



## Research article

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**THE ACCOUNTS AND IMPORTANCE OF JESUS' MIRACLES IN REVITALIZING CHRISTIANS' FAITH IN THE NEW TESTAMENT**

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## ARTICLE INFO

## ABSTRACT

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To validate his messianic mission and the coming of God's kingdom, Jesus performed "wonders and signs" that were directed at and closely related to the call to faith. This paper attempted to account for Jesus' miracles and their significance in raising Christians' faith today, as mentioned by various prophets in the Old Testament. The survey was carried out based on a critical analysis of some of the miracles performed by Jesus Christ while He was on earth. The study focused on two healing miracles, the first controlling nature, and the other one demonstrating power against demons or evil spirits from men by categorizing his miracles. Six miracles were chosen and analyzed to help people understand the meaning and significance of those miracles in Jesus' time and today. This survey focused on the miracles of Jesus Christ as recorded in the New Testament. All of Jesus' miracles revealed to the readers that nothing Jesus Christ did on this earth was done without a purpose or message for either the hearers or the listeners. People around Jesus changed spiritually as a result of his miraculous deeds, as this survey noted. Faith is also an effect of the miracle, because it engenders faith in the souls of those who were its recipients or witnesses. The accounts of Jesus' miracles in the New Testament appear to be historically reliable, though some historians and gentiles continue to interpret these miracles differently for whatever reason, and they do not appear to believe the New Testament's account of Jesus' supernatural works. These various miracles demonstrate that Jesus Christ is Lord of all because He has authority over incurable diseases, He can heal without being physically present, He has authority over sins, nature, the supernatural realm, life and death all at the same time, and His deeds were done publicly.



## 1. Introduction

The second division of the Christian biblical canon is the New Testament. It examines Jesus' teachings and persona, as well as events in first-century Christianity. The protestant New Testament consists of a total of 27 books and letters. The Church examined a number of factors to determine which writings were inspired by the Holy Spirit, including the origin of the authors and the extent to which the texts conformed to Jesus Christ's entire teaching. Scholars' beliefs and hypotheses about when the New Testament was written or first recorded differ greatly. Some consider it to be a collection of fables and myths that were passed down orally for generations before being written down. Others believe that the majority of the New Testament was written prior to the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D. God and Jesus Christ chose several faithful, mature men to write the most important book man needed and to make it available to all people through the power of his spirit.

The Gospels are the accounts of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection written by the four evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The Acts of the Apostles, written by the evangelist Luke, make up the second part of the book, which describes the early history of the Christian Church. Saints Paul, James, Peter, John, and Jude wrote 21 letters in the third section of the New Testament. The final section is the Book of Revelation, also known as the Apocalypse. It contains John's visions of the end of the world, including symbolic depictions of the Last Judgment and the city of Jerusalem. The New Testament serves as the religion's foundation. The entire religion is based on Jesus' life, death, resurrection, teachings, and subsequent work of the Holy Spirit. According to Yanis Slowinsk (2020), the New Testament narrative of Jesus' life refers to several locations in the Holy Land as well as a flight into Egypt. According to these accounts, the primary locations for Jesus' ministry were Galilee and Judea, with activities also taking place in neighboring areas such as Perea and Samaria.

Fossum, Jarl (2003), Jesus is known as a miracle worker in the Bible, and this theme is central to the Christology of the New Testament Gospels and Acts. Biblical scholars and archaeologists in Israel have investigated archaeological sites and historical records in order to provide context for the Biblical text. According to Geza Vermes in his book *Jesus the Jew*, "According to Luke, Jesus himself defined his essential ministry in terms of exorcism and healing, but even if those words are not Jesus' own but the evangelist's, they reflect the firm



and unanimous testimony of the entire synoptic tradition."1 The Synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) place a strong emphasis on Jesus' healing work, with over thirty separate miracles listed in the three gospels. However, this well-known theme of Jesus' miracles is not found in all gospels."

The stories about Jesus Christ were first passed down through word of mouth which is known as oral tradition. They were recorded between 20 and 70 years after his death. The letters of the Apostle Paul to various early Christian communities are among the earliest writings.

