

## MIRACLES, SIGNS, AND WONDERS

God has a definite plan for each of our lives. It is by prayer that we are able to find that plan and purpose. Otherwise we are miserable all our lives. We make all the people about us miserable.

By prayer we can change our position in this world and the world to come. Prayer changed Paul's course in life. He gave up fame; but when he was ready to leave this life he said, "I have fought a good fight... there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness". He had made a success.

Life is a warfare. Our weapons are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds. We fight not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual powers in high places. Eph. 6:10-18.

Elisha was praying for a double portion of Elijah's anointing to rest upon him. Elijah was quick to tell Elisha that he must see him when he was taken away if he wanted the request to be granted, (II Kings 2:9).

He asked a hard saying, but if he would follow closely and be led by the Spirit he would see the results.

The same thing is true in receiving the answer to our prayers. We must seek to be led by the Spirit of God in all things and follow close to the Lord Jesus.

Just as Elisha cooperated with the plan of the Lord, and received the same spirit that was upon Elijah, so we may cooperate with the Lord and receive the same Spirit that was upon Jesus, (John 14:16-26).

Just as Elisha could not receive Elijah's anointing until Elijah went up, so the disciples could not receive the Holy Ghost until Jesus ascended to heaven, (John 16:17).

Just as Elisha had to follow closely to Elijah, so we must follow closely to Jesus, if we want the anointing which was upon our blessed Lord.

Elisha prayed for a woman who supplied his needs by furnishing him a table, bed and lamp. God gave this woman a son. He told her in advance that the child would be born.

The man or woman who ministers to the ministers of God and supplies their material needs, has every right to expect to receive miracles in answer to the prayers of the same minister of God, (I Cor. 9:11).

Sometimes there is something for us to do. He opens the prison doors, but He expects us to march out of prison. There is a time to pray and a time to act. Faith without works is dead (James 2:17).

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We can act without prayer and see no results. We can fail to act after we pray and meet defeat. It takes obedience along with prayer. Why do we call Him "Lord, Lord" and do not the thing He says?

Jesus spent forty days in communion with God before He was ushered into His ministry. We must have a time of waiting on God before we can minister as Jesus ministered. We are to take up the work that He left off. Acts 1:1.

We must be led by the Holy Ghost. We must learn to wait upon the

Lord. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint. Isa. 40:31.

We must find the secret place of the most high and dwell there. Ps.. 91:1.16.

We must wait in fasting and prayer until we know Jesus is leading. Isa. 58.1.

Every person, before starting to work for God in anyway, should wait in God's presence, fast and pray, until they hear from the One who sends them.

It is not enough for an evangelist to preach good sermons, sing, or even pray for the sick; he must bean intercessor, prayer, or the devil will trap him in some way. We must stay in communion with God. If we can see by the Spirit of God that Jesus resurrected from the grave and went back to heaven; if we can understand by the Spirit that He gave us the gifts as He ascended (Eph. 4:8), then we can accept what He has given to us and do the work He did, and even greater works, (John 14:12).

Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." St. John 14:12.

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. F. Luke 7.50.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. Mark 16:15.18.

The Lord spake in divers manners, (Heb. 1:1). Speaking of the gifts, God says there are diversities of operations, (I Cor. 12:6). Every man has his proper gift of God, (I Cor. 12:7). The gifts differ according to our faith. We must prophesy according to the proportion of our faith, (Rom. 12:6).

The alive word of God spoken through Joshua made the sun stand still. The word spoken through Elijah stopped the rain for three and one-half years and put meal in the woman's barrel. These men first heard from God before they spoke to the people. God put His word in their mouth. If any man speak, let it be as the oracles of God. I. Pet. 4:11.

We can do some commanding for the Lord concerning the works of

His hands. Isa. 45:11.

We can decree a thing and it shall be established unto us. Job 22:28. But if we don't wait on God to tell us what to decree, we will speak into the air. We can have whatsoever we say, (Mark 11:23). But we must speak as the oracles of God.

