

# **Understanding and Using the Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

**Lesson 12: The Gift of the Working of Miracles**



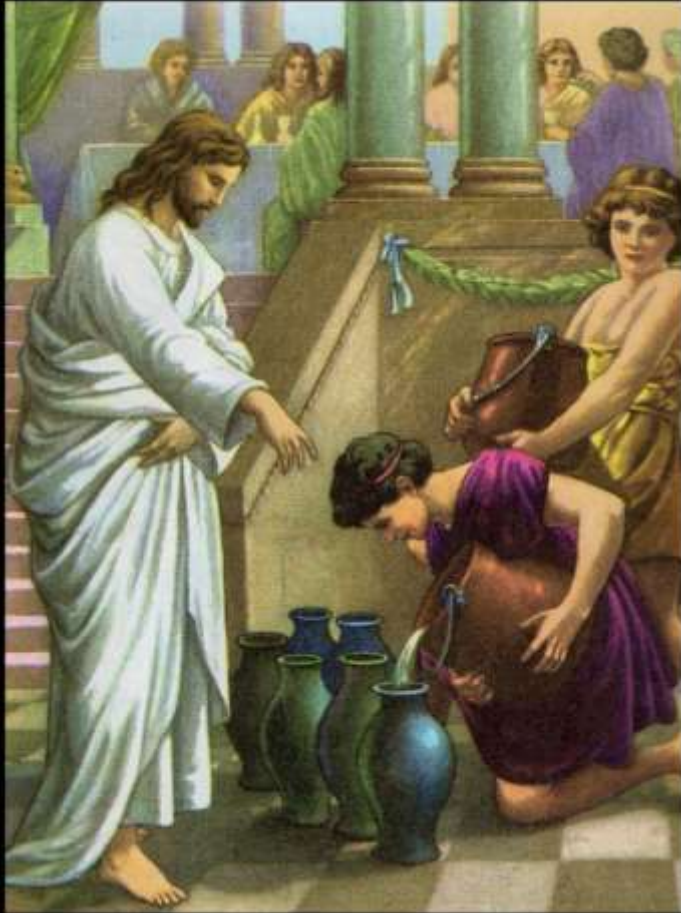
We know that all signs and wonders are NOT genuinely from God.



**Mark 13:22**

For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.





This lesson will focus on the true miracles of God.



We will now study the gift of the Spirit that is called “the working of miracles.”



The Spirit SPEAKS

The Spirit REVEALS

The Spirit MOVES

By the gift of the working of miracles, the Holy Spirit enables you to bring to pass signs and wonders in the name of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation you have received from God.



A MIRACLE IS A WONDER  
AND A SIGN





**A MIRACLE IS A WONDER  
AND A SIGN**

**A WONDER DEFIES THE  
LAWS OF NATURE**



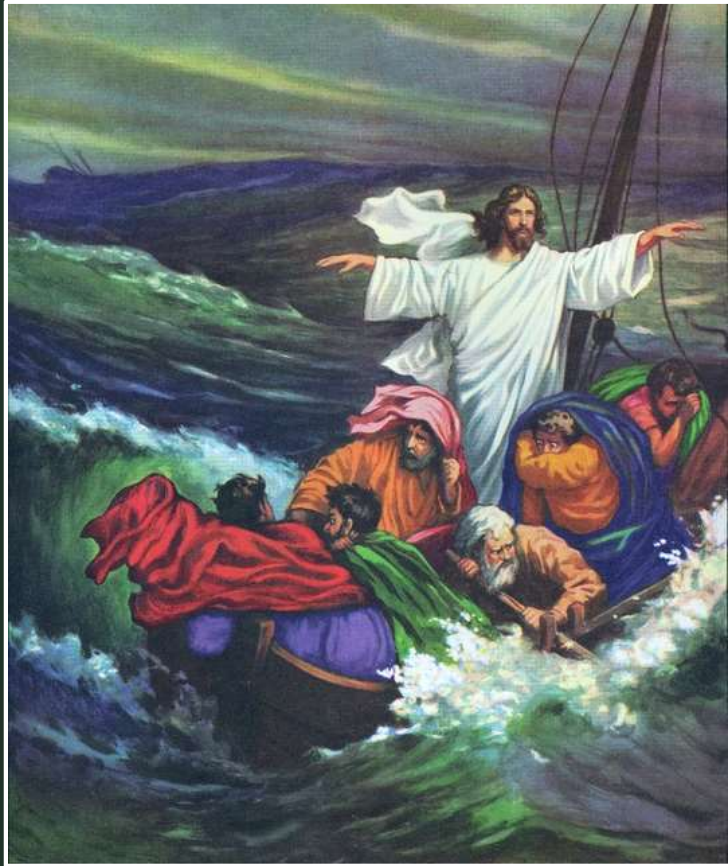




A MIRACLE IS A WONDER  
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To DEFY is to break the rule, to disobey.  
It defies the law of nature for a man to stop a  
storm by talking to it, but that is what Jesus did!



### **Luke 8:24b, 25b**

- <sup>24</sup> ... Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm.
- <sup>25</sup> ... And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him.





Winds and waves don't have ears!  
How could they hear his voice?

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**A MIRACLE IS A WONDER  
AND A SIGN**

**A WONDER DEFIES THE  
LAWS OF NATURE**

**A SIGN MAKES KNOWN AN  
ETERNAL TRUTH**

The Sign is the REASON for the miracle.





Miracles put the power of God on display!

**Exodus 7:17**

Thus saith the LORD, **In this thou shalt know that I am the LORD:** behold, I will smite with the rod that is in mine hand upon the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood.



The power that is needed to bring to pass a holy miracle belongs only to God. This power is NEVER given to anyone to fulfill his own desires.



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Through the gifts and anointing of the Holy Spirit, a person can be used as a temporary vessel of that power according to God's will and purpose.

Miracles don't happen because WE want them to happen.

