

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson One

Introduction

Text: Acts 2:22-24

I. Miracles Defined

- A. Webster defines a miracle as, “An event or effect in the physical world deviating from the known laws of nature.”
- B. A miracle is an act wherein God works aside and apart from His natural laws.
 - 1. Natural Law
 - 2. Providence
 - 3. Miracle
- C. In the Bible, miracles are referred to by different terms.
 - 1. **MIRACLES** – From the Greek *dunamis*, meaning a powerful work (Mark 9:39)
 - 2. **WONDERS** – That which induces a sense of astonishment, awe or portent (John 4:48; Acts 2:43)
 - 3. **SIGNS** – A mark or token; indication, in the case of miracles, of the presence and/or power of God (Mark 16:17, 20)
 - 4. Illustration: *The parting of the Red Sea*

II. The Purpose of Miracles

- A. Confirmation of truth
 - 1. In the case of Jesus...
 - a. Proved His claim of being Messiah (John 5:36; 10:25)
 - b. Proved His power to forgive sins (Mark 2:9-11)
 - c. Proved the truth of His Gospel (Luke 4:18-21)
 - 2. In the case of the Apostles...
 - a. Proved their claim of being Ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:20; Acts 8:14-17)
 - b. Proved the truth of their preaching (Mark 16:15-20; Hebrews 2:1-4)
- B. Creation of faith
 - 1. By demonstration of power (John 4:46-53; 20:30-31)
 - 2. By confirmation of message (Romans 10:17)
 - 3. By reassurance of hope (Luke 7:20-23)
- C. Demonstration of love (Matthew 14:14; 15:32-38)
- D. Illustration of spiritual

III. The Genuineness of the Miracles of Jesus

- A. They were simple.
- B. They were unmistakable.
- C. They were immediate.
- D. They were public.
- E. They were without respect of persons.

Conclusion: *We must believe in the miracles of the Bible and learn from them.*

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Lesson Two

The Miracle of Fulfilled Prophecy

Text: Luke 24:44-48

I. The Miracle of Inspiration

- A. Peter's powerful argument concerning the inspiration of the Scriptures (2 Peter 1:12-21)
 - 1. Importance of knowing and remembering (1:12-15)
 - 2. Power of eyewitness testimony (1:16-18)
 - 3. Absolute certainty of the inspired record (1:19-21)
- B. The Bible is the Word of God – given by inspiration of the Holy Spirit (2 Samuel 23:2; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 3:7; 1 Peter 1:10-12).

II. The Miracle of Prophecy

- A. The work of a prophet was two-fold.
 - 1. First, prophets were forth-tellers – they preached the message of God.
 - 2. Second, prophets were foretellers – the predicted future events.
- B. When they spoke or wrote the Word of God, it was accurate and true because it was inspired of God.
- C. When they foretold future events, their predictions were accurate and true because they were inspired of God.
- D. If the predictions were incorrect, then the preaching could not be trusted (cf. Deuteronomy 13:1-5; 18:20-22).

III. The Messianic Prophecies Fulfilled by Jesus

- A. Acts 3:18 – *See chart on back*
- B. Though the acts themselves were not miraculous, the fact that they fulfilled prophecies given hundreds of years before proves that the inspiration of the prophets was miraculous (Isaiah 46:9-10; Acts 15:18).
- C. The Messianic Prophecies of the Psalms
 - 1. Psalm 16:10 Acts 2:27-31
 - 2. Psalm 22:1 Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34
 - 3. Psalm 22:7-8 Matthew 27:39-43
 - 4. Psalm 22:16 John 20:20-25
 - 5. Psalm 22:18 Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:24; Luke 23:34; John 19:23-24
 - 6. Psalm 41:9 John 13:18, 26-27
 - 7. Psalm 69:21 Matthew 27:34, 48
 - 8. Psalm 89:26-27 Hebrews 1:1-5
 - 9. Psalm 110:1-4 Matthew 22:42-46; Hebrews 1:13; 5:6
 - 10. Psalm 118:22-24 Matthew 21:42; Acts 4:11; 1 Peter 2:4-8
- D. These are just a few of the prophecies in the Psalms (not to mention the rest of the Old Testament) that Jesus fulfilled exactly.

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Lesson Three

The Miracle of the Virgin Birth

Text: Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38

I. The Virgin Birth Fulfilled Prophecy

- A. Genesis 3:15 – Jesus was the seed of the woman.
 - 1. In reproduction, the seed belongs to the man.
 - 2. But, Jesus was “made of a woman” (Galatians 4:4).
 - 3. Also, this woman was of “the seed of David” (Psalm 132:11; Luke 1:68-70; 3:31; Acts 2:29-32; Romans 1:3; Revelation 22:16).
- B. Isaiah 7:14 – A virgin would conceive and bear a son (cf. Matthew 1:22-25).
- C. Jeremiah 31:22 – A woman would compass a man as a new thing in the earth.
- D. Micah 5:2 – Bethlehem Ephrathah would be the location (cf. Matthew 2:6; Luke 2:1-7; John 7:42).

II. The Virgin Birth Occurred Supernaturally

- A. John 1:14 – Jesus was not born by the will of man.
- B. Matthew 1:1-16 – Jesus was not begotten of man.
- C. Luke 1:34-35 – Jesus was begotten of the Holy Spirit.
 - 1. God prepared His physical body (Hebrews 10:5).
 - 2. Thus, He is the Son of God (Matthew 3:16-17; 17:5).
 - 3. He is the “only begotten” Son of the Father (John 1:14, 18; 3:16, 18; 1 John 4:9).
 - 4. He is King of kings (Luke 1:31-33; John 1:49; Hebrews 1:1-8; 1 Timothy 6:15).
 - 5. He is the Messiah, the Christ (Matthew 16:16; Mark 14:61-62; John 6:66-69).
 - 6. He is the Savior of the world (Luke 2:11).

III. The Virgin Birth Happened Factually

- A. Genesis 2:7 – It requires no greater power than the miracle of creation.
 - 1. Adam was a type of Jesus (Romans 5:14; 1 Corinthians 15:45-49).
 - 2. Man was created from the dust of the ground; woman was created from man’s rib (Genesis 2:21-24).
 - 3. It requires no greater faith to accept the Creation or the Virgin Birth.
 - 4. In fact, if one accepts the Virgin Birth, then all miracles are possible.
- B. The Holy Spirit declared it.
- C. The angel Gabriel announced it.
- D. Joseph accepted it (and, he was a “just” man).
- E. Matthew and Luke recorded it.
- F. God verified it (John 3:16; Matthew 3:16-17).
- G. Jesus proclaimed it (John 14:9).
- H. The resurrection proved it (Romans 1:3-4).

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Lesson Four

Turning Water into Wine

Text: John 2:1-11

I. The Miracle

- A. There is a natural process by which water is turned into wine.
 - 1. Water falls as rain and is then absorbed by the roots of the grape vine.
 - 2. The vine transports the water, in the form of sap, to the grape where it becomes juice or wine (cf. Isaiah 65:8).
- B. However, Jesus performs a miracle by overpowering the laws of nature and turning water into wine immediately, without the use of the natural process.
- C. Jesus, His mother and His disciples were invited to a wedding feast in Cana of Galilee.
 - 1. Note that Jesus took part in the social events of life – He was neither a hermit nor a monk, isolated from the world.
 - 2. Also, consider that by His actions, Jesus gives His approval and endorsement of marriage.
 - 3. Jesus should be invited to every wedding and be a part of every home.
- D. These celebrations usually lasted seven days, depending upon the financial situation of the hosts.
- E. On this occasion, the hosts of the party ran out of wine.
- F. So, Jesus performed His first miracle and turned about 20 gallons of water into pure, perfect grape juice.
 - 1. Keep in mind that the word “wine” in the New Testament does not imply fermentation.
 - 2. The word can refer simply to grape juice.
 - 3. The context determines whether or not it is alcoholic.
 - 4. Had Jesus created intoxicating wine He would have violated numerous passages of Scripture (Habakkuk 2:15; Prov. 20:1; 23:29-35; Luke 12:45; 21:34; Rom. 13:13; 1 Cor. 5:11; 6:10; Gal. 5:21; Eph. 5:18; 1 Pet. 4:3-4; etc.).