Joshua waited until God spoke before he let the priests step into Jordan. Then the waters rolled back, (Josh. 3:16). It was the words of God that did it. Had they stepped into that water before God spoke and told them it was time to step into the water, they would have all gone under the water and drowned. Wait on God or you will go under.

"They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover," (Mark 16:17). This is promised to all believers.

People received the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands Ananias laid his hands on Paul. Paul received the Holy Ghost, (Acts 9:17).

When Peter and John laid hands on Phillip's converts, they received the Holy Ghost, (Acts 8:17).

Paul laid hands on people at Ephesus and they received the Holy Ghost, (Acts 19:6). Sometimes gifts were given to people as hands were laid on them. Ministers laid hands on young men and sent them out into the evangelistic work after they had fasted and prayed, (Acts 13:2).

By the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders performed. Paul laid his hands on the ruler of the island of Melitaz. This man was healed, (Acts 28:7).

We can do the same if we will follow the example Jesus gave to us, (John 14:12; I Peter 2:24). He went into a solitary place and spent all night in prayer, (Mark 1:35). He waited until he heard from God; then He spoke the words that His Father put into His mouth.

There can be no copying or imitating. Every man must first get God on the inside of himself with praying and waiting. Then he must move as God speaks and people are healed by God's word.

We can't listen to people talk all day and tell folks what God said that night. If we listen to God, we will talk like God. If we listen to people, we will talk like people. If we listen to the devil, we will talk like the devil.

You know that Jesus did nothing until God showed him to do it. All the Ihtldd were under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, (Acts 10:38). Nt»t God .is a Spirit, (John 4:24). He did nothing until he saw it In the Spirit world, (John 5:19). The same word of God that i th\* world was working through him. Thus, he and the word (the same. In this same way, we can do these

same works, (John ). We may be identified with the word. He became our priest, (Heb. 14). He took my place. He is in the presence of God for me, (Heb. 7:25). I am my attorney. I took His place. I go in His stead, (II Cor. 5:20). Jesus to a man, "Wilt thou be made whole? Arise, take up your bed and These creative words were put into his mouth. He spake as the . The same word of God that created the earth made the man sound and well, (John 5).

"Look unto me all ye the ends of the earth and be ye saved. I am God and without me there is no other." Jesus said that it was not He that did the works, but the Father that dwelled in Him, (John 14:10). The Father dwells in us after we are baptized with the Holy Ghost, (John 14:17). All the works He did was by the anointing of the Holy Ghost, (Acts 10:38). He never worked a miracle until after He was anointed with the Holy Ghost. Turning the water into wine was the first miracle that He worked.

His Father was a Spirit, (John 4:24). He only spoke or acted as He first saw it in the Spirit. If we move without the Spirit moving in that direction, we'd move without God. There is no results without God. Philip went down to Samaria and preached Christ unto them. He did not go and preach his hands unto them. As he preached Christ, many healings took place.

When you turn on the water, the water begins to run but the faucet does not do anything at all. The Holy Ghost is the water of life and we are the faucets. But we can get turned on. No word of God is void of power. All the spiritual gifts work through the Holy Ghost. God dwells in your body if you are baptized with the Holy Ghost. Before you are baptized with the Holy Ghost, He dwells with you, (John 14:17). Then after you are Holy Ghost baptized, your body becomes the temple of God, (I Cor. 6:19). God comes into your body to dwell, (John 14:17). God is light, (I John 1:5). Your whole body shall be full of light, (Eph. 5:8). You glorify God in your body, (I Cor. 6:20). You become the body of Christ. You are the temple of the Holy Ghost, (I Cor. 6:19). God is concerned about your body, (Isa. 53:5). Present your body to the Lord as a living sacrifice, (Romans 12:1). Cleanse yourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit. (I Cor. 7:1). I pray God that your whole body will be preserved blameless, (I Thes. 5:23).