Miracles happen when GOD wants them to happen.

Until then, all of our shouting “in the name of Jesus” is just noise.

**Lamentations 3:37**

Who *is* he *that* saith, and it cometh to pass, when the Lord commandeth *it* not?





But turn this verse around, and you  
will see the secret to real miracles:

**Lamentations 3:37**

Who *is* he *that* saith, and it  
cometh to pass, when the Lord  
commandeth *it* not?



*When the Lord  
commands it,  
and you say it,  
it will come to pass.*

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Not because you said it,  
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**Psalm 33:8-9**

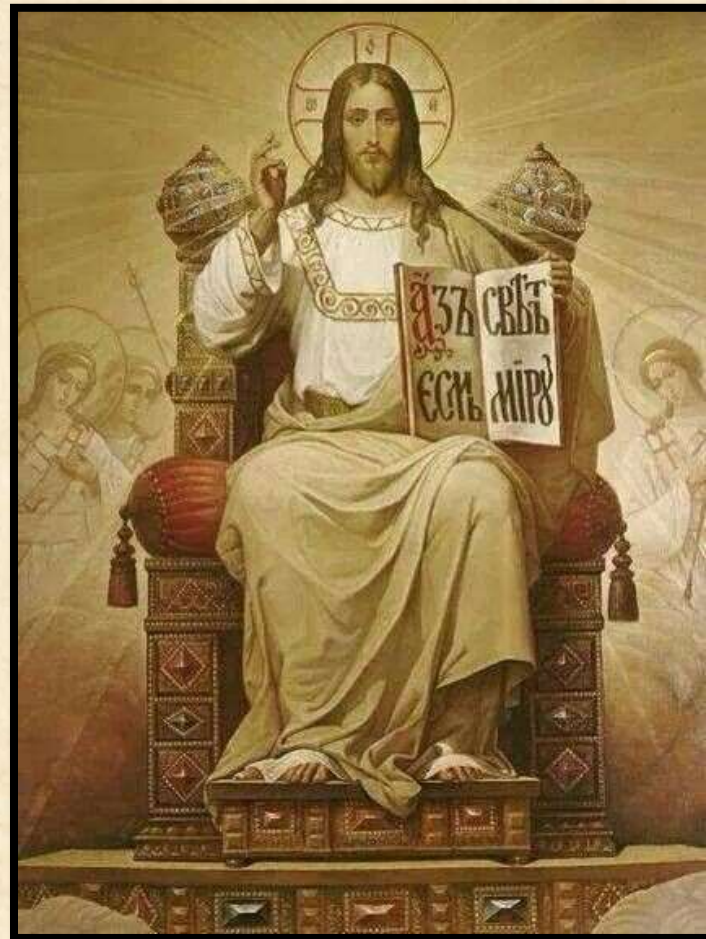
- <sup>8</sup> Let all the earth fear the LORD:  
let all the inhabitants of the  
world stand in awe of him.
- <sup>9</sup> **For he spake,** and it was done;  
**he commanded,** and it stood  
fast.





The word of a King has power!

**Ecclesiastes 8:4**  
Where the word  
of a king is,  
*there is power:*  
and who may say  
unto him,  
What doest thou?



When we speak the anointed word of the King of kings, it is just as if the King said it himself. This is what it means to speak in the name of Jesus Christ.





People think powerful ministries belong to strong and confident people, but that is almost NEVER the case.

The Bible testifies of many servants like Jeremiah who did not think they were worthy of their calling.