II. What the Miracle Teaches about Jesus

- A. His glory – *power demonstrates deity* (cf. Hebrews 1:1-3)
- B. His benevolence (Acts 10:38; Hebrews 7:26)
- C. His perfection – *He created the best wine* (Hebrews 5:8-9; 1 Peter 2:21; John 10:10; 1 Peter 3:10-12; John 14:1ff)

III. What the Miracle Teaches Us

- A. Have faith in Him (vs. 3-5) – *Just like His mother did*
- B. Obey Him (vs. 5-8) – *Just like the servants did*
- C. Never disappointed in Him (vs. 9-10) – *Jesus always does best*
- D. There is a time to work (John 9:4; 2 Cor. 6:2; 1 Cor. 15:58; Heb. 10:25).
- E. Do not pray to Mary!
 - 1. When she asked Jesus to do something, He rebuked her (vs. 4).
 - 2. Yet, the Catholic Church teaches that if we pray to Mary, she will take our requests to Jesus and He will not refuse her.
 - 3. We are to pray to the Father through the Son (John 16:23).

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Lesson Five

Healing of the Nobleman's Son

Text: John 4:46-54

Introduction:

1. Following His first miracle, Jesus traveled to Capernaum and then to Jerusalem to keep the Passover.
2. While in Jerusalem, He cleansed the Temple and performed many miracles which are not recorded in Scripture (John 2:23).
3. Here, He also met with Nicodemus and then went out into Judea, teaching and baptizing.
4. Finally, He left Judea to travel back to Galilee, but made a point to travel through Samaria where He met the woman at the well and taught many of the Samaritans.
5. It was back in Cana of Galilee that His next recorded miracle was performed.

I. The Miracle

- A. A nobleman, whose son was sick in Capernaum, came to see Jesus.
 1. Capernaum was about a day's journey from Cana (around 20 miles).
 2. The nobleman would have been an officer in the court of Herod Antipas, who ruled over Galilee at this time (cf. Mark 6:14).
 3. There are several officers of Herod who became followers of Christ (cf. Luke 8:3; Acts 13:1; *Jerome says this man's name was Palatinus*).
- B. He begged Jesus to come to Capernaum to heal his son who was at the point of death.
- C. Jesus said to him, "Go thy way; thy son liveth," and immediately he was healed.
- D. The result was that the nobleman and his household became believers in Jesus.

II. The Manifestation

- A. This miracle manifested Jesus' great power.
 1. Over sickness and disease
 2. Over space and time
 3. In His Word
- B. This miracle evidenced Jesus' deity!
- C. This miracle showed Jesus' great compassion.

III. The Message

- A. We should be concerned about the welfare of our families – especially spiritually (Ephesians 6:4; Proverbs 22:6; Deuteronomy 6:6-9).
 1. Money cannot do some things!
 2. Even a nobleman had to humble himself before Jesus.
- B. When we are in need, we must be willing to come to Jesus (Matt. 11:28-30; John 5:40).
- C. We must have faith to come to Jesus (Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24).
 1. True faith is complete trust that leads to obedience.
 2. We must believe and obey in salvation, worship, faithfulness, etc. (Col. 3:17).
- D. We must be willing to sacrifice to come to Jesus (Hebrews 5:9).
- E. We must trust in the promises of Jesus.

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Lesson Six

The First Miraculous Catch of Fish

Text: Luke 5:1-11

Introduction:

1. Before Jesus healed the nobleman's son, He declared, "A prophet hath no honor in his own country" (John 4:44).
2. Initially, in His "hometown" of Nazareth, the people seemed to accept Jesus, but this would not last (Luke 4:14-22).
3. When He began to declare God's love for the Gentiles, His own people turned against Him (Luke 4:23-31).
4. Thus, He traveled to Capernaum where He called four fishermen to become His disciples.
5. Luke's account shows that Jesus performed a marvelous miracle on this occasion...

I. The Miracle

- A. Peter and his partners had worked all night long without catching a single fish.
 1. They were professional fishermen; Jesus was not.
 2. Usually, fishing was done at nighttime or early morning.
- B. Yet, at Jesus' command, Peter launches the ship out into deeper water and they let down their nets.
- C. Immediately, their net captured so many fish that it began to break.
- D. Peter and Andrew called to their partners, James and John, for help.
- E. Together, they pulled in so many fish that both boats began to sink.

II. The Manifestation

- A. This miracle demonstrates Jesus' power over nature.
- B. It proves Jesus' authority as Master and teacher.
 1. It is interesting that Luke records the details of the miracle, but not the sermon.
 2. Luke, a Gentile physician, was writing to a Greek audience (1:3-4; Col. 4:14).
 3. His record of the miracle reveals why these fishermen would leave their work to follow Jesus.
 4. Remember, this was not the first time they had met Jesus (John 1:40).

III. The Message

- A. It is important to allow Jesus to use whatever we have.
- B. True faith is a complete trust that obeys God's commands.
- C. Without Jesus, man is a failure; with Him, there is success.
- D. Recognizing the power of Jesus should create an attitude of penitence and praise.
- E. We must be willing to forsake all to follow Him.
- F. Lessons on evangelism...
 1. Christians are fishers of men.
 2. We must have the patience of fishermen.
 3. We must go where the fish are and use the right kind of "bait."
 4. We must be willing to ask for help and be willing to help others.
 5. We must never give up in our efforts, even if they seem fruitless.
 6. We must obey the commands of Christ.

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Lesson Seven

Casting out a Demon in the Synagogue at Capernaum

Text: Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:31-37

Introduction:

1. Remember that Jesus came to Capernaum because, “A prophet hath no honor in his own country” (John 4:44).
2. He had been honored by the Samaritans, by a nobleman in Herod’s court and by uneducated fisherman on the Sea of Galilee.
3. But, the people of His “hometown” wanted to kill Him!
4. In Capernaum, Jesus would find honor again – this time, from a most unlikely source...