From Paul's body was taken aprons and handkerchiefs to the sick and they were healed, (Acts 19:11-12). An incurable woman touched Jesus' robe and was healed, (Mark 5:29).

Peter had so much power in his body that he could walk down the street and multitudes were healed as they got in his shadow. It was

not his shadow but the Spirit of God in Peter's body that healed the people. The Lord used handkerchiefs and aprons from Paul's body once to heal people. He healed in a different way the next time. Let me remind you that all battles cannot be won by obstacles. This was a ministry that God gave unto these men. This may never be repeated. God worked in another way the next time. Otherwise they could make an idol out of the obstacle. God can repeat that if He wishes; but it must be God's idea.

Paul says that the heart is a meek and quiet spirit, (I Peter 3:4). It is the inner man. If you contact God it is with your spirit, the natural man receiveth not the things of the Lord, (I Cor. 2:14). He that is in the flesh cannot please God. If you seek God with your spiritual eyes, you hear God with your spiritual ears.

Jesus said to a man, "Stretch forth your hand." As the man heard with his spiritual ears and obeyed, his withered hand was made as the other one. He that is of God, speaketh God's words, (John 3:34). The same word that created the man gave this man a new hand. It would have happened no other way. Laying on of hands would not have done it when God was directing the other way.

The same word of God that created man can be spoken and will create a part in a man. The word of God spoken through one minister is just as strong as the word of God spoken through another minister.

Paul went down to a dead man and embraced him. He didn't shake him, choke him, slap him in the face, beat him in the back or tear his clothes off. He didn't pray. He merely spoke the live words that God put in his mouth, and he came to life again. And those words were God's words. God's words are powerful.

Jesus said to a little dead girl, "Damsel, I say unto thee, arise," (Mark 5:41). He said to a dead boy, "Young man, I say unto thee, arise," (Luke 7:14). He said to Lazarus, "Lazarus, come forth," (John 11:43). Peter said unto a dead lady, "Dorcas, I say unto thee, arise," (Acts 9:41).

In each of these cases, the dead heard the word and obeyed that living word. Some day all that are in the grave will hear the words-of God and come forth, (John 5:28). The word of God created man in the first place, (Gen. 1:26). The word of God will destroy man. It will bring judgment.

If our spiritual ears are open, we will hear God's word and receive healing. If our spiritual ears are closed, we will miss our healing because we have failed to hear His voice.

Jesus spoke the words of God to the man, "Go thy way. Thy son

liveth." The boy who was many miles away was healed, (John 4:50). The Lord healed that way once. He waited until His Father spoke. The people are healed by the word of God, (Psa. 107:20). The next time Jesus healed in a different way. Sure, Jesus had virtue in His body, but it was released as faith drew on His ability as others believed Gods word.

The nobleman wanted Jesus to go about fifteen miles and heal his son, who was at the point of death. Had Jesus gone and laid hands on the dying boy, the boy would have received nothing, because Jesus would have gone opposite to the Spirit of God. God is a Spirit. If we worship Him, we must worship Him in the Spirit. He said go thy way, thy son liveth.

Jesus spoke the words of God over some bread. It was multiplied. There was enough to feed the multitude. He only did that as the creative words were put into his mouth, (John 3:14).

The fig tree was the work of God's hands. Jesus commanded it to bear no more fruit, (Matt. 21:19). It obeyed Jesus and Jesus said that we could do the same thing, (John 14:12). We can't do it until God puts the words into our mouth. Neither could Jesus, (John 5:19). It was the Father that dwelt in Him that did the works.

Jesus said to the blind man, "Go wash in the pool of Siloam," (John 9:7). This was the living word that was spoken. The man believed and responded to the demand and was instantly made whole. He was healed by the word. Jesus did not use the same words the next time. You cannot use these same words with the same results unless God gives you those words.