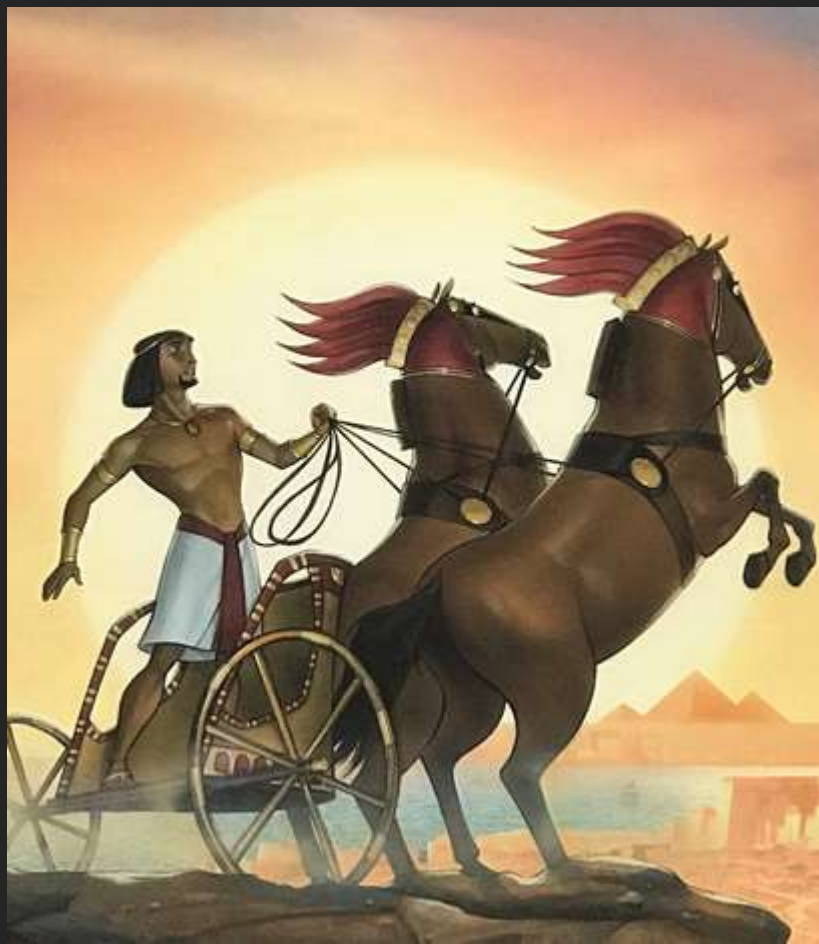


## Jeremiah 1:4-6

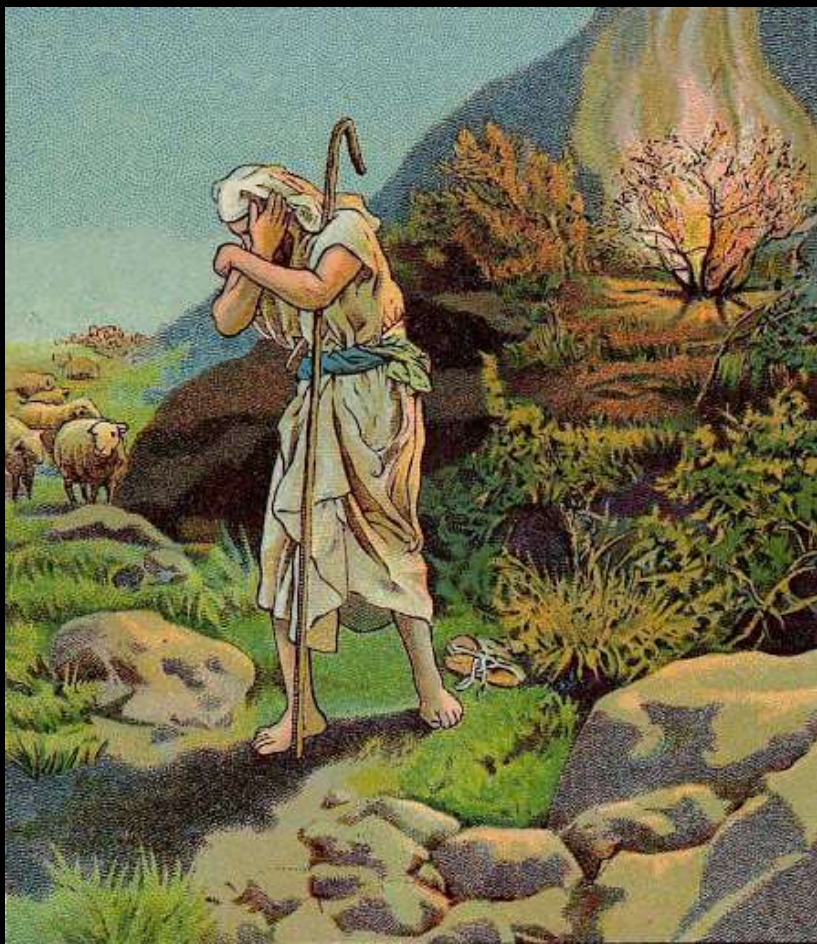
- 4 Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
- 5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, *and* I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.
- 6 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I *am* a child.



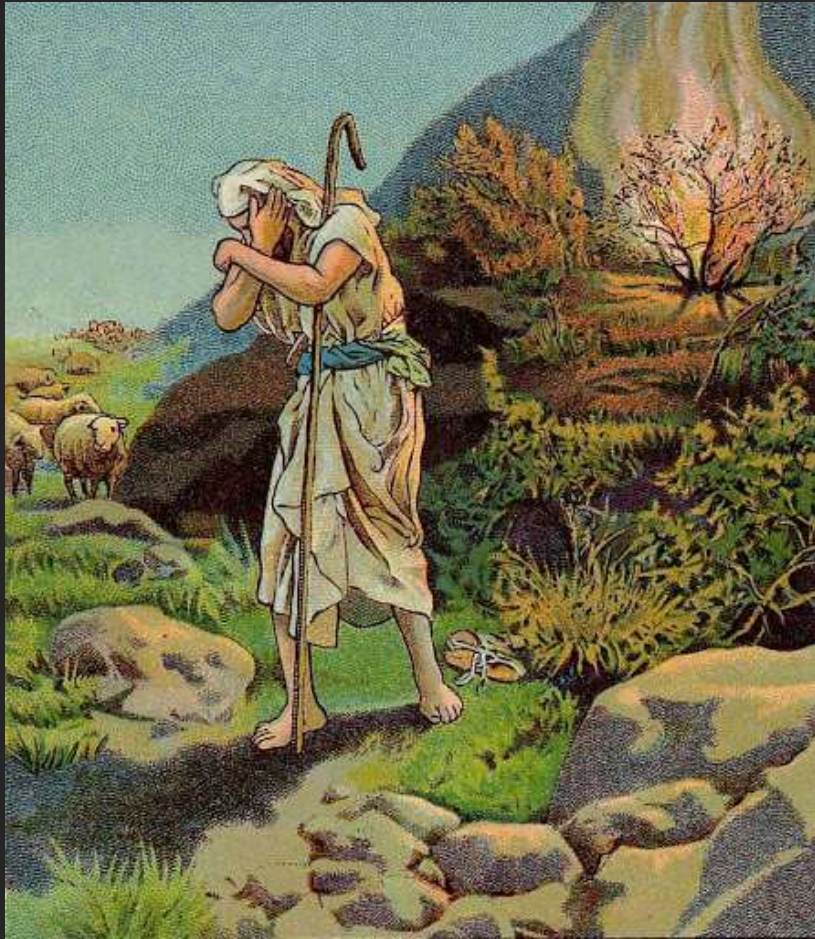




Moses was adopted into the house of Pharaoh. He was “learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deed” (Acts 7:22).



But he knew this did not qualify him to answer God's call.



### **Exodus 3:11**

And Moses said unto God, Who *am* I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?





Moses had a good reason to be worried:



Moses had a good reason to be worried:

**Exodus 4:1**

And Moses answered and said,  
But, behold, they will not believe me, nor  
hearken unto my voice: for they will say,  
The LORD hath not appeared unto thee.





The first time he tried to help the Jews, they said, “Who made thee a prince and a judge over us?” (Exodus 2:14).