I. The Miracle

- A. First, consider the location of this miracle – in the synagogue.
 1. The synagogue was a place of worship and teaching.
 2. It was the heart of Jewish culture.
 3. It would have been filled with the most dedicated Jews, rabbis and disciples.
- B. Next, consider the setting of this miracle – a Sabbath Day service.
 1. Jesus made a habit of teaching upon the Sabbath days (Luke 4:31).
 2. Just from hearing His teaching, the people were astonished.
 - a. He taught with power and authority.
 - b. He did not teach like the scribes – in manner or doctrine.
 - c. The same thing is said at the end of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7:28-29).
- C. Next, consider the power of this miracle – casting out an unclean demon.
 1. Demons were actual, intelligent beings – not merely diseases or illnesses (cf. Matthew 4:24; 10:8).
 2. They were personalities who could think and act (James 2:19).
 3. They were beings who could speak and answer (Mark 5:8-13).
 4. Demons are not the Devil, though sometimes called “devils.”
 5. They do not seem to be angels, for angels do not need bodies to dwell in as the demons do (cf. Mark 5:8ff; Luke 11:24-26).
 6. Most likely, demons were the spirits of men who had died (Luke 4:33).
 7. Demons were limited in speech and time (cf. Matthew 8:29).
 8. This was a real phenomenon during the age of miracles, but no more.
- D. Finally, consider the results of this miracle – Jesus’ authority proven.
 1. Note that the demon-possessed man was in the synagogue!
 2. The demon spoke the truth about Jesus, but he was not the right source.
 - a. It was the testimony of a liar.
 - b. It might cause a misperception about Jesus.
 - c. It was not time for Him to be revealed.
 - d. He was to be made known by His words and works.
 3. The demon was subject to the word of Christ – the man was unharmed.
 4. The authority they heard in Jesus’ preaching was confirmed by His actions.
 5. Jesus received honor from a demon when He did not receive it from His people.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus' power in the spirit realm was established.
- B. Jesus' authority over the forces of evil was proven.
- C. Jesus' deity was demonstrated.

III. The Message

- A. The devil may be found in the assembly of the church.
- B. Satan wants to (and will, if allowed) take control of our lives.
- C. Satan wants to harm and destroy both body and soul.
- D. Satan will not leave of his own accord – he must be resisted (James 4:7).
- E. Satan can be defeated by the power of the Word of God (Romans 1:16; James 1:21).

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Lesson Eight

Healing Peter's Mother-in-law

Text: Matthew 8:14-17; Mark 1:29-34; Luke 4:38-41

Introduction:

1. Following the amazing miracle performed in the synagogue, Jesus – along with James and John – went into the house of Peter and Andrew.
2. The events that occurred in this house teach some important lessons about Jesus and about His disciples.

I. The Miracle

- A. Peter's wife's mother was sick with a fever.
- B. The disciples informed Jesus of her condition.
 1. Mark says that "anon (or, immediately) they tell him of her."
 2. Luke says that they "besought him for her."
- C. So, Jesus healed her.
 1. He stood over her and rebuked the fever.
 2. He took her by the hand and lifted her up.
 3. The fever left her.
- D. She was healed so completely that she began to minister to the group.
- E. Following this, Jesus healed many more who were sick and possessed by demons as they were brought to Him at Peter's house.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus demonstrated His power over sickness and disease.
 1. This is the first miracle where it is recorded what the illness was.
 2. Luke, the physician, emphasizes that it was a "great fever."
- B. Jesus demonstrated His position of authority.
 1. Upon the display of Jesus' power, Peter's mother-in-law became His servant.
 2. She was healed to help; we are saved to serve (Matthew 20:27; 23:11; 25:21; Mark 9:35; Romans 1:1; 1 Cor. 9:19; James 1:1; 2 Peter 1:1, Jude 1; Rev. 1:1).
- C. Jesus demonstrated His compassion and love.

III. The Message

- A. Jesus went to Simon's house; for He had no house of His own (Matthew 8:20).
- B. Jesus is the Great Physician – physically and spiritually (Hebrews 5:9).
- C. Peter's home was open to his extended family, friends and those in need.
 1. Peter and his wife lived there.
 2. Andrew lived there.
 3. Peter's mother-in-law lived there (1 Timothy 5:3-4, 8, 16).
 4. Jesus was welcome there (Galatians 6:10; 2 John 9-11; 3 John 5-6).
 5. *Is Jesus welcome in our homes?*
- D. Peter was not the Pope!
 1. He was married and not celibate (1 Cor. 9:5; Heb. 13:4; 1 Timothy 3:1-2).
 2. He had no supremacy over other apostles (1 Pet. 5:1; 2 Cor. 11:5; Matt. 20:25ff).
 3. He would not receive worship (Acts 10:25-26).
 4. He was not infallible (Galatians 2:11).

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Lesson Nine

A Leper Cleansed

Text: Matthew 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-16

Introduction:

1. Mark 1:35-39 – Following a busy day of healing the sick, Jesus found a place of solitude to pray.
2. Though the people begged Him to stay with them, Jesus had work to do in other towns.
3. So, Jesus preached in other cities throughout Galilee.
4. In Matthew's account of the Gospel, this miracle is recorded immediately following the Sermon on the Mount.
5. This is not when it occurred chronologically, but is placed there to emphasize Jesus' authority in the sermon just recorded.

I. The Miracle

- A. The actual miracle is quite simple – Jesus touched a leper, spoke the word, and healed him of his disease.
- B. However, the lessons learned are profound and significant.

II. The Manifestation

- A. This miracle demonstrated Jesus' power over disease.
- B. This miracle demonstrated Jesus' authority (cf. Sermon on the Mount).
- C. This miracle demonstrated Jesus' compassion (Mark 1:40-41).
- D. This miracle demonstrated Jesus' uniqueness (Mark 1:44-45).

III. The Message

- A. The disease of leprosy
 1. Begins small, but spreads extensively
 2. Rots one from the inside out
 3. Separates one from society – “*unclean*” (Leviticus 13:45; Numbers 5:2)
 4. There was no human cure for this contagious disease.
 5. Results in death
- B. Leprosy as a type of sin
 1. Often begins small, but spreads (cf. 2 Timothy 3:13; 1 Corinthians 15:33)
 2. Begins in the heart but manifests outwardly (Matthew 5:27-28)
 3. Separates one from God (Isaiah 59:1-2; 2 Pet. 2:4; 1 Cor. 5:2; Rev. 21:8)
 4. There is no human cure (Ephesians 2:8-9)
 5. Results in death (Romans 6:23)
- C. The curing of leprosy as a type of salvation from sin
 1. The leper came to Jesus.
 2. The leper came with awareness of his need.
 3. The leper came in humility (“fell on his face” Luke 5:12). (Cf. Naaman)
 4. The leper came in faith (“If thou wilt, Thou canst make me clean.”).
 5. The leper was cleansed by grace (love of Jesus) through faith.
- D. Consider the importance of the words “and touched him.”
 1. Fellowship (1 John 1:6-7)
 2. Friendship (Romans 5:6-10)

3. Family (Luke 15:18-24)
- E. Consider Jesus' command for the leper to go to the priest (cf. Leviticus 14:1-3).
1. Jesus lived under and was faithful to the Law of Moses.
 2. He came not to destroy, but to fulfill the Law (Matthew 5:17).
- F. Consider the leper's response to his cleansing.
1. In his excitement, joy and gratitude, he began to tell everyone about Jesus.
 2. Mark says he began to "publish it much;" meaning, "to herald, proclaim, preach with gravity and authority."
 3. He began to "blaze abroad" this good news, meaning, "to spread abroad." *{It comes from the root from which we get the word "fame." He wanted to make Jesus famous!}*
 4. He did such a good job of it that Jesus had to avoid the towns and cities!
 5. What is our response to being healed of sin?

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Lesson Ten

A Palsied Man Healed

Text: Matthew 9:1-8; Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:17-26

Introduction:

1. The leper who was healed by Jesus put forth much effort in spreading the word about the Son of God.
2. As a result, Jesus had to spend some time in deserted places, away from the crowds.
3. Finally, after some days, He returned to Capernaum and the news spread about His location.
4. Soon, a crowd surrounded the house Jesus was in and He began to preach to them.
5. Luke gives some interesting details about who was present in this crowd (5:17).
6. It was on this occasion that four men brought their friend who was paralyzed to Jesus.