Another method of studying the New Testament is to collect all of the materials on a specific topic found in any of the writings. If this method was successful, one could discuss New Testament teachings on money, divorce, sabbath observance, spiritual gifts, miracles, and a variety of other topics. Aside from the fact that an investigation of this nature would be practically endless due to the number of topics mentioned, a more serious difficulty would be fitting together the statements made by different people under different circumstances and from different points of view. Many events in Jesus' life aided His followers in making the miraculous transition from sight to faith (Luke 24:7-8; John 2:22). Let us take note of Jesus' miracles. They were thought to be a man's magnificent work. The examples below demonstrate this point. When Jesus calmed the storm on Lake Galilee, He chastised His terrified disciples for their "little faith."

"The men were taken aback and inquired, 'What kind of man is this?' 'Even the winds and the waves are subject to Him.'" (NIV, Matthew 8:27; emphasis added.) "The crowd was amazed and said, 'Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel,' when He enabled the mute man to speak. "However, the Pharisees objected, saying, 'It is by the prince of demons that he drives out demons.'" Matthew 9:33b-34 the overwhelming testimony of Scripture is that the miracles performed by Jesus after His baptism until His death convinced the people that He was not God, but an extraordinary man of God.

During his ministry, Jesus Christ performed over 40 miracles, including healing the sick, changing natural elements, and even raising the dead. A miracle, according to Kelly Wise Valdes (2019), is an event that occurs outside the bounds of natural law. The miracles performed by Jesus Christ are one of the reasons people have believed in him throughout



history. If he truly performed the miracles described in the Bible, it demonstrates that he is God and that we should believe in him. Given these considerations, it seems prudent to begin the study of the New Testament with a review of the historical context that is implicit in the literature itself. This survey had to include some of Jesus' most significant miracles while he was on earth. This paper should explain the motivations and implications of Jesus' miracles for the faith lives of Christians today. In addition, the author of this work chose a few miracles from among Jesus' many miracles. This survey selected three different healing miracles, three non-healing miracles that describe Jesus' power over nature and circumstances, and two miracles against demons through sampling.

## **2. Materials and Methods**

This paper used qualitative data in which the first step was to read the Holy Bible in order to fit the true rationale of this work. The twenty-seven books of the New Testament were used to assist readers and other future scholars in understanding how Jesus' miracles were performed. The diachronic approach of narrative and semantic analysis were used to analyze the texts. The author selected only eight miracles from the thirty-five recorded miracles based on all of Jesus' miracles. The Gospel books were more closely observed and analyzed in order to outline the above-mentioned Jesus' miracles. For this purpose, it is essential to begin by determining the basic or standard definitions connoted in the author's terminology, in order to help readers grasp ideas about how Jesus Christ performed the miracles and their implications for today's Christians' faith.

## **3. Significance of Jesus' miracles on the Christians' faith**

Jesus' miracles are a glimpse and foretaste of what God will accomplish on a grand, universal scale when Jesus returns to establish the New Heaven and the New Earth. The miracles of Jesus foreshadow that glorious day. Miracles provide a glimpse of heaven on earth. The miracles, as signs pointing to a deeper truth about Jesus, should inspire us to believe in him.

### **3.1. Who was Jesus Christ of Nazareth?**

According to Ahmad M. Mansour (2005), Jesus was born to the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem (Irenaeus 1868) (p183) when she was 17 years old (Eusebius 1980). (p47). Jesus Christ, also known as Jesus of Nazareth or simply Jesus, is the central figure of Christianity, both as



Messiah and, for most Christians, as God incarnate. Some Muslims regard him as a major prophet, while others believe he is the Messiah. Many Hindus and Bahá' believers regard him as a divine manifestation, while some Buddhists regard him as a Bodhisattva. For Christians, Jesus' example, teaching, death, and resurrection serve as models for living a life of service to others, of love-in-action. Furthermore, the person of Jesus represents God's revelation to humanity, allowing for communion with God. Following the Roman ruler's persecution of Jewish newborns, Mary fled to Egypt with Jesus for 28 years. Jesus returned to the land of Canaan at the age of 30 and began preaching (Eusebius 1980). (p75). His mission came to an end when he was 33 years old. He was Abraham's forty-second generation and the last messenger from the tribe of Israel (Matthew 1). The life of Christ was an example of gentleness, compassion, and asceticism. He was a perpetual traveler, living in deserted ruins and preaching the virtues of humility, love for the poor, and compassion for the sick. His attire consisted of a camel stub cloak. When it got dark, his lamp was the moonlight, his shade was the blackness of the night, his bed was the earth, his pillow was a stone, and his food was the plants of the fields (Khalidi 2001). He wasn't a showman, and he never took money for his miracles.