Let us look at his first miracle:

**Exodus 4:2-3a**

- <sup>2</sup> And the LORD said unto him,  
What is that in thine hand?  
And he said, A rod.
- <sup>3</sup> And he said, Cast it on the ground.





## Exodus 4:3b-4

<sup>3b</sup> ... And he cast it on the ground,  
and it became a serpent;  
and Moses fled from before it.

<sup>4</sup> And the LORD said unto Moses,  
Put forth thine hand,  
and take it by the tail.  
And he put forth his hand,  
and caught it,  
and it became a rod in his hand:



And what was the *reason* for this miracle, the sign to go with the wonder?

**Exodus 4:5**

That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.



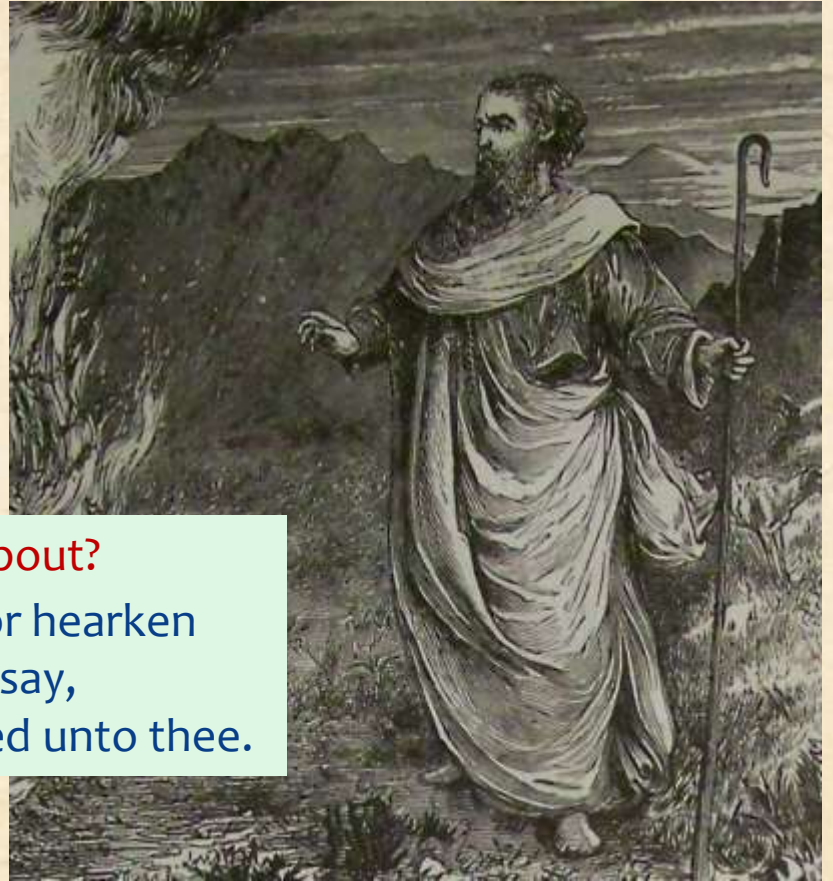


## Exodus 4:5

That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.

**What was Moses worried about?**

They will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee.



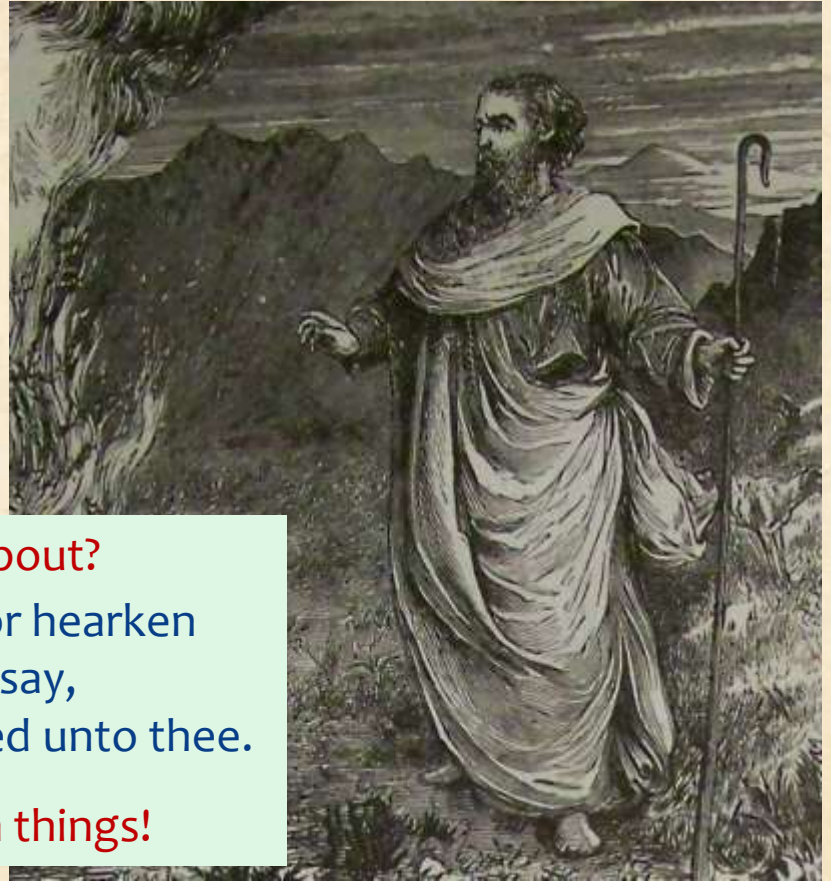
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**What was Moses worried about?**

They will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee.

**Trust God to look after such things!**



## This is the pattern to every miracle in the Bible:

1. God gives his command.
2. God's servant obeys the command.
3. The wonder comes to pass.
4. The sign is declared.



1. God gave his command.
2. Moses obeyed the command.
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Cast it on the ground.