I. The Miracle

- A. Again, the miracle performed was quite simple.
- B. The man brought to Jesus was “sick of the palsy.”
 1. The Greek word is *paralutikos* (παραλυτικός), from which we get our word “paralytic.”
 2. It comes from a root that means, “to loosen or relax.”
 3. Thus, Thayer says it means, “suffering from the relaxing of the nerves; disabled, weak of limb.”
- C. Jesus simply told the man to arise, take his bed and go home – thus, he was healed.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Again, Jesus demonstrated His power over sickness and disease of all kinds.
- B. However, the greater purpose of this miracle was to prove His power to forgive sins.
 1. Consider the relation between physical paralysis and spiritual death caused by sin (1 Timothy 5:6; Luke 15:24; Revelation 3:1).
 2. Keep in mind who was present in the crowd when Jesus said, “Thy sins be forgiven thee.”
 3. The scribes and Pharisees accused Jesus of blasphemy.
 4. If He were not the Son of God, they would have been correct!
 5. But, by performing the miracle, Jesus proves His power to forgive sins – and, therefore, that He is the Messiah, the Son of God.
 6. We must remember that Jesus had the power on earth to forgive sins (cf. Luke 23:43).
- C. Thus, Jesus demonstrated His deity.

III. The Message

- A. We all need help; we all must be helpers.
- B. True faith is active (John 6:29; James 2:14-26).
- C. True faith overcomes obstacles.
 1. We must do whatever it takes to get to Jesus.
 2. We must do whatever it takes to get others to Jesus.
 3. We must do whatever it takes to stay with Jesus (Revelation 2:10).
- D. True faith is based upon evidence.

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Lesson Eleven

Healing the Man at the Pool of Bethesda

Text: John 5:1-16

Introduction:

1. In Capernaum, Jesus healed a paralyzed man before the Pharisees, scribes and doctors of the law.
2. But, before He healed him, Jesus forgave his sins.
3. Thus, by the miracle, Jesus proved that He is the Son of God.
4. Following this, Jesus continued to antagonize the legalism of the Pharisees by calling Matthew, a publican, to be one of His disciples and then eating at his house (Mark 2:13-17).
5. Soon thereafter, there was a feast day and Jesus traveled to Jerusalem.
6. Here, He approached the Pool of Bethesda and performed another great miracle.

I. The Miracle

- A. There was a man at Bethesda who had an infirmity – “weakness of body, feebleness, frailty” – that had plagued him for 38 years.
- B. Jesus asked him, “Wilt thou be made whole?”
- C. Then, Jesus spoke the word and the man was healed immediately.

II. The Manifestation

- A. This miracle declares two very important truths about Jesus.
- B. First, His power was real and valid.
 1. The name Bethesda means, “house of mercy.”
 2. Apparently, the waters had some healing properties.
 3. However, a story had been attached to this pool that healing was made available by the working of an angel. {Whether or not this is true, we do not know.}
 4. Those gathered around the Pool of Bethesda reminds us of people in our time who wait for the false miracles of modern day “faith healers.”
 5. Notice that the infirm man was so attached to this pool as his only means of healing that he almost missed seeing Jesus for who He really was.
 6. Yet, Jesus was able to heal Him instantly by the power of His word.
- C. Second, His power proved His authority – He is Lord even of the Sabbath.
 1. When Jesus performed this miracle, the Pharisees objected to the healed man carrying his bed. {Remember that he had been sick for 38 years!}
 2. However, he understood the connection between Jesus’ power and authority.
 3. Jesus uses this as an opportunity to teach the Jews about His true nature.

III. The Message

- A. Notice that Jesus did not heal everyone at the Pool of Bethesda – for, His miracles had a greater purpose.
- B. When Jesus asks a question, it is to focus our attention on important truths.
- C. There is something worse than physical infirmity – spiritual death.

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Lesson Twelve

Healing a Man's Withered Hand

Text: Matthew 12:9-13; Mark 3:1-5; Luke 6:6-10

Introduction:

1. In Capernaum, Jesus healed a paralyzed man before the Pharisees, scribes and doctors of the law.
2. But, before He healed him, Jesus forgave his sins.
3. Following this, He chose a publican named Matthew to be one of His disciples.
4. In Jerusalem, he healed a man at the Pool of Bethesda on the Sabbath, further angering the Jews.
5. On another Sabbath, He and his disciples picked and ate grain from a field.
6. Then, on another Sabbath, Jesus healed a man with a withered hand.
7. Thus, it is clear to see that Jesus was confronting the Jews on their traditions that contradicted the Law of God.

I. The Miracle

- A. The man had a hand that was withered – literally, “shrunk, dried up, wasted.”
- B. Jesus commanded him to “stretch forth” his hand, something that would have been impossible due to his condition.
- C. Immediately, it was restored – “reconstituted, returned to its former or natural state” – and it was whole – “healthy, sound, true.”

II. The Manifestation

- A. Again, with this miracle, Jesus was demonstrating His power and authority.
- B. By proving his power to heal, He showed His authority over the traditions of the Pharisees (cf. Mark 7:10-11).
 1. Notice that the miracle took place in “their synagogue” (Matt. 12:9).
 2. Notice that before He worked the miracle, Jesus asked if it were lawful to heal on the Sabbath. {*Mark says that they “watched Him” so they could accuse Him.*}
 3. Notice that Jesus asked, “Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath days, or to do evil, to save life, or to kill?”
 - a. Healing a sick man was a good deed; however, they said that it could not be done on the Sabbath.
 - b. Not healing the man because of some tradition that was in error would be evil (cf. Galatians 6:10; James 4:17).
 4. Notice that Jesus looked on them with anger.
 5. Notice that Jesus was grieved – “sorrowed, afflicted” – by the hardness of their hearts.
- C. As soon as Jesus had healed this man, they began to plot as to how they could kill Him, even joining forces with the Herodians (Mark 3:6).

III. The Message

- A. Traditions of men must be replaced by the Word of God.
- B. We must not let difficulties cause us to give up or neglect our duties.
- C. We must beware the hardening of our hearts.
- D. This miracle reminds us of our need of spiritual restoration.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirteen

Healing the Centurion's Servant

Text: Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10

Introduction:

1. In the last few lessons, we have studied miracles that Jesus performed to challenge the Pharisees.
2. Along with those miracles, He had demonstrated a love for those the Pharisees hated – sinners, publicans, Samaritans and even Gentiles.
3. After healing the man with the withered hand in the synagogue on the Sabbath, Jesus returned to the Sea of Galilee and healed multitudes from all parts of Palestine (Mark 3:7-12).
4. Matthew tells us that this was done in fulfillment of prophecy that the Gentiles would trust in Jesus (Matthew 12:15-21).
5. Following these wonders and a night of prayer, Jesus selected His twelve apostles (Mark 3:13-19; Luke 6:12-16).
6. This event was followed by the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5 – 7; Luke 6:17-49).
7. Finally, Jesus returned to Capernaum and again demonstrated His love for the Gentiles by healing the servant of a Roman Centurion.

I. The Miracle

- A. Much like the healing of the nobleman's son, this miracle was performed at a distance.
- B. Jesus spoke the word and healed this man without entering into the Centurion's house, seeing or touching the one who was sick.
- C. The miracle is even more powerful for the servant was exceedingly tortured by the palsy, and was at the point of death.