### **3.2 Miracles**

A miracle is an extraordinary event that contradicts nature, cannot be explained by science, and is attributed to God, according to Christians. People in Matthew's day would have believed in miracles and would not have required scientific explanations or proof. Throughout the Bible, God used miracles to visually represent His divine power and authority over man and nature (Amundsen 1989). God occasionally bestows miracles on His followers in order to validate their calling as teachers. This miracle demonstrates Christ's power over nature. While other interpretations of this miracle are possible, several Old Testament prophecies stated that the Messiah would have power over the elements, with a special dominion over water. *"Which by his strength setteth fast the mountains; being girded with power:... which stilleth the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people," the Psalmist wrote (Psalm 65:6–7; see also 89:9).* Furthermore, water was frequently used in antiquity to represent the chaos and instability associated with the fallen world. The



great flood of Noah's day and the waters of the Red Sea, which obstructed Moses and the Israelites' journey to the Promised Land, are two examples.

In this light, Jesus walking on water implies that He ascended above the chaos and instability of this world and placed it beneath His feet.

The miracle of Christ walking on water, as well as calming the sea, demonstrates that he possessed power over the elements. This world's raging waves are beneath him. Nature's displays of power, such as thunder, lightning, mighty winds, earthquakes, floods, and so on, do not need to cause undue concern because Christ has spiritually and physically overcome the world and controls the destiny of the earth, and can thus calm "the tumult of the people" (Psalm 65:7; see also John 16:33).

In the New Testament, Jesus performed numerous miracles and signs, each of which was wondrous and testified to his love and compassion for humanity. He used these miracles not only to help people, but also so that those who saw and heard about Jesus' miracles would believe in who he was: the Son of God and the Messiah. The miracle encounters did not take place in a clinic, and there was no history-taking or physical examination. The sick people came to Jesus on their own, either in groups or on the street, and no physical examination or history-taking was required because Jesus could tell "... what a man had in him" (John 2:25); "One man there had an illness that had lasted years, and when Jesus saw him lying there, he knew he had been in this condition for a long time" (John 5:6). Furthermore, Jesus did not use any medicines (drugs or herbs) (Eusebius 1980) (p89), but rather spitting, praying, touching, and laying on of hands (Matthew 8:3, 9:29, 20:34), specifically the right hand and certain fingers. Jesus frequently laid his hands on people for healing and blessing, demonstrating empathy and his awareness of his role as a conduit for God's assistance (Matthew 19:13–15; Mark 8:23–10:16; Luke 4:40–44, 24:50; Acts 6:6, 19:12, 28:8). Jesus' touch served three functions: it brought healing power into sick bodies, it conveyed compassion and solidarity to those in pain, and it extended grace to the sinful. The intercession of Jesus, which represents yet another means of healing, is also mentioned several times in the Gospels.

### **3.3 Most phenomenal Jesus' miracles**

A miracle of God, according to Stephen J. Wellum (2016), is an extraordinary or unnatural event that reveals or confirms a specific message through a mighty work. Jesus performed



numerous miracles. All of His miracles were performed to glorify God, to help others, and to demonstrate that He was, in fact, the Son of God. In Matthew 8, for example, when He calmed the storm, the disciples were astounded and inquired, "What sort of man is he? Even the winds and waves bow down to him!" (Verse 27.) Many of Jesus Christ's miracles are documented in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. It is well known that during his earthly ministry, Jesus Christ performed miracles by touching, healing, and transforming countless lives in the New Testament. Some of Jesus' most amazing miracles included raising the dead, giving sight to the blind, casting out demons, healing the sick, and walking on water. All of Christ's miracles provided dramatic and unequivocal proof that he is the Son of God, thereby validating his claim to the world.

