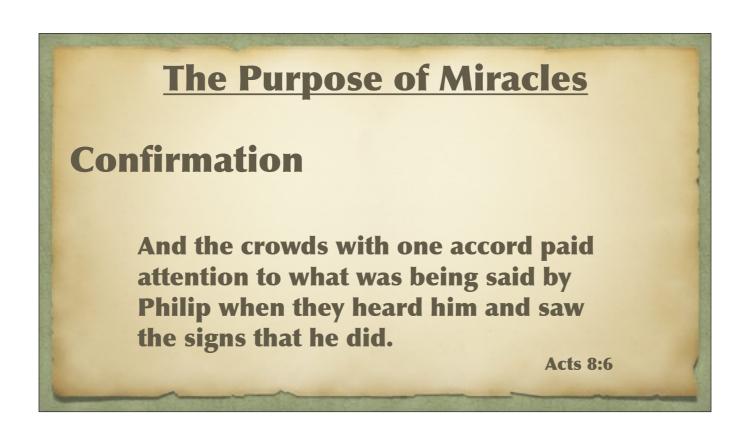
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 may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
- Signs are not the most important thing.
 - 1 Corinthians 1:21-24 (ESV) 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. 22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, 23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
 - Luke 4:43 (ESV) 43 but he said to them, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose."
- Once the word was delivered and confirmed, no further need for miracles: we have the Word of God
 - Jude 1:3 (ESV) Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for
 the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.
 - 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV) 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.



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The Purpose of Miracles Confirmation "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose." Luke 4:43

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The Purpose of Miracles

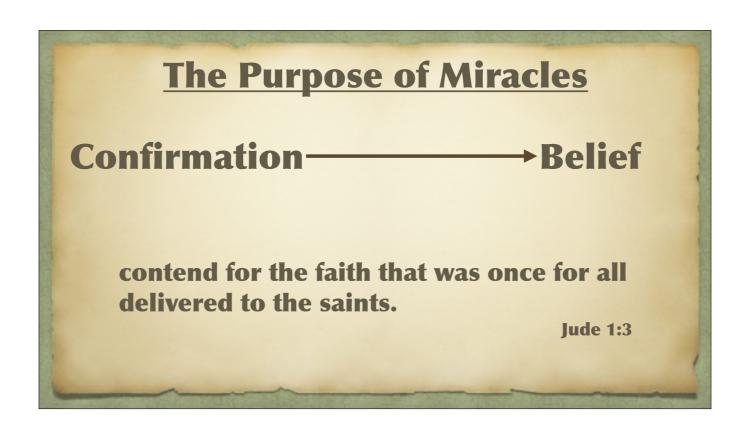
Confirmation Belief

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 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.

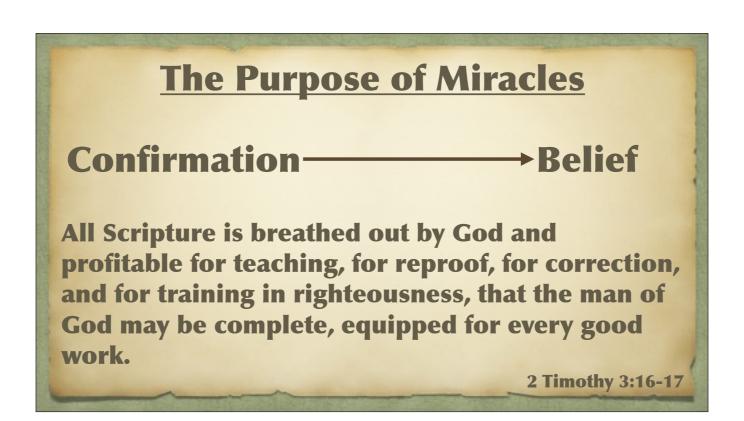
John 20:30-31

Belief

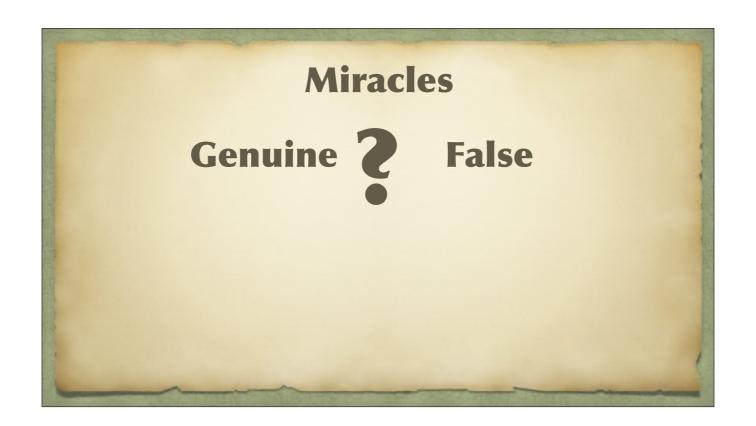
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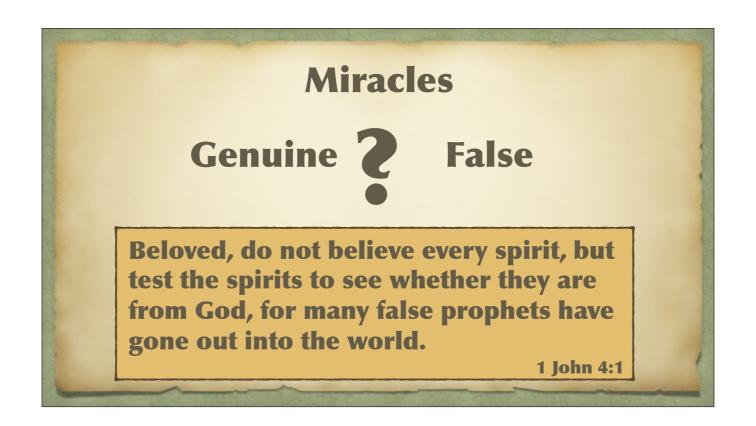
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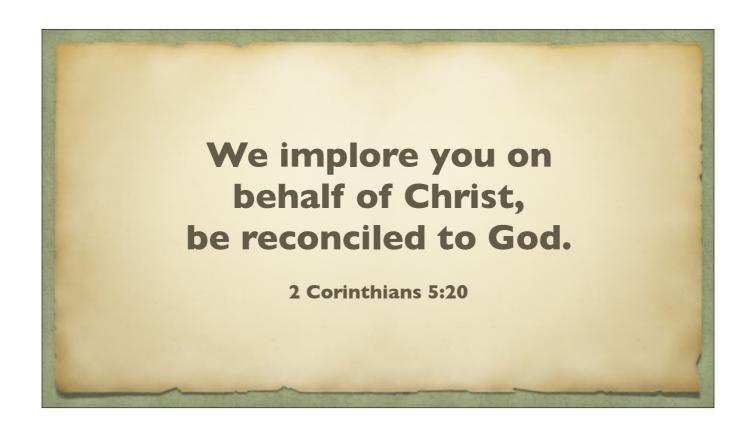
2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV) 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.



- Miracles: Genuine or False
- Those in Scripture have all the marks of real miracles: confirm that speaker is from God. Believe.
 - No longer necessary to have miracles; have the Scriptures
- Men who claim that they can do miracles are false teachers, prophets: leading astray
 - Miracles are false
 - Such men do not speak for God: do not believe.



1 John 4:1 (ESV) Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.



Signs - believe - life.



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Stories of the Christ

#19

Compiled and Presented by:
Dave Stewart
7 August 2016
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False Signs, Wicked Deception & Strong Delusion

Synopsis: John uses 7 signs in his gospel. Why should you believe in those signs, but not modern miracles? In this lesson we'll learn that there are genuine and false miracles, and purpose of the miracles of Jesus and apostles was to confirm that they spoke of God. Having accomplished that purpose, miracles to confirm the veracity of a speaker are no longer necessary. God has provided the Scriptures so that we may believe and have life.

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"Let all that you do be done with love."