II. The Manifestation

- A. A Centurion was a Roman military officer who oversaw 100 other soldiers.
- B. Thus, as a Roman, he was likely a Gentile (cf. Acts 10:1-2).
- C. In fact, Jesus uses the faith of this man to demonstrate why the Gentiles would enter into His kingdom while the Jews would be cast out of it.
- D. Thus, Jesus manifests His love for all men, Jew and Gentile.

III. The Message

- A. We should learn to imitate the compassion of the Centurion.
- B. We should learn to imitate the kindness of the Centurion.
- C. We should learn to imitate the humility of the Centurion.
- D. We should learn to imitate the faith of the Centurion.
- E. Jesus will come and heal from sin!

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Fourteen

Raising the Widow's Son

Text: Luke 7:11-17

Introduction:

1. In the last few lessons, we have studied miracles that Jesus performed to challenge the Pharisees.
2. Along with those miracles, He had demonstrated a love for those the Pharisees hated – sinners, publicans, Samaritans and even Gentiles.
3. After healing the man with the withered hand in the synagogue on the Sabbath, Jesus returned to the Sea of Galilee and healed multitudes from all parts of Palestine (Mark 3:7-12).
4. Matthew tells us that this was done in fulfillment of prophecy that the Gentiles would trust in Jesus (Matthew 12:15-21).
5. Following this, Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5 – 7; Luke 6:17-49).
6. Then, Jesus returned to Capernaum and again demonstrated His love for the Gentiles by healing the servant of a Roman Centurion (Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10).
7. This all leads up to and culminates in one of Jesus' greatest miracles – raising a widow's son from the dead!

I. The Miracle

- A. If the other miracles Jesus had performed failed to convince those who heard Him, this one should have left them without any doubts about His power or identity.
- B. Consider the details of this miracle...
 1. It took place on the next day in a city called Nain (located either 2 or 25 miles SW of Capernaum).
 2. It was witnessed by the disciples of Jesus who traveled with Him.
 3. It was witnessed by unbelievers who traveled with Him, including Pharisees.
 4. It was witnessed by a large crowd of the city who were with the widow.
 5. It occurred at the gate of the city – the center of town business.
 6. There was no collusion or deception for Jesus arrived as the body was being carried to the place of burial.
 7. When Jesus spoke the command, "Arise," the dead man sat up and began speaking!
- C. Consider the obvious difference between the genuine miracle of Jesus and the professed miracles of today.

II. The Manifestation

- A. The miracle demonstrated Jesus' compassion and pity for others.
- B. The miracle demonstrated Jesus' authority and awesome power.

III. The Message

- A. Evidence to the honest heart (Matthew 11:2-19; Luke 7:18-35)
- B. Woe to the rebellious sinner (Matthew 11:20-30)
- C. Great fear was caused among the people.
- D. God was glorified by the people.
- E. They recognized that Jesus was a great prophet sent from God (cf. Acts 3:22-23; Deuteronomy 18:15; 1 Kings 17:17-24).

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Fifteen

Casting out a Demon from a Man Both Blind and Mute

Text: Matthew 12:22-33; Mark 3:11-12, 22-30; Luke 11:14-23

Introduction:

1. Following His pronouncement of woes upon the cities of Galilee that rejected Him, Jesus went into the house of a Pharisee named Simon (Luke 7:36-50).
2. There, Jesus was anointed by a sinful woman and He taught the parable of the two debtors.
3. Then, He began His second tour of Galilee (Luke 8:1-3).
4. The first miracle (even the first event) on this tour demonstrates a difference in attitude toward Jesus by Jews.
5. They are much more hostile toward Him, and openly antagonistic.

I. The Miracle

- A. Matthew's account of this miracle records that the man was both blind and dumb (mute), and that this was associated with his being possessed by a demon. *{Mark's account does not mention a specific miracle and Luke's account only mentions a demon who was dumb. It is likely that the events in Luke occurred later in Judea.}*
 1. In previous studies, we have noticed that all disease was not linked to demon possession.
 2. We have also seen that all who were possessed by demons were not ill.
- B. Without telling us how, Matthew simply says that Jesus "healed him."
- C. His blindness was replaced with sight, and his dumbness with speech.
- D. Furthermore, the demon was cast out .

II. The Manifestation

- A. This miracle clearly demonstrated Jesus' power and authority over demonic forces.
- B. Thus, it also showed His deity – that He is the Son of God.
 1. Notice that some recognized Him as the Messiah, the Son of David.
 2. Yet, the Pharisees continued to reject Him and blaspheme.
- C. Notice that the Pharisees could not deny that Jesus had cast out demons.
 1. So, they tried to discredit His actions and impugn His motives.
 2. They accused Him of casting out demons by demonic power.
 3. In reply, Jesus declared that He was more powerful than Satan.
 4. Their hearts were so hardened that they attributed the power of the Holy Spirit to Satan.
 5. One in this condition of heart cannot be forgiven.

III. The Message

- A. This poor man was completely helpless – he could not see, nor could he call out for help.
 1. He pictures for us one who is captured under the power of Satan.
 2. Sin causes many to be blind to their lost condition, deaf to the Word of God and unable (or, unwilling) to call out for help.
- B. A house divided against itself shall not stand.
- C. Jesus' power and authority was the foundation of the kingdom of God.
- D. We can judge a tree by its fruits – Jesus' actions demonstrated His nature.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Sixteen

Calming the Stormy Sea

Text: Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25

Introduction:

1. Jesus has begun His second tour of Galilee.
2. Immediately, He was confronted by the Pharisees and accused of serving Satan.
3. Following their blasphemy, they audaciously asked Jesus for a sign (Matt. 12:38-45)!
4. After these events, Jesus began to teach what we call the first group of parables (Matthew 13; Mark 4; Luke 8).
5. On the evening of this day of teaching, Jesus and the twelve departed by ship to reach the other side of the Sea of Galilee.

I. The Miracle

- A. Before Jesus and His disciples entered into the ship, they departed from the crowd.
 1. This may have been for Him to explain the parables to them (Matthew 13:36; Mark 4:34).
 2. Yet, it seems that some followed Him in little boats (Mark 4:36).
- B. While they were in the boat on the lake – and while Jesus slept – a great storm arose.
 1. Mark calls it a “great storm” – literally, a mega squall or whirlwind.
 2. Matthew calls it a “great tempest” – literally, a mega commotion or shaking. {*The Greek word is seismos. When used of the ground it means an earthquake.*}
 3. Luke calls it a “storm of wind” that “came down” upon them. *This is an apt scientific description of cool air from the hills colliding with warm air on the sea.*
 4. Compare this with Jonah 1:4.
- C. Very quickly, the ship was swamped and began filling rapidly with water.
 1. Matthew says that the ship was covered (or, hidden) by the waves.
 2. Mark says the waves beat into the ship and it began filling with water.
- D. The situation was serious, for Luke says that they were in jeopardy, peril or danger.
- E. So, the disciples awoke Jesus in their fear and anxiety.
 1. According to Luke, they cried, “Master, Master, we perish.”
 2. According to Matthew, it was a cry for help – “Lord, save us: we perish.”
 3. According to Mark, there was rebuke in their words, “Master, carest thou not that we perish?”
- F. Jesus arose and calmed the storm with the power of His words.
 1. He rebuked the wind – literally, He censured, admonished, forbade the wind.
 2. He spoke to the sea – “Peace (literally, Silence), be still (lit., muzzled, quiet).”
- G. The wind and the raging of the water ceased and there was a great calm (tranquility).