### **3.4 Jesus Christ's miracles and their role in the New Testament**

During His earthly ministry, Jesus Christ performed over forty miracles, according to the Bible. According to Poythress Vern (2016), Jesus walked on water. He restored sight to a blind man. He transformed water into wine. Jesus' miracles are more than just displays of his divine power; they are windows into God's grand story of redemption, foreshadowing the great miracle of Christ's death and resurrection. Vern Poythress, a New Testament scholar, explains the meaning and significance of all 26 miracles recorded in Matthew's Gospel. He also explains how understanding the meaning of Christ's miracles will help us better understand the salvation God has brought into the world.

### **3.5 Jesus' healing miracles**

The healing miracles, on the other hand, constitute the majority of Jesus' miracles as well as a significant portion of his ministry, and thus are an essential part of understanding Jesus.

#### **3.5.1 Healing ten lepers at once**

According to John W. Martens (2016), the story of ten lepers being healed appears only in Luke's Gospel and represents an event that occurs as Jesus Christ and his apostles travel toward Jerusalem. Despite its brief length, the account is rich in salvific significance. Numerous scholars have pointed out the geographical difficulty in the description of Jesus "going through the region between Samaria and Galilee," because no such geographical region exists. However, Joseph Fitzmyer, S.J., must be correct when he says the geographical



reference, whatever its difficulties on a map, "alerts the reader once more... to the evangelist's theological concern to move Jesus to the city of destiny, where salvation is to be definitively achieved for humankind." (Luke, Volume 2)

This one-of-a-kind account also reminds us that the salvation that Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem to accomplish is for all people. After all, the ten lepers are a group of people who are excluded from community life due to their medical condition, and one leper was thought to be doubly excluded due to his ethnicity. He was a Good Samaritan. The line between who can be saved, whether a leper or a clean person, a Samaritan or a Jew, has been crossed. The return of the Samaritan enables Jesus to demonstrate that no one, neither a leper nor a Samaritan, is beyond God's mercy. Anyone can experience God's salvation, rejoice in it, praise God for it, and walk the same path Jesus does. There is only God's kingdom between Samaria and Galilee, where salvation is available to all who call out for mercy and respond to God's call with thankfulness and praise. Leprosy was such a visible disease in the Bible, and it involved the decay or corruption of the body, that it served as an excellent symbol of sinfulness. Sin corrupts a person spiritually in the same way that leprosy corrupts a person physically. Though touching the leper appears to be a violation of the law, the story actually demonstrates Jesus' healing power. For sick people, the meaning of life is being restored. While Jesus is not impure when he touches the leper, purity flows from him to the leper.

In short, you will be overjoyed if you do not believe you deserve to be saved and God still saves you. The healing of a Samaritan by Jesus demonstrated that God's grace is available to everyone. As a result of our faith in Him, God's grace and mercy are extended to all of us.

### **3.5.2 Healing the blind man**

The Miracle of Healing the Man Born Blind is one of the Gospel miracles in which Jesus is said to have restored the sight of a man at Siloam. "The disciples asked if the man was blind because he had sinned or because his parents had sinned," Jesus said, explaining the significance of this miracle. 1–2 John 9:1–2 "Neither the parents nor the man had sinned, according to the Savior." The man was blind so that Jesus could heal him and demonstrate God's power. The story of Jesus healing the blind man outside Bethsaida is not only rare because it is only mentioned once, but it is also the only progressive miracle Jesus performed in the New Testament. According to the story, "some people brought a blind man and begged



Jesus to touch him." The people may have brought the blind man to Jesus because he was a member of their community and they cared about his well-being. On the other hand, they could have simply wanted to see Jesus' miracles for themselves; they were looking for someone to be healed so they could witness Christ's miraculous power firsthand. Whatever their motivation, they were confident that Jesus could do a great thing for this man.

We can also safely assume that the blind man did not come to Jesus of his own free will. This could have been due to his inability to see, or it could have been due to his lack of faith in Jesus' ability to help him. If this is true, it is possible that Christ chose to perform the miracle in a progressive manner for this reason alone, which will be explained further in a moment.