Jesus spoke the word of God to Satan and said, "It is written." That is the only thing that the devil will respect. God tells me to resist the devil and he will flee from me, (James 4:7). If I couldn't resist him, God wouldn't have told me to and he wouldn't flee from me. How do I resist him? I resist him by the word. Not just by memorizing a scripture but by the living word. When God quickens the scripture to me, then that is the word of God.

It is not by merely memorizing a verse for the devil can do that. A sinner can do that and he can't cast out devils. It is by the alive spoken word of God through me. We speak as of the oracles of God. We fast and get the commanding power, the dominion and the authority. We decree a thing and it comes to pass. Job. 22.

Jesus saw a man in the synagogue with evil spirits. When the spirits cried out, Jesus spoke to the spirits and said, "Hold your peace and come out of him" (Mark 1:25).

Did Jesus lay hands on him? Did Jesus ever lay hands on a man to deliver him from evil spirits? He said to the legion of devils, "Go," (Matt. 8:32). He said to a woman, "The devil is gone out of your daughter," (Matt. 15:26). Another time, Jesus said, "Thy dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee to come out of him and enter no more into him", (Mark 11:25).

About three million people crossed the Red Sea. God spoke to Moses and told them what to do. He told them to eat the flesh of the lamb. All of them were healed. There was not a feeble person among them. Why? It was because they believed and obeyed the word of God that healed them. The same word created the earth, made man, created the animals and stopped the sun. Moses could have said, "When I lay my hands on you something will happen." He could have reached a very small percentage of them and they would have received exactly nothing, because God was working in an opposite way.

One time Moses put a serpent on a pole. He told about three million people that there was life for a look. All they needed to do was to look at the brazen serpent and they would be healed. As they looked, they were healed. It was because they believed the word Moses spoke. It was because the word was given to Moses by the Lord for that one occasion. It was because the word was alive. Don't you know that Jesus can do as much as the brazen serpent? If He cannot, then this brazen serpent is not the type of Jesus; and Jesus would not be the anti-type.

The blind man cried out to Jesus. Jesus said, "Go thy way. Thy faith hath made thee whole," (Mark 11:52). The only way the blind man would have been healed was by the word of God. Jesus said, "As my Father has sent me, even so, have I sent you." He was in tune with the Father and we should be also.

The Children of Israel moved when the cloud moved and they stopped when the cloud stopped. God help us to do the same. Anything else is a form of godliness without the power.

As Jesus preached the word, the power of God was present to heal. A man was let down from the top of the house. Jesus did not stop and tell about some healing that He had seen in the last city. He did not even pray. He did not lay hands on this sick person. He merely said, "Arise, take up thy bed and go into thine house," (Mark 2:11). Jesus did not struggle because He was going with the tide rather than against it. The Spirit spoke. Jesus spoke the same words. The word heals. Jesus set us an example. We should follow His steps and do the same things, (John 14:12). We must hear God for

ourselves. He still sends His word and heals.

I know that God can work in any way as we obey and yield; but it must be His idea.

When an anointed minister lays hands on someone as God speaks, then God lays his hands on at the same time because we are his representatives. We are his ambassador.

Jesus never emphasized his hands. He usually said, "According to your faith be it unto you;" or "As thou hast believed, so be it done unto you;" or, "wilt thou be made whole?" He said, "It is not I that doeth the work, but the Father that dwells in me. He doeth the works." Jesus is our example.

Speaking of the gifts of the Spirit, God says, "There are diversities of operations," (I Cor. 12:6). Each of us must be original, not one copying the other one. We can't learn this in a book or by going to school. We get it in the school of prayer as did our Master. The servant is not greater than His Lord.

When God speaks, it works and I just wait in the presence of God. The Bible says, "His sheep know His voice." If I wait hours and hours in the presence of God — I may feel like I am losing time but it gets people saved, healed, and filled with the Holy Ghost. In Jesus name I ask it. Amen.

You too can have this gift of faith. God wants you to have it! Would he write in His Bible, COMMAND YE ME, and then not give you the faith to obey him? No! Never!

Elisha got a double portion of what Elijah had! He did the same things that Elijah did; only greater miracles.

God, has a double portion for you; God has a double portion for every one of you!

God still speaks through men and women that will yield to his moving. God has many ways of speaking to us.

God still speaks through His ministers today. If you have lost confidence in the ministry, you will not have confidence in God either! That is exactly why some of you are not able to get anything from God!

I challenge you now, stand up and cry out, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" Prove Him in your own life, in your own ministry. You will find that He will meet the challenge!

Raise your hands and let's rejoice in God! Where is the Lord God of Elijah?

For us to be a successful witness for Jesus we must be in communion with God through prayer. We must read the Bible. There is nothing more important than reading God's Word.

Have you ever walked along a road in the darkness of night, when you could hardly see in front of you? Everything is black and you can make out only one step at a time. All of a sudden, the lightning flashes and in one split second you can see everything for miles around, even the details of barns, fences, trees and signs.

When you read God's Word, from time to time there should be flashes of truth that the Holy Ghost sends across your consciousness. In those moments you should be able to see the Person of Jesus in clear focus. You should be able to find new insights into your own problems in the light of God's Word. You should be able to find God's will for your life. The Bible will make Christ's coming very real to your heart. When you read the written Word, it should lead you to an awareness of the living Word, the Person of Jesus Christ.

It establishes our faith. It becomes a lamp unto our feet, a light unto our pathway. We must never neglect to read God's Word or our communion. We receive preparation and power in prayer to go against the forces that fight against those who go to evangelize the world.

Christ gave His disciples the great commission to evangelize the world. He told them to first tarry until they received power from God to do this, (Luke 24:49).

These disciples communed with God about ten days before they received the power to witness. They knew that it was very important for the Holy Ghost power to come. They knew another apostle must be chosen to replace Judas. That is why they tarried in God's presence. They were sitting in an act of worship, not in an act of begging. Not offering the prayer of petition, but a more effective prayer than that. They were in prayer of communion and worship which gave strength and faith for the future of the church. They were in this act when the Holy Ghost came upon them and endued them with power to carry on the ministry that Jesus left off.

The disciples did not depend on the prayers they prayed before they received the Holy Ghost. They did not try to let the gifts of the Spirit take the place of prayer. But as they broke the bread (Word) of life, and stayed in communion with God, the Holy Ghost appropriated the gifts that was needed in each specific time.

If we let the gifts work through us the secrets of men's hearts are made manifest. They will fall down and report that God is in us of a truth, (I Cor. 14:25-26).

The disciples were sad when they learned that Jesus was leaving them. Jesus told them that it would be better for them if He went

away. He said if He left them He would send the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost. He said at that time He and the Father would come in and take up their abode. He told them He and the Father would dwell in them (John 14:17-23).

It is better since the Holy Ghost came, because Jesus could be only with them. Now He can be in us. He could be at one place at a time then. Now He can be with all of us at all times. Where two or three of us are gathered together He is in our midst. When I am alone He is in me. Begin now. Practice the presence of God. In your daily life recognize Him. He is in us now. He will work through us the same works Jesus did as we yield ourselves to him completely.

When God called Gideon He asked the question, "Where be all his miracles?" (Judges 6:13). If we are a Christian nation, where is the Spirit and the power of God? Where is the repentance of men and women? Where is the saving power of Christ? Where is the sanctifying power? Where are the charismatic power of the Holy Ghost and the nine gifts of the Spirit? Where is the holiness in our lives and in our nation? God help us all to find communion with God in Jesus name I pray - Amen.

(Use This Page For Your Prayer Request)

We believe very much in prayer.

This is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, he heareth us; and if we know that He heareth us whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him" I John 5:14-15.

God will do what He has promised when you act on His Word.

"There hath not failed one word of all His good promises which He promised" I Kings 8:56. Amen!

- Sister Mildred Walker,