

What Happened to Miracles?

- A. Throughout 2016 in our study of *Luke* and *Acts* we've read of many miracles.
- B. What has happened since? What do we need in order to be able to answer that question accurately?

I. We Need to be Clear About Our _____

- A. There is a difference between miraculous gifts and being gifted (*Rom 12:6-8; 1 Pet 4:7-11*)
- B. The question is *not*:
 - 1. _____ God give miraculous gifts today?
 - 2. Should we pursue miraculous gifts or seek to participate in miraculous gifts?
- C. The question is *does* God do this? Does his written revelation to mankind offer any input?
- D. Our own personal _____ (or lack thereof) do not answer the question.
 - 1. Consider the example of the twelve men in *Acts 19:1-2*.
 - 2. Or the tragic example Jesus is foretelling in *Matthew 7:21-23*.
- E. We must judge our experiences by the word of God, not the word of God by our experiences.
- F. "*All Scripture...*" (*2 Tim 3:16-17*) - what we need to interpret our experiences.

II. We Need to Understand What God Has Revealed About the _____ of Miracles

- A. Miracles were used to _____ the will of God (*John 16:12-13*)
- B. Miracles were used to _____ the will of God (*Heb 2:1-4*)
- C. Miracles were used to _____ and build up human hearts (*1 Cor 14:4-5*)

III. We Need to Understand What God Has Revealed About the _____ of Miracles

- A. What happened when the apostles of Jesus passed away? (*Acts 8:14-18; 19:5-6*)
- B. Did God say anything in regard to miracles and whether or not they would last forever?
 - 1. *1 Corinthians 13:8-10* - but what is "*the perfect*" and "*the partial*" within this context?
 - 2. *1 Corinthians 13:8-13* - miraculous gifts will cease, but faith, hope, and love will abide.
 - a. Is Jesus "*the perfect*"? (*Heb 11:1; Rom 8:24-25*)
 - b. Is God's revelation "*the perfect*"? (*2 Tim 3:16-17*)
 - c. "*When the perfect comes,*" there is no longer a need for these miraculous gifts.

IV. We Need to Understand the Tremendous _____ Given to Us By God

- A. If I want to know God's will, I don't have to see a miracle, but I do need to open God's book.
- B. "*When I was a child...*" (*1 Cor 13:11*) - miraculous gifts powerfully helped the church in its infancy.
- C. "*Now we see in a mirror dimly, but then...*" (*1 Cor 13:12*) - remember Moses (*Num 12:8*).
- D. "But it would be so much better if...!" - remember the warning of Jesus (*Luke 16:27-31*).