Before we continue, we must recognize the spiritual lesson contained within the first verse. Here we find hope for all those who are struggling. There will be times in our lives when we, like the blind man, will be spiritually hurting or in need of healing. We may lack the faith to believe that Jesus can do anything for us, leading us to wonder, "Why would he care for me?" We, like the blind man, frequently require the assistance of those around us to carry us to the Savior through prayer and faith. Our faith may not always be strong enough to bring us to Christ on our own, but with the encouragement and faithful pursuit of other Christians, we can find ourselves at Christ's feet, ready to receive His healing touch. He is strong when we are weak, and he will renew our faith in him (2 Corinthians 12:9–10).

Finally, there is a lot we can learn from this divine occurrence. Overall, we can have faith that God is aware of the state of our faith and what needs to be done to help it grow. This story also reminds us that Jesus understands our pain and meets us where we are in order to bring us to a place of complete redemption. He will not overstretch our faith, but will tend to our wounds as He reveals more of Himself to us. We are given a sweet account of how Jesus opens the eyes of our hearts so that we can see Him more clearly through the example of the blind man being healed at Bethsaida.



### 3.6 Non-healing miracles describing Jesus' power of nature and circumstances

#### 3.6.1 Jesus walked on water

The New Testament Bible story of Jesus walking on water, as told by Mary Fairchild (2021), is one of the most widely told narratives and key miracles of Jesus. The incident takes place shortly after another miracle, the feeding of the 5,000. This occurrence persuaded the 12 disciples that Jesus was the living Son of God. As a result, the story is extremely important to Christians and serves as the foundation for several important life lessons that govern how believers practice their faith.

For Christians, this story teaches life lessons that go beyond the obvious:

- **Making room for God:** Jesus sent the disciples away so that he could go alone to the mountainside and pray. Despite his hectic schedule, Jesus made spending time with God a top priority. The story reminds Christians of the importance of making room for God.
- **Recognizing the Lord:** Despite the fact that the disciples had been with Jesus for a long time, they did not recognize him as he approached in the storm. The story reminds Christians that they may not recognize the Lord when he appears to them in the midst of their own personal storms.
- **Keeping his gaze fixed on Jesus:** Peter did not begin to sink until he began to look around at the wind and waves. The lesson for Christians is that when they take their gaze away from Jesus and instead focus on their difficult circumstances, they begin to sink under the weight of their problems. If we call out to Jesus in faith, he will take our hand in his and lift us above our seemingly impossible surroundings.
- **Restoring faith after a lapse:** Peter left the boat with good intentions, but his faith wavered. Nonetheless, Peter's leap of faith was not in vain. Even in his terror, he cried out to the Lord, knowing that the only one who could help him was Jesus. Peter's experience reminds Christians that a lapse in faith is just that: a lapse, and that the Lord is still available to believers who call on him.
- **Getting through the storm with Jesus:** The storm stopped when Jesus climbed into the boat. Believers can be confident that when Jesus is in their boat, he will calm the stormy waters of life.



Jesus is still with us in the storm, reminding us of what He has done, strengthening us for the trials we face, and reminding us not to forget that our most serious problems have already been resolved. One of the most important aspects of this miracle is that Jesus demonstrated command of the elements, which only God is capable of. This truth He revealed to His disciples, who acknowledged His divinity and responded with a confession of faith in Jesus as God: "The wind died down. Those in the boat then worshiped him, saying, "Truly, you are the Son of God" (Matthew 14:32–33). The disciples addressed Jesus as the Son of God for the first time, a statement that built on what they had said about him earlier in Matthew 8:27: "What kind of man is this?" Even the winds and waves bow down to him. "Truly, you are the Son of God," they say, answering their own question.

### **3.6.2 Changing water into wine**

The miracle is described in John 2:1-11. Jesus, his mother, and his disciples attend a wedding in the Galilean village of Cana. When the wine runs out at the feast, Jesus turns water into wine, proving to his disciples his divinity. Because hospitality is such an important part of the culture, not having enough wine for guests is a major issue. The host would be ashamed, embarrassed, and possibly even legally liable for the wine shortage. In fact, when Jesus turned water into wine, he did not intend for the wedding guests to become inebriated. Martin G. Collins (2006) discovered that he provided just enough for the number of people in attendance to have fun while not losing money.