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus demonstrated His power of the mighty forces of nature.
- B. Thus, He again proved that He is in control of the world – He is God.

III. The Message

- A. Fear is a lack of faith.
- B. Jesus cares!
- C. With Jesus, there is calm in the midst of any storm.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Seventeen

Casting Demons out of Two Men of the Gadarenes

Text: Matthew 8:28-34; Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-39

Introduction:

1. After Jesus calmed the stormy sea, He and his disciples came to the southeastern side of the Sea of Galilee, in the country of the Gadarenes (or, Gergesenes [Matthew 8:28]).
2. Immediately as He came out of the ship, Jesus was confronted by two men who were possessed by demons.
3. Jesus' healing of these men teaches several important lessons worthy of consideration.

I. The Miracle

- A. With authority, Jesus cast the demons out of these two men.
 1. Matthew is the only account to mention both men.
 2. Mark and Luke only wrote of one man; however, this is supplementation, not contradiction.
- B. Consider the description of the worse of these two men.
 1. Possessed by an unclean spirit
 2. Had no house, but lived in the tombs – *“cut out of rock in limestone hills”*
 3. Wore no clothes (Luke 8:27)
 4. Exceedingly fierce and could not be bound for he broke the chains and fetters
 5. Driven by the demon into the wilderness (Luke 8:29)
 6. Crying and cutting himself with stones
 7. Wayne Cox wrote: *“Thus, on the one hand, you pity this poor man and want to help him, but, on the other hand, you’re afraid of him and can’t – he can’t be caught and held! It will take a supernatural event to heal this man.”*
- C. Yet, the demons acknowledged the power and position of Jesus – they fell down before Him and worshipped Him.
 1. The demons believed in Jesus – unlike many men in our world.
 2. The demons confessed the deity of Jesus – unlike many in our world.
 3. The demons believed in the certainty of God’s Word and the coming of judgment and punishment – unlike many in our world.
 4. However, notice their use of the word “adjure” (cf. Acts 19:13; 1 Thes. 5:27).
- D. There were many demons tormenting this one man.
 1. In the Roman army, a legion was about 6,000 soldiers.
 2. Here, it probably just refers to many demons (cf. Matthew 12:43-45; Luke 8:2).
- E. They begged not to be sent into the abyss (cf. Romans 10:7; Revelation 20:1-3).
- F. Thus, Jesus sent them into a great herd of about 2,000 swine.
 1. Notice that the demons were subject to the authority of Jesus and needed His permission to act.
 2. The pigs immediately bolted down a steep slope into the sea, where they all drowned.
 3. This demonstrates a fundamental difference between animals and men.
 4. This one of only two miracles of Jesus that involved the destruction of property. *{The cursing of the fig tree is the other.}*

5. Remember that swine were unclean under the Law of Moses and it was a violation of that law for Jews to keep pigs (Lev. 11:7-8; Deut. 14:8).
- G. Those who kept the swine went throughout the country and the city telling everyone what had happened.
- H. A great change took place in the men who were now healed.
 1. He was sitting, not running wild and endangering himself or others.
 2. He was sitting at Jesus' feet, not in the tombs or the wilderness.
 3. He was clothed, not naked and wild.
 4. He was in his right mind.
 5. He was free, no longer bound in chains nor bound by the demons.
- I. When word spread of this miracle, many came to see Jesus and what He had done.
- J. Sadly, they were overwhelmed by fear and begged Him to go away from their land.
 1. What were they afraid of?
 2. Perhaps they feared further damage to their economy.
 3. Could it be that they would rather have their neighbors suffer than to lose their ill-gotten gain?
- K. Unlike the others, the man who was healed wanted to go with Jesus and remain close to Him.
- L. However, Jesus commanded him to teach his friends and neighbors about the good that Jesus had done.
 1. This man took his assignment seriously.
 2. Luke says that he published this good news throughout the whole city (8:39).
 3. Mark says that he heralded the word in Decapolis – a region of 10 cities.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Again, Jesus demonstrated His power and authority over the both the spirit-world and demonic forces.
- B. No matter how large the number of demons, they were all subject to the Christ.
- C. This proves that He is the Son of God.

III. The Message

- A. Man is in a miserable condition when he lives under the rule of Satan.
- B. Those who are controlled by Satan desire to flee from the presence of Jesus.
- C. There will be a time of judgment and torment.
- D. Those who serve Satan are entirely selfish.
- E. Meeting with Jesus will cause a transformation in one's thinking and action.
- F. Those who recognize what Jesus had done for them want to be with Him!
- G. Some must go and evangelize the world, but some must work to evangelize at home!
- H. Those who appreciate their salvation will tell others of the love of Jesus!
- I. Today, many people want Jesus to leave the borders of our cities and country.
 1. Just like then, if this is what we truly desire, He will leave!
 2. However, He left a witness behind to remind the people of His love.
- J. Jesus does not force Himself upon anyone. The choice is ours.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Eighteen

Raising the Daughter of Jairus from the Dead

Text: Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43; Luke 8:41-56

Introduction:

1. After Jesus was asked to leave the country of the Gadarenes, He and His disciples again crossed to the other side of the Sea of Galilee.
2. A great crowd was waiting for His return and quickly gathered to Him.
3. Following this, Jesus had a meal (probably in Matthew's house [Matt. 9:9-10]) and many of the multitude – publicans and sinners – dined with Him.
4. Of course, this upset the Pharisees; so, Jesus used it as an opportunity to teach (Matthew 9:11-17)
5. While here, He was approached by Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue.

I. The Miracle

A. The Plea

1. Jairus fell at the feet of Jesus, begging for the life of his daughter – his only daughter who was 12 years old and at the point of death.
2. He knew that if Jesus laid His hands on her, she would live.

B. The Response

1. Jesus arose and followed Jairus back to his house.
2. The disciples and a great crowd also went along.

C. The Delay

1. As Jesus walked, the crowd “thronged” Him, delaying His journey.
2. Also, a woman touched His garment in an attempt to be healed.
3. Jesus stopped the crowd to find out who had touched Him and why.
4. During this delay, word came that Jairus' daughter had died.

D. The Resurrection

1. Jesus said to Jairus, “Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole.”
2. Jesus, Peter, James, John and the girl's parents went into the house.
3. Jesus proclaimed that she was not dead, but only sleeping.
4. He took her by the hand and said, “Maid, arise.”
5. Immediately, her spirit returned to her and she arose from the dead.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Again, Jesus proved His deity by demonstrating His power over death.
- B. Jesus showed His compassion by answering the pleas of Jairus.

III. The Message

- A. Death comes for all – old and young, rich and poor.
- B. The mightiest are humbled when in dire need – facing sickness and death.
- C. Even in the darkest of times, there is light and hope in Christ.
- D. The power and importance of faith must not be underestimated.
- E. Death is only sleep, for there will be an awakening.
- F. The faithless will mock and ridicule those who believe and trust in God.
- G. The Good News must be shared – it cannot be kept to ourselves!
- H. Compare the faith of Jairus with the faith of the Centurion (cf. Matthew 8:5-13).

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Nineteen

Healing the Woman with an Issue of Blood

Text: Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:43-48

Introduction:

1. This miracle occurred as Jesus was on the way to raise Jairus' daughter from the dead.
2. As Jesus journeyed, He was thronged by a multitude that had followed Him since He returned from the land of the Gadarenes.
3. During such chaos, this woman came forth with a desire to be healed.