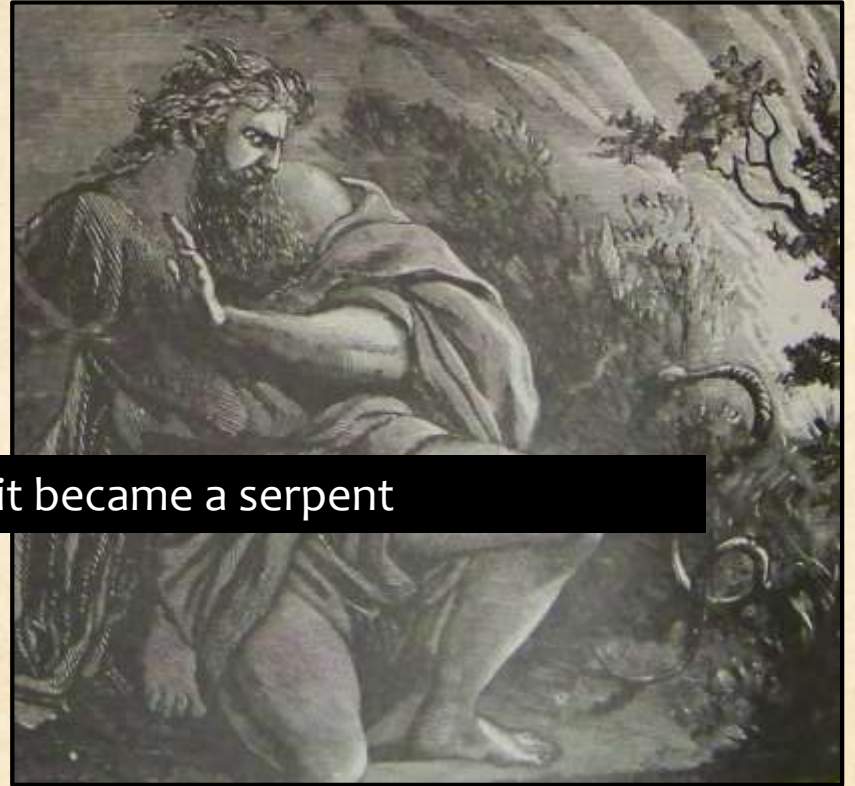




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That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.



What part did Moses do? He obeyed.  
He threw the rod to the ground and  
picked it up again.





This wasn't 'Movie Moses' with arms waving and lightning bolts coming from his fingertips.



When did everything become so  
THEATRICAL?



When did everything become so  
THEATRICAL?

Think about the miraculous  
healing of the leper, Naaman:





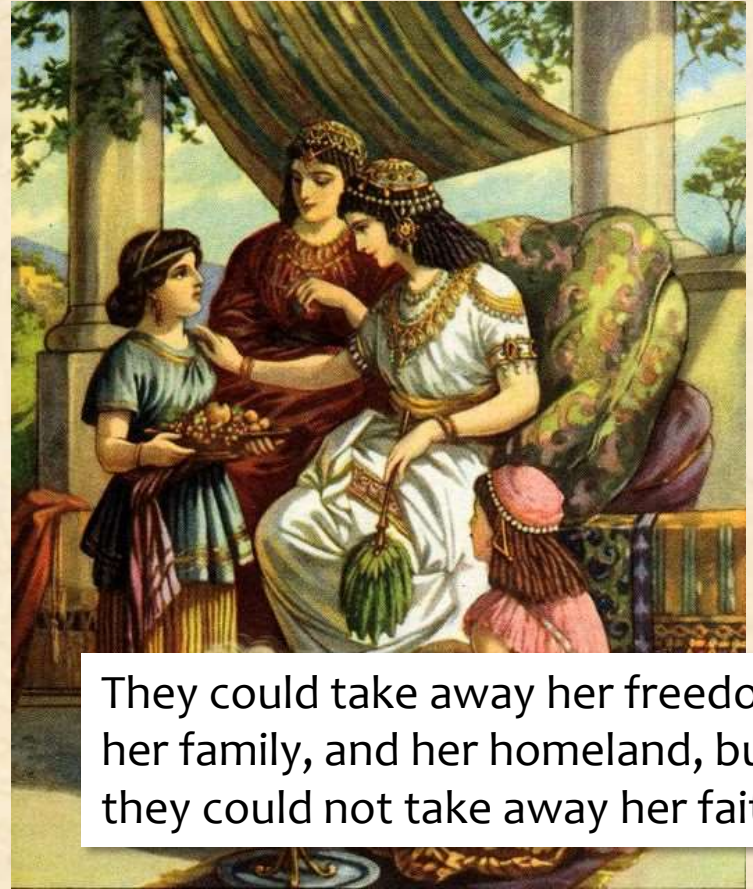
## 2 Kings 5:1-3

- 1 Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honourable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valour, *but he was a leper.*
- 2 And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.
- 3 And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.