Concerned about this, Mary approaches Jesus and requests that he intervene. At first, Jesus is hesitant, asking Mary, "... why do you involve me?" and telling her, "My hour has not yet come." (Jn. 2:4) Apparently, Jesus did not intend to begin performing public miracles just yet. However, moved by compassion, he decides to proceed – quietly. Jesus prioritizes love, and because he loves everyone at the wedding, he chooses to use his power to solve the problem.

Wine is a symbol of God's grace and our subsequent joy throughout the Bible (cf. Deut. 7:1–13; Jer. 31:5–12; Isa. 25:6–9; Joel 3:18). Wine, unlike water, is not required for survival. Its excess is a metaphor for God's overflowing grace. That is to say, our Lord is the type of God who enjoys bestowing good things on those who do not deserve them, such as "wine to gladden the heart of man" (Ps.104:15). Some guests at the wedding are unconcerned



about the miraculous transformation of water into wine. When the wine ran out, the wedding feast began to lose its joy, but Christ's miracle restored it. This corresponds to the sinner's need for salvation. When we accept Christ as our Savior, repent, and are baptized, we are transformed into a new creation, just as the water was transformed into the finest new wine. The end result is a lot of happiness.

This miracle, however, contains significant symbolism. It foreshadows the later sacrament of communion, in which wine represents Jesus' blood, which saves humanity from our sins as a result of Jesus' sacrificial death on the Cross. When God was teaching the law to the people in the Old Testament, the blood of animals was used as a sacrifice for sins. When Jesus died on the cross, he became the perfect sacrifice, allowing grace to be possible. In this first of Jesus' miracles, the wine represents the blood that Jesus will provide for people as part of a loving covenant. Just as Jesus transforms water into wine at a wedding (where people enter into an earthly covenant of love), Jesus also acts as the agent of transformation to activate a heavenly covenant of love, making human salvation possible. It is an honor to work with God in faith to accomplish His will, and no one ever regrets their involvement in that service if done with the right attitude. God's commands are rarely easy to follow, but they are doable—and necessary if we want His blessing. In light of this principle, Paul says, "If anyone refuses to work, he shall not eat" (II Thessalonians 3:10). This miracle encourages all who follow Christ to grow in their faith.

Before anything else, the goal was to get people to believe in Jesus Christ. When God performs miracles, he does not intend for us to simply believe in miracles, signs, and wonders. He wants us to believe in him and to persuade others to do the same. The purpose of signs and wonders is to draw attention to God's power, person, and reality. Not so that we can have our fill of wine, bread, money, glory, fame, or whatever else we get from a miracle. The point is not so much the message as it is the messenger.

### **3.6.3 Jesus' miracles against demons**

When Satan tempted Jesus Christ, he asked him to do certain things, which he denied. However, in Matthew 8, the demons requested that Jesus turn them into pigs, which he did. The herd then drowned after running into the water. Miracles can only be confirmed if the person who was healed prayed exclusively to one person, such as Pope John Paul II, during



their ordeal. These seven Jesus miracles reveal who our Savior is. As we have previously stated, Jesus' miracles raised the dead, fed thousands, controlled nature, cast out evil spirits, and healed the sick. Even the birth of Jesus was a miracle. The Bible records more than 30 of Jesus' miracles.

The story of Jesus traveling with his disciples to the region of Gerasenes, along the Sea of Galilee, is told in all three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 8:28-34; Mark 5:1-10; Luke 8:26-39). They come across a man who has been possessed by a swarm of demons and is tormented 24 hours a day, seven days a week. He screamed in the caves, and no one could calm him down. According to this story, demons inhabited human bodies. The demons made the men extremely violent, preventing anyone from passing by the tombs. The demons believe their judgment day has arrived as Jesus approaches the scene. They accept Jesus as God and their ultimate Judge. Second, the demons recognize that a period of punishment (torment) lies ahead of them. Third, they appear to be aware of the general timing of their judgment because they declare Jesus to be ahead of schedule.

In reality, Jesus did not come to judge them at the time (see John 3:17), so these demons were not in danger of being punished prematurely. Nonetheless, they did not wait for Jesus to respond to their inquiry. Instead, they went straight to proposing an alternative to the judgment they expected to come. The demons proposed leaving the men's bodies behind and instead entering swine. They appear to have hoped that Jesus would accept this "deal" rather than cast them into the abyss.

The demons pleaded with Jesus to accept their offer, which he did. The demons leave the men and enter the herd of pigs after receiving permission from Jesus. When the demons entered the herd, they caused the herd to become crazed, and they ran off a cliff into the Sea of Galilee. In an ironic twist, the demons' desire to avoid eternal punishment led to the demise of their earthly hosts.

Jesus Christ had no reason not to accept their proposal because it served His purposes. First, it resulted in the liberation of the men from the demons. Second, pigs were considered unclean animals under Jewish law, making them an ideal symbol and safe haven for unclean spirits (i.e., demons). Third, accepting their proposal made no difference to the demons'



eternal fate on Judgment Day. As a result, Jesus agreed to their proposal because the demons were essentially doing Jesus' work for him.

Based on everything that has gone before, Jesus' victory gives us victory over the evil forces that continue to seek to control us, as we walk with Him in peace, joy, and assurance of His love. The Holy Spirit now resides within us and empowers us. We are set free from the burden of our past deeds as long as we remain committed to Jesus as our Savior and Lord. We no longer live in the darkness, fear of evil powers, ignorance, and meaninglessness that characterized our previous way of life. The demons recognize Jesus. He is referred to as the "Son of God" (Matthew 8:29). They understand that he has complete control over them and can choose whether or not to cast them out, as well as where they go. There is no bargaining here, as if they were equal partners at the table; Jesus is superior, and they know it. They are aware that they will be subjected to eternal torment in the future. They wonder if Jesus has arrived to begin the final judgment. One of the meanings of this miracle is that Jesus triumphs over unclean spirits, frees the captives, and gives hope to the hopeless, even Gentiles.

### **3.6.4 Miracles of Jesus: Catching a large number of fish (Luke 5:3-10)**

The story of Jesus miraculously making Peter and Andrew catch fish is known as the miraculous catch of fish. It was an incredible experience for everyone who witnessed it. As they had never found anyone before performing such a miracle. Following the incident, a few men decide to change their ways of life in accordance with Jesus' enlightenment. Furthermore, they decide to make God the ruler of everything they own. Jesus is sitting in a boat, talking to people on the shore of the Sea of Galilee in this incident, which is described in the Gospel of Luke. Following that, he directs Peter (also known as Simon) to take the boat deeper into the lake:

He got into one of the boats, Simon's, and asked him to go out a little further from shore. Then he sat down and began teaching the people on the boat.

"Put out into deep water and let down the nets for a catch," he said when he finished speaking.

Simon responded, "We've been working hard all night, Master, and we haven't caught anything. But, because you say so, I'll lower the nets."



When they finished, they had caught so many fish that their nets began to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they did, filling both boats to the point where they began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell to his knees before Jesus and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" For him and his companions, as well as James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners, were astounded by the catch of fish they had taken. "Don't be afraid," Jesus said to Simon, "from now on you will fish for people."

Simon the Zealot and Simon Peter, also known as Peter, were two of Jesus' twelve Apostles. Simon Peter and his brother Andrew, who was also an Apostle, were brothers. The Lake of Gennesaret was another name for the Sea of Galilee, where Peter occasionally worked as fisherman. The lesson behind this miracle of catching fish becomes a metaphor for the gospel ministry to which Simon and his companions are called—though it is worth noting that, in contrast to Matthew and Mark, the disciples are almost invisible in the gospel itself, because the focus on their ministry will come in Luke's second volume. (Unfortunately, the Greek text does not provide the nice pun we have in English, changing fisher-men to fishers-of-men, as the Greek term is simply *Halieis* (Ancient Greek: Ἀλιεῖς), which becomes halieis anthropon in Mark and Matthew—and Luke goes even further away by simply saying "You will catch alive [zogreo] people" in v 10.) The word "fish" represents salvation. It is also regarded as a representation of God's deliverance, mercy, and blessings. However, seven of Jesus' twelve disciples were fishermen by trade. There are numerous incidents in the Bible that involve fish, either directly or indirectly.

### **3.7 Three reasons Jesus' miracles still matter today**

These miracles will strengthen your faith and prepare you to receive your miracle today, because Jesus remains unchanged and continues to perform miracles to save and heal us. The miracles of Christ are manifestations of God's power in Christ's divinity, as recorded in the Bible, and foreshadow the coming of salvation and the Kingdom. They represent truths about God, about Christ, and about the salvation he has brought. Jesus' miracles have at least three types of significance, roughly corresponding to three aspects of who Jesus is.



### **3.7.1 The miracles show that Jesus is fully God**

Let us begin with the first aspect, Jesus' divinity. According to John 1:1, Jesus is God. He existed as the Word, the second person of the Trinity, from the beginning of time. His miracles as works of divine power attest to his divinity. In the minds of many Christian readers, the miracles stand out because of Jesus' deity. However, those who witnessed Jesus' miracles did not grasp their full significance right away.

The people referred to Jesus as "a great prophet" in Luke 7:16. He was a prophet, but he was also something else. He was God manifested in human form (John 1:14). Consider the Old Testament miracles performed by prophets such as Elijah and Elisha. These were divinely inspired miracles. They were brought about by God. They were not accomplished by Elijah and Elisha through their own natural ability. Should we apply the same logic to Jesus? No, because Jesus made claims that defied the Old Testament prophets. He is the unique Son of the Father, and his name is honored as a divine name alongside the names of the Father and the Spirit (Matt. 28:19). When we understand Jesus' miracles in the context of who he is, we see that they are works of God done through a human prophet, not works of God done through Jesus.

### **3.7.2 The miracles show that Jesus is fully human**

Because of Jesus' full humanity, a second kind of significance emerges. Beginning with his incarnation, Jesus is both fully man and fully God (Heb. 2:14–18). He is one person with two natures, one divine and one human.

This is a complex mystery. As a man, Jesus Christ performed acts akin to those of the Old Testament prophets. This is in addition to the fact that Jesus performed works through his own divine power, which we have already seen.

### **3.7.3 The miracles show that Jesus is the one and only Messiah**

There have been false messiahs throughout Jewish history. Among the most prominent were Bar Kokhba who led a revolt against Rome (AD 132-135) and Shabbetai Zevi, a self-proclaimed messiah of the seventeenth century. Jesus' life stands in sharp contrast to those of the false messiahs, and it is a positive demonstration of what we would expect the Messiah to do. Jesus worked many miracles of healing, bringing wholeness



into people's lives, forgiving sin and restoring relationships. In contrast to Shabbetai Zevi, for instance, Jesus carried out the Law of Moses as a devout Jew. And in contrast to Bar Kokhba, although Jesus died he was also resurrected. The only satisfactory explanation is that the resurrection actually occurred, just as the record says. And if that's the case, it's a solid reason for accepting the Messiahship of Jesus.

Jesus Christ transforms life because he provides atonement for sin and reconciliation with God, Jesus brings peace, joy, and purpose into people's lives. Apart from faith in him, there is no basis for true peace or direction, for, as the psalmist says, "Man is estranged from the womb." That this estrangement is healed by the reconciling ministry of Jesus is the common experience of those who believe in him.

#### **4. Conclusion**

The supernatural occurrences of Jesus fulfill the Ancient Confirmation prophecy. It is now nearly two thousand years (a long time since Jesus finished his miracles). God's people have had plenty of time to think about his supernatural occurrences. Many advanced scholars believe that Jesus' miracles demonstrated his close relationship with God, his Father. Jesus is able to perform miracles because of God's control. Jesus emphasized several times that the supernatural occurrences he performed are dependent on faith. This has been mentioned in a number of Christian-based books. As Christians, our minds can be given otherworldly control to live an unused life through supernatural occurrences. We can get a glimpse of God's will and character in this most notable of all wonders. As each miracle is performed, greater faith and belief are instilled in the readers' hearts. From turning water into wine to raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus' miracles reveal the Messiah to the world. Hearing the word generates faith. According to this survey, people's faith changed dramatically after witnessing Jesus' miracles. Despite the fact that the survey did not cover all Messianic miracles, the work's contribution was to arouse people's curiosity and understanding of the meaning, rationale, and long-term goal of every miracle performed by Jesus towards His surroundings from his time until this century, using a diachronic approach.



### Conflicts of interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

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