I. The Miracle

- A. This woman, who is not named, was plagued with an issue of blood.
 1. The idea of an issue of blood is a flowing or hemorrhaging.
 2. This was not only a physical danger, but it also made her unclean according to the Law of Moses (Leviticus 15:19-27).
 - a. Imagine not being able to touch another person for fear of making him or her unclean.
 - b. Perhaps this is why she only wanted to touch the hem of Jesus' garment.
 3. This was not a new condition, but one that had plagued her for 12 years.
 4. She had tried to be cured by doctors, but her condition had only worsened.
- B. She approached Jesus in faith.
 1. She approached Jesus from behind – not trying to be deceptive, but due to the shame brought about by her ailment and her own humility.
 2. She fought her way through the crowd to get to Jesus.
 3. She believed that by merely touching His clothes she would be healed.
- C. Upon touching the border of Jesus' garment, she was immediately healed.
- D. Jesus knew what had happened. This was not an "involuntary" miracle.
 1. He "knew what was in man" (John 2:24-25; 1:47-50).
 2. Jesus did not ask, "Who touched my clothes?" because He needed information.
 3. Instead, this was an opportunity to teach about true faith and about one's responsibilities when blessed by God.
 - a. One cannot hide from the Messiah.
 - b. Others were blessed to know of the miracle performed by Jesus.

II. The Manifestation

- A. This miracle demonstrated Jesus' power over "incurable" disease.
- B. It also proved His omniscient view of man's heart.
- C. It clearly shows His compassion for the sick and the suffering.

III. The Message

- A. Contrast the faith of this woman with the weaker faith of Jairus.
- B. She was healed by faith, but not by faith alone.
- C. She was cured only by that which was connected to Jesus. *{One garment was not as good as any other. It had to be Jesus' garment!}*
- D. What man views as a distraction is often what God uses as an opportunity.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty

Healing Three Men – Two Blind and One Mute

Text: Matthew 9:27-38

Introduction:

1. After healing the woman with the issue of blood and raising the daughter of Jairus from the dead, Jesus returned to the house (possibly Matthew's house [9:9-10]).
2. As He journeyed, He was approached by two blind men who sought to be healed.
3. As they departed, another man – possessed by a demon and unable to speak – was brought to Him for healing.
4. Thus, Jesus continued to do good for others at great sacrifice to Himself.

I. The Miracle

- A. Two blind men followed Jesus, crying for mercy.
 1. They overcame their own sense of hopelessness and helplessness.
 2. They overcame doubt, for they acknowledged Jesus as the Son of David.
 3. They overcame hindrances, for they followed Him into the house.
 4. They overcame discouragement, for they followed even when Jesus did not answer them.
 5. What if everyone desire *spiritual* sight as much as these men desired *physical* sight!
- B. Jesus asked them, "Do you believe I am able to do this?"
 1. This was another test of their faith.
 2. Their response was without hesitation or doubt, "Yes, Lord."
- C. Jesus touched their eyes and they were healed.
 1. They were healed according to their faith.
 2. They were healed completely and immediately.
- D. Even though Jesus commanded them not to make the miracle known, they spread abroad His fame in that region.
- E. The second miracle illustrates the contrast between the true faith of an honest heart and the prejudiced hatred of a hardened heart.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus confirmed the confession of the blind men – He is the Son of David.
- B. Jesus demonstrated His compassion toward those who suffer physically and spiritually.
- C. Jesus illustrated the necessity and power of faith.

III. The Message

- A. Compare the faith of Jairus, the woman with the issue of blood and these two blind men.
- B. Physical blindness typifies ignorance and spiritual darkness.
- C. God's Word is the source of spiritual light (Psalm 119:105; etc.).
- D. We are also blessed according to our faith...
 1. Salvation (Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16; 8:24; Hebrews 5:9; Mark 16:16; etc.)
 2. Service (2 Corinthians 5:7; 1 John 5:4-5; Mark 16:15; etc.)
- E. One cannot help but spread the good news of the Son of God.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-One

Feeding the Five Thousand Men

Text: Matthew 14:15-21; Mark 6:34-44; Luke 9:12-17; John 6:5-14

Introduction:

1. After performing the previous group of miracles, Jesus returned to His “own country” (Mark 6:1-6). {*Likely, this was Nazareth (Luke 4:16). This seems to be the last time Jesus is able to visit His hometown.*}
2. Following this, Jesus and His apostles preached throughout Galilee – with Him sending the apostles out in groups of two (Matthew 9:35 – 11:1; Mark 6:6-13; Luke 9:1-6).
3. As Jesus’ fame spread abroad, many differing opinions formed about Him.
4. Herod Antipas believe that He was John the Baptist, risen from the dead (Matthew 14:1-12; Mark 6:14-29; Luke 9:7-9).
5. Thus, Jesus begins the “first retirement” wherein He and His disciples leave the cities for a time of peace in deserted places.
6. However, a great crowd followed them and that led to the working of an amazing miracle.

I. The Miracle

- A. Jesus had compassion on the crowd; thus, He healed the sick and taught them of the kingdom of God (Luke 9:11).
- B. As day began to turn to evening, the people were in need of food.
 1. As the crowd approached, Jesus questioned Philip about feeding them (Jn. 6:5).
 2. The twelve suggested that Jesus send the crowd away to find food on their own.
 3. Instead, Jesus told His apostles to give them something to eat.
 4. When they questioned Him about the use of their money, He sent them into the crowd to what food they could find (Mark 6:37-38).
 5. Andrew informed Him of a lad who had five loaves and two small fishes (Jn. 6:9)
 6. Jesus asked for the food to be brought to Him (Matthew 14:18).
- C. After giving thanks for the food, Jesus distributed it to the apostles and they distributed it among the crowd.
- D. Everyone ate until they were full, and 12 baskets of “leftovers” were collected.

II. The Manifestation

- A. The creative power of Jesus proved His deity.
- B. The compassion of Jesus was demonstrated in several ways.
 1. For physical needs – *food, healing*
 2. For spiritual needs – *leadership, teaching, salvation*

III. The Message

- A. There is never a reason to depart from Jesus, for He can supply all our needs.
- B. What is small or insignificant to man can accomplish much when we allow the Lord to have and use it.
- C. The way that Jesus provided food to the crowd is the way He would provide truth (spiritual food) to the church – through the Apostles in an orderly fashion.
- D. If Jesus was thankful for His food, shouldn’t we be (cf. 1 Timothy 4:3-5).
- E. Jesus was not wasteful of God’s blessings, neither should we be.
- F. Those who come to Jesus will be satisfied (cf. Psalm 23 – *green pastures*).

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-Two

Walking on the Water

Text: Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52; John 6:14-21

Introduction:

1. As Jesus and His apostles preached throughout Galilee, more and more people began to reject Him and to turn against Him.
2. Thus, Jesus attempted to withdraw from the crowd to a degree; but, multitudes continued to follow Him.
3. After miraculously feeding a multitude of about 5,000 men, Jesus commanded His apostles to sail across the Sea of Galilee to Bethsaida without Him.
4. Alone, He went up into a mountain to pray and stayed there until evening.
5. John informs us that He did this because the people wanted to take Him by force and make Him their king (John 6:15).
6. After spending the night in prayer, Jesus approached His disciples in an amazing manner...