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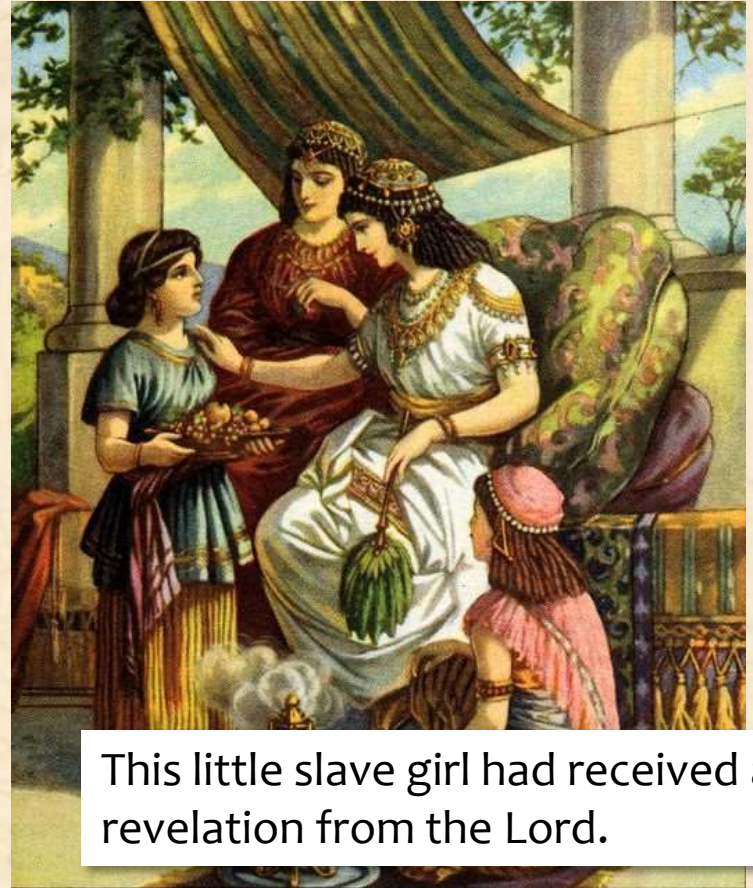


They could take away her freedom, her family, and her homeland, but they could not take away her faith.



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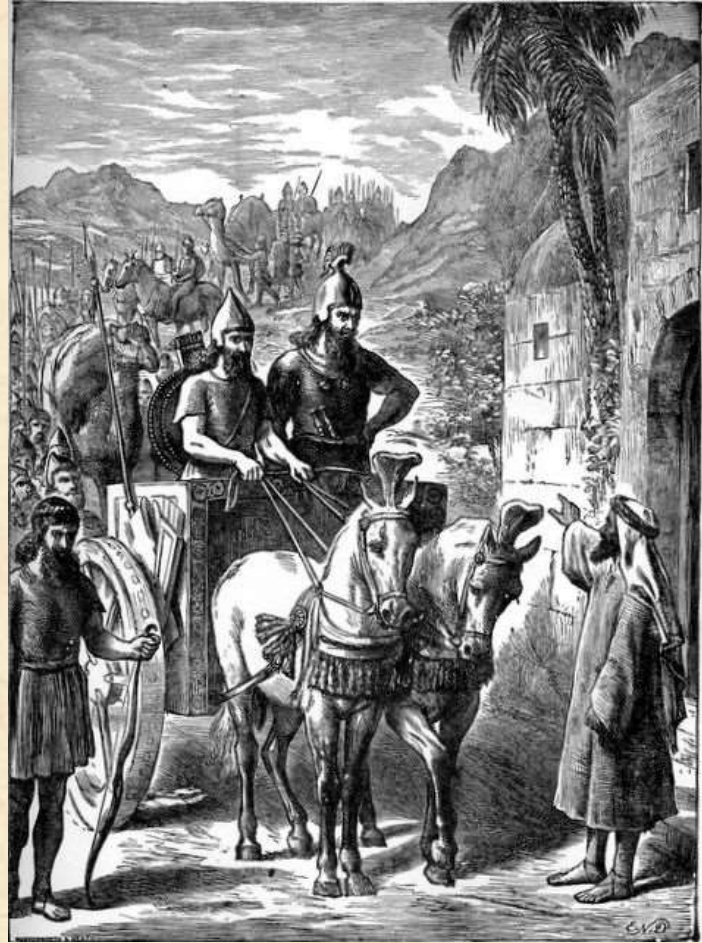


This little slave girl had received a revelation from the Lord.



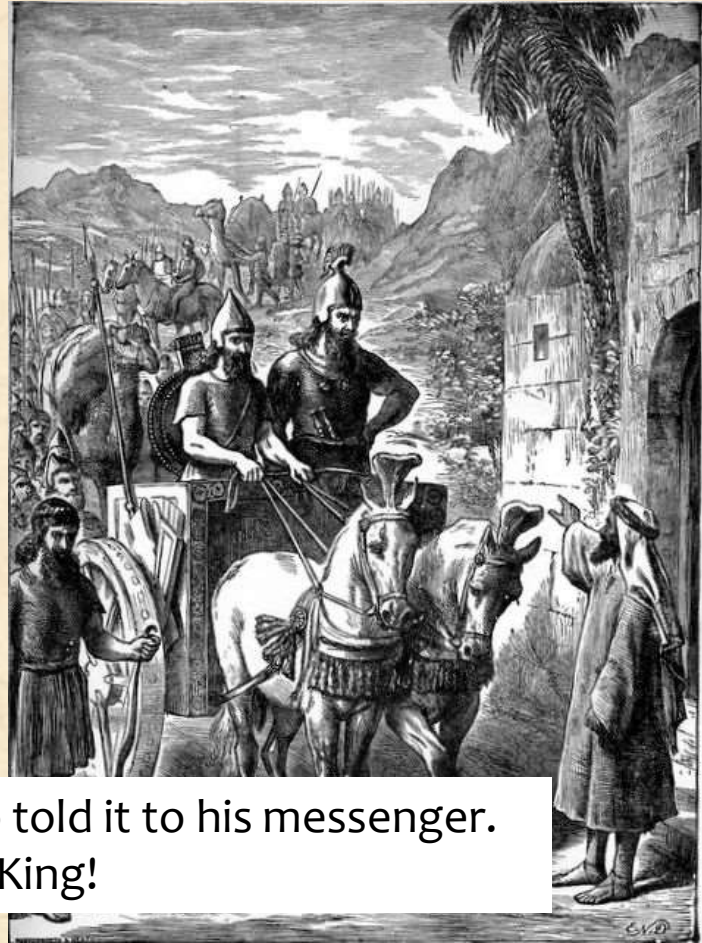
## 2 Kings 5:9-10

- 9 So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.
- 10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, **Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.**



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- 10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, **Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.**



This was the word of the Lord given to Elisha, who told it to his messenger. No matter WHO says it, it is STILL the word of the King!





## 2 Kings 5:11-12

- <sup>11</sup> But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said,  
Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.
- <sup>12</sup> Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean?  
So he turned and went away in a rage.



## 2 Kings 5:13

And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, *if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it?* how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?



## 2 Kings 5:14

Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.



Why was Naaman expecting such a show?

“He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.”



Why was Naaman expecting such a show?

“He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.”

Because that is what the magicians did back in Syria!



Why do so many preachers feel they need to put on a show today?

It is what they see on television!





Elisha didn't put on a show.  
Elisha wasn't even there!



And all Moses did was throw his rod to the ground, and pick it up again.



The power comes from God,  
not from the person calling on his name.





The waters of Jericho were healed when Elisha did and said what the LORD commanded him to do and say.



## 2 Kings 2:19-22

- <sup>19</sup> And the men of the city said unto Elisha, Behold, I pray thee, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord seeth: but the water is naught, and the ground barren.
- <sup>20</sup> And he said, Bring me a new cruse, and put salt therein. And they brought *it* to him.
- <sup>21</sup> And he went forth unto the spring of the waters, and cast the salt in there, and said, Thus saith the LORD, I have healed these waters; there shall not be from thence any more death or barren *land*.
- <sup>22</sup> So the waters were healed unto this day, according to the saying of Elisha which he spake.



By a word of knowledge and a word of wisdom, God gave Elisha his instructions.





By a word of knowledge and a word of wisdom, God gave Elisha his instructions.

Elisha faithfully carried out God's command.



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The waters were healed.

Elisha's ministry was proved in the eyes of the people.







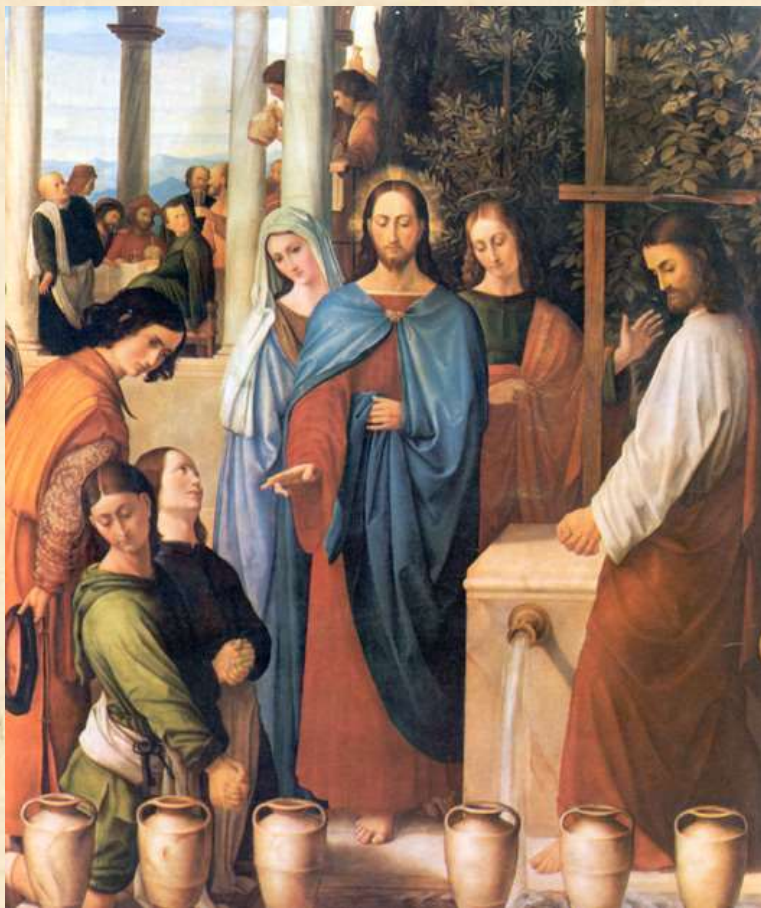
We looked at the first miracle done by Moses.  
Now we will look at the first miracle done by Jesus.



## John 2:1-5

- 1 And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there:
- 2 And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage.
- 3 And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine.
- 4 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.
- 5 His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.





### **John 2:6-8**

- <sup>6</sup> And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece.
- <sup>7</sup> Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.
- <sup>8</sup> And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it.



Jesus gave the command.



### John 2:6-8

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The servants obeyed his command.



### John 2:6-8

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## The wonder came to pass:



### John 2:9-10

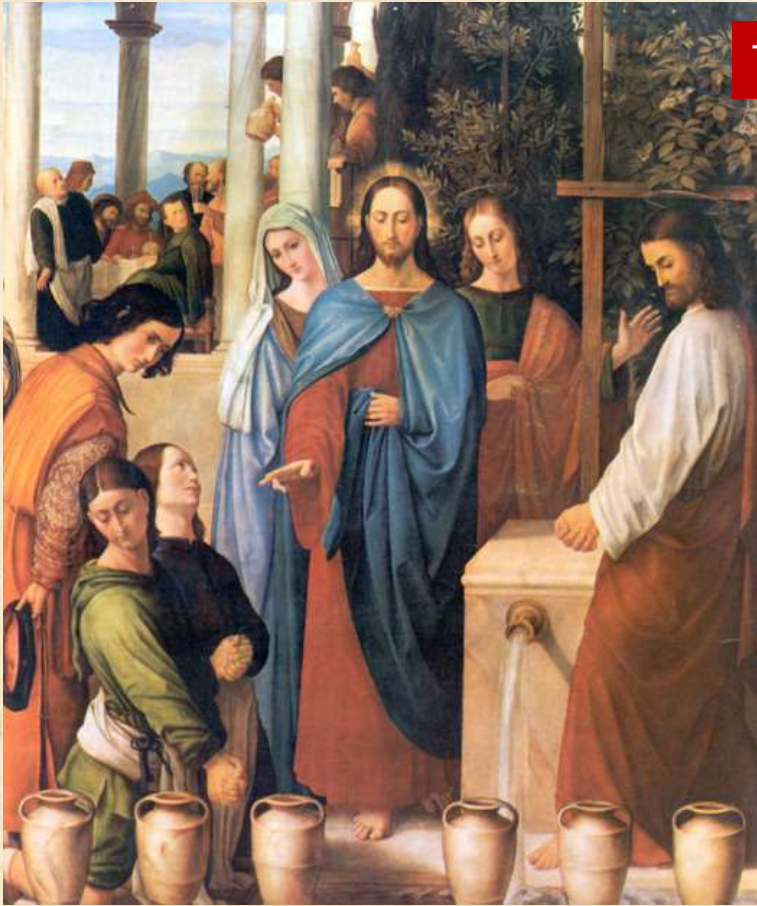
- <sup>9</sup> When the ruler of the feast had tasted **the water that was made wine**, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom,
- <sup>10</sup> And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: *but* thou hast kept the good wine until now.

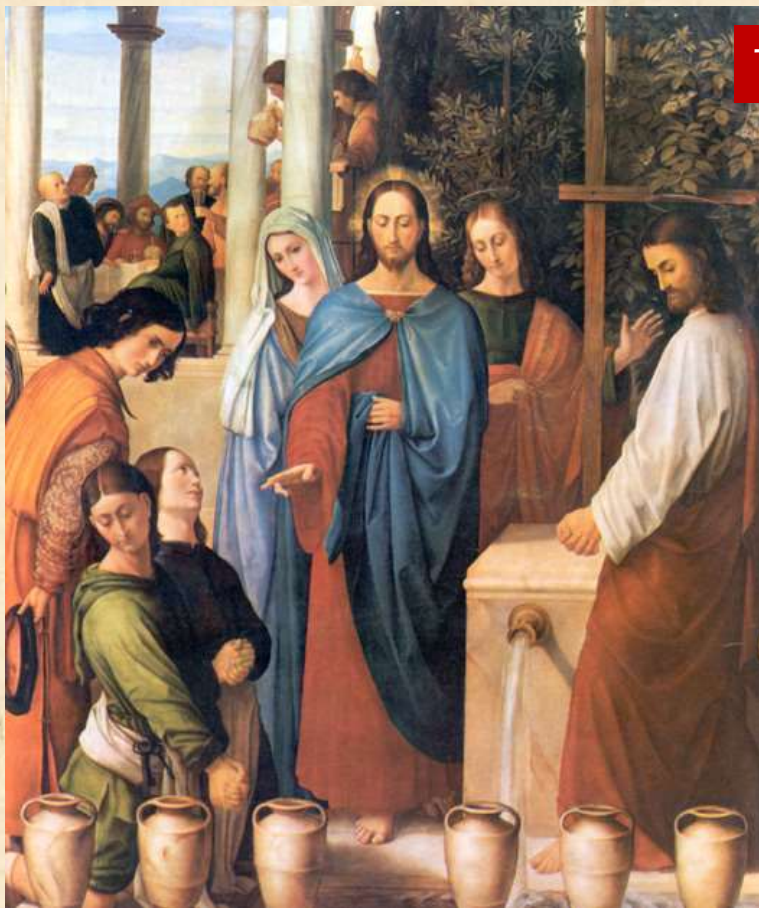


The sign was declared:

**John 2:11**

This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.





The sign was declared:

### **John 2:11**

This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; **and his disciples believed on him.**

Look at the similar the purpose of this miracle and the first miracle done by Moses.

MOSES turned water into blood.  
JESUS turned water into wine.





MOSES turned water into blood.  
JESUS turned water into wine.

MOSES brought the LAW,  
and the law brought death.

JESUS brought GRACE AND TRUTH,  
and with that, the new birth.

**John 1:17**

For the law was given by Moses,  
*but* grace and truth came by Jesus  
Christ.

**Romans 6:23**

For the wages of sin *is* death;  
*but* the gift of God *is* eternal life  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Miracles are not God's way of getting us out of trouble.

Miracles are ordained to open our eyes to God's power, so we serve him "in reverence and godly fear" (Heb 12:28).

There is no such thing as a random miracle of God. Every wonder is a sign to those who see it firsthand, and to those who hear about it later.

**Exodus 10:2**

And that thou mayest tell in the ears of thy son, and of thy son's son, what things I have wrought in Egypt, and my signs which I have done among them;  
*that ye may know how that I am the LORD.*





Every miracle brings you face to face with God. One way or another, you are never the same.

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*that ye may know how that I am the LORD.*



The question is not, “How many miracles will you believe to see?”

The question is, “How many miracles do you need to see before you believe?”

Just like Moses, we often respond to God's call with the wrong question.

**Exodus 3:11**

And Moses said unto God,  
Who *am* I ...?





The only question that matters is,  
“Who is your God?”

**Exodus 3:11**

And Moses said unto God,  
Who *am* I ...?






The only question that matters is,  
“Who is your God?”

**2 Corinthians 4:7**

But we have this treasure in earthen  
vessels, that the excellency of the  
power may be of God, and not of us.



## This is the pattern to every miracle in the Bible:

1. God gives his command. 
2. God's servant obeys the command.
3. The wonder comes to pass. 
4. The sign is declared. 

**These parts depend on God.**



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**This part depends on you.**

In the next lesson, we will learn about the gift of the Spirit called the gifts of healings.

## Questions to help you understand the lesson:

1. Who has authority over God's power?
2. In the first miracle done by Moses, what was the WONDER?
3. In the first miracle done by Moses, what was the SIGN?
4. Why did Naaman get angry at Elisha?
5. What are four things to look for in every biblical record of a miracle?

Each question is worth 20 points.





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