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The Sure Word by Jonnie Hutchison

“IT’S A MIRACLE – OR IS IT?”

There are many times following a natural disaster or a terrible accident that we have heard someone say, “It’s a **miracle** that I survived.” Many believe that miracles occur every day. The birth of a child is often called a miracle. But is it a miracle or a natural occurrence? Bible miracles were supernatural events not natural occurrences. People often claim that a miracle has taken place based upon an inability to explain what they or others have experienced. However, simply because one cannot explain how something occurred is not sufficient evidence to prove that it was a miracle.

Notice these truths concerning the miracles recorded in the New Testament. Bible miracles were supernatural events. The first recorded miracle of Jesus was turning water into wine at a wedding in Cana in Galilee (John 2:1ff). Of course, according to natural law water does not naturally produce wine. But Jesus set aside the laws of nature to perform this miracle.

The natural healing of the physical body from disease or injury occurs over time. On the other hand, Bible miracles were complete and instantaneous. When Peter and John miraculously healed a man who had been lame from his birth the Bible tells us that “**immediately** his feet and ankle bones received strength...So he, leaping up, stood and walked....” (Acts 3:7-8).

Bible miracles were undeniable. After the healing of the lame man the Jewish council, who were opposed to any teaching about Jesus, met together to discuss their reaction to this miracle. Yet, they “could say nothing against it” and said, “For, indeed, that a notable miracle has been done through them is evident to all who dwell in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it.” (Acts 4:1-16).

Bible miracles had the specific purpose of confirming the spoken Word of God. Hebrews 2:3-4 reads, “how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be **spoken** by the Lord, **and was confirmed** to us by those who heard Him, God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?” Since the word “was confirmed” (past tense) it no longer needs that miraculous confirmation today. The miracles of Jesus and the apostles are now recorded in written form, confirming the deity of the Christ and the truthfulness of God’s written word (John 20:30-31; Mark 16:19-20). Thus, the need for miracles has been fulfilled and miracles are no longer being performed today. The written Word of God provides “all things that pertain to life and godliness” (2 Peter 1:3), furnishing us completely to every good work (2 Tim. 3:16-17).