I. The Miracle

- A. As the disciples sailed on the sea, they were caught in the middle by contrary winds.
 1. The “sea arose” due to these strong winds, causing great waves and danger (John 6:18 – literally, the sea was awakening).
 2. In Jewish reckoning, 7 ½ furlongs was about 1 mile.
 3. The Sea of Galilee is less than 10 miles across at its widest point (usually about 6 miles or 40 furlongs).
 4. So, they were literally stuck in the middle of the sea, even though the disciples were “toiling in rowing” (Mark 6:47-48).
- B. In the fourth watch of the night, Jesus came to them walking on the sea.
 1. The Jews divided the night into three watches of four hours each.
 2. The Romans divided the night into four watches of three hours each.
 3. Thus, the fourth watch was between 3:00 and 6:00 a.m. (cf. Mark 13:35).
 4. Mark says that He “would have passed by them,” but this does not mean that Jesus would have neglected their needs (cf. Luke 24:28).
- C. Jesus was not walking on the shore, but on the water itself!
- D. Thus, when the apostles saw Him they thought He was a ghost and were afraid.
- E. Jesus removed their fear by speaking to them and assuring them of His identity.
- F. With characteristic boldness, Peter asked to walk on the water also.
- G. Immediately upon Jesus’ entering into the ship, the wind ceased and they found themselves at their destination (John 6:21).
- H. The apostles recognized His deity (Matthew 14:33), but they were slow to understand what this truly meant (Mark 6:51-52).

II. The Manifestation

- A. Again, Jesus demonstrated His deity by proving His power over nature.
- B. He also manifested great care and compassion for His disciples.
- C. He showed patience toward them in His teaching and discipline.
- D. He proved the spiritual nature of His kingdom by walking on the water to escape the multitude.

III. The Message

A. Jesus gives His followers peace.

1. Sometime after three o'clock in the morning, the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water!
2. Because it is impossible for a man to walk on water (without God), the disciples assumed that they were seeing a ghost.
3. But, Jesus spoke and removed all superstitions and fears.
4. His words brought peace to the troubled minds of His disciples.

B. Jesus gives His followers purpose.

1. When Peter understood that Jesus was present, he was moved to great boldness.
2. Peter said, "Bid me come unto thee on the water."
3. Jesus' answer provided Peter with a work to do, a task to accomplish and a purpose for his life.
4. So, Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water!
5. Notice that Peter walked on the water "to go to Jesus."
6. However, he was soon overtaken by fear.
7. Peter began to imagine that the power of the storm was greater than the power of the Savior.
8. Peter neglected his purpose – to get to Jesus – and, instead, became focused on himself and the world.

C. Jesus gives His followers protection.

1. When Peter cried out, "Lord, save me," Jesus responded immediately.
2. Jesus had been already protecting Peter from the storm.
3. He protected Peter by allowing him to walk on the water.
4. Now, He provides protection for Peter by pulling him back to safety.
5. Jesus also protected Peter by telling him the reason why he had gotten into trouble in the first place.
6. The final protection Jesus provided was His miraculous calming of the storm.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-Three

Healing the Sick of Gennesaret

Text: Matthew 14:34-36; Mark 6:53-56

Introduction:

1. In recent lessons, it has been noted how more people began to reject and turn against Jesus.
2. Also, Jesus attempted to withdraw from the crowd to a degree for several reasons.
3. In spite of this, Jesus continued to perform mighty miracles as He preached the Gospel. {*These included feeding the 5,000 men and walking on the water.*}
4. After Jesus and Peter got into the boat with the other apostles, they immediately were transported to their destination – the land of Gennesaret.
5. The events that occur in this setting would result in a great division among those who followed Jesus.

I. The Miracle

- A. When Jesus arrived in Gennesaret, it would have been nearing the time of sunrise.
 1. Gennesaret is the name of the region on the northwestern side of the Sea of Galilee that included cities like Capernaum.
 2. The Sea of Galilee was also known as Lake Gennesaret (cf. Luke 5:1).
 3. It is interesting that Capernaum is not mentioned in this text.
- B. When the group exited the boat, the people recognized Jesus.
- C. Thus, they began to gather the sick from the region and to bring them to Jesus.
- D. They only requested that they might touch the border of His garment and be healed.
- E. Mark says that “as many as touched Him were made whole.”

II. The Manifestation

- A. Again, Jesus proves His deity by His power over sickness and disease.
- B. He also shows His compassion for those who are in need.

III. The Message

- A. Before they could be healed, they had to learn of and come to Jesus.
- B. Those who know the truth must tell those who do not know.
- C. True healing comes only through those things connected with Jesus.
- D. In spite of all the miracles He performed, Jesus was concerned more with spiritual healing.
 1. John 6:22-36 – Contrast of physical with spiritual
 2. John 6:37-66 – Jesus rejected due to his “hard sayings”
 3. John 6:67-71 – Rejection even among the apostles
 4. Matthew 15:1-20 – The Pharisees are offended and angered (Mk. 7:1-23)
 5. John 7:1 – The Jews desire His death
- E. May we learn the true purpose of miracles and recognize our dependence upon the Word of God.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-Four

Healing the Daughter of the Syrophenician Woman

Text: Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30

Introduction:

1. In our last lesson, we saw how many turned away from Jesus and stopped following Him.
2. We also learned how the Pharisees were angered by His doctrine and desired to kill Him.
3. Following these events, Jesus and His apostles traveled north into the land of Tyre and Sidon.
4. Yet, even in the country of the Gentiles, Jesus continued to perform miracles and preach the Gospel.

I. The Miracle

- A. Jesus sought to escape the publicity of the crowd, for it was not yet time for His death.
- B. However, a woman heard of His presence and sought Him out.
 1. She was a Greek, meaning not a Jew – a Gentile.
 2. She was born in the Phoenician part of Syria; thus, she was also a Canaanite.
 3. There is an interesting connection to the story of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath, a city in Sidon, another Syrophenician woman (1 Kings 17:8-24; cf. Luke 4:24-30).
- C. She asked Jesus to heal her daughter who was troubled by a demon.
- D. Jesus' response to her served both as a test of her faith and a lesson to His disciples.
 1. First, He did not answer her at all.
 2. When the disciples complained about her, Jesus reminded them that he was sent to the "house of Israel."
 - a. They wanted Jesus to "send her away."
 - b. Jesus' words would test her faith, but they would also illustrate the prejudice of His disciples.
 3. Yet, she continued to worship Him and cry out, "Lord, help me."
 4. So, Jesus reminded her that one does not give a child's food to the pet dog.
 - a. The Jews felt that their covenant with God made them better than everyone else. *{They thought that they alone were His children.}*
 - b. Thus, in their thinking, the Gentiles were no better than dogs.
 5. With great wisdom, she replied that even the dogs receive the crumbs that fall from the table.
 6. Her words demonstrated great faith and humility.
- E. Jesus merely spoke and the demon was cast out of her daughter and she was made whole.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus proved His great power and compassion.
- B. He also demonstrated the importance of God's plan – the fullness of the time (Gal. 4:4).

III. The Message

- A. God loves all men – Jew and Gentile!
- B. True faith requires persistence and perseverance.
- C. As sinners, we must acknowledge our worthlessness when compared to Jesus.
- D. Yet, we must not forget the great love and mercy of God!
- E. Contrast her persistent pleading with the easily offended attitude of the Pharisees.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-Five

Healing a Man both Deaf and Mute

Text: Mark 7:31-37

Introduction:

1. After traveling through Tyre and Sidon, Jesus and His disciples made their way back to the Sea of Galilee and the surrounding areas.
2. When they left, there was great division and anger among many of Jesus' followers and among the Pharisees.
3. Thus, when Jesus returