

# What was the reason for miracles in the New Testament?

**To confirm the word of God!**

Mar 16:20 And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.

Act 14:3 Therefore they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands.

Could Satan perform miracles when the church came into existence?

No – for if he could, then God would not have been able to confirm His word!

2Co 12:12 The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.

## Satan's works were false wonders

2Th 2:9-11 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, (10) and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. (11) And for this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they might believe what is false,

Mat 24:24 "For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.

2Th 2:9 The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, [ESV]

In an article on “miracles” Time magazine reported a man hit by 600 amps of 575 volts. He spent a long time in burn unit but recovered.

A person a kidney stone disappeared.

A child with a brain tumor was given only a 1 in 5 chance of surviving. An Episcopalian priest anointed her with consecrated oil. After the operation they found it was an infection, and not cancer at all.

Pentecostals, who claim to be able to perform miracles are the fastest growing churches in the US.  
“People don't come to listen they come to do.”

Time asked the question wa “Why do some cancers vanish while others consume? Why do people starve if 5 loaves could feed 5000?”

One skeptical Pastor was quoted saying “Miracles are like crack cocaine; you never get enough of them.”

The Catholic church claims that only “Saints” can perform miracles, but all members of the church are saints.

1Co 1:2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Eph 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

Col 1:2 To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. ... 13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,

These “Saints” are not persons who have been dead for 40 years or who have performed miracles – they are Christians!



The apostles were given the ability to speak other languages miraculously –

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

Act 2:11 both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and  
Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues  
the mighty works of God.” 12 And all were  
amazed and perplexed, saying to one another,  
“What does this mean?” 13 But others mocking  
said, “They are filled with new wine.” 14 But  
Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his  
voice and declared to them: "Men of Judea, and all  
you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you,  
and give heed to my words. 15 "For these men are  
not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third  
hour of the day; 16 but this is what was spoken of  
through the prophet Joel:

The Holy Spirit was received in the same way by  
Cornelius.

Acts 10:44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. 45 And all the circumcised believers who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out upon the Gentiles also.

The Holy Spirit was not given for salvation

Acts 11:13 "And he reported to us how he had seen the angel standing in his house, and saying, 'Send to Joppa, and have Simon, who is also called Peter, brought here; 14 and he shall speak words to you by which you will be saved, you and all your household.' 15 "And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, just as He did upon us at the beginning.

Acts 8:13 And even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip; and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed.14 Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

The miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit were  
given through an Apostle's hands

Acts 8:18 Now when Simon saw that the  
Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of  
the apostles' hands, he offered them money,

Acts 19:6 And when Paul had laid his hands  
upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and  
they began speaking with tongues and  
prophesying.

Paul was the last of the apostles of Jesus Christ, all of whom were eyewitnesses of Jesus resurrection.

Gal 1:1 Paul, an apostle (not sent from men nor through the agency of man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead),

Acts 1:21 "It is therefore necessary that of the men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us— 22 beginning with the baptism of John, until the day that He was taken up from us - one of these should become a witness with us of His resurrection."

Some of these things we see in Time Magazine are truly amazing but they are not miracles. A miracle sets aside the laws of nature with no possible explanation by natural means.

Acts 3:2 And a certain man who had been lame from his mother's womb was being carried along, whom they used to set down every day at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, in order to beg alms of those who were entering the temple.



Acts 3:4 And Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze upon him and said, "Look at us!" 5 And he began to give them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. 6 But Peter said, "I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene - walk!" 7 And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up; and immediately his feet and his ankles were strengthened. 8 And with a leap, he stood upright and began to walk; and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.

Medicine is an inexact science and people are misdiagnosed on a daily basis.

Tumors are mistaken for infections and vice versa.

Atheists sometimes recover from comas while sometimes Christians do not.

People recover from horrible accidents, regardless of their religious conviction while atheists do the same or not.

We must distinguish between the marvelous and the miraculous. Truly many things are marvelous but God used the miraculous for a special time and purpose.

The apostles did not use their powers to heal loved ones, but to confirm the word of God.

2 Tim 4:20 Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus.

Phil 2:25 But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and minister to my need; 26 because he was longing for you all and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. 27 For indeed he was sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.

If miracles were to be used simply to heal someone, Paul would have done it here.

Mark 16:20 And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.

That word has been confirmed and is now  
preached to you.

Mark 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel to all  
creation. 16 "He who has believed and has  
been baptized shall be saved; but he who has  
disbelieved shall be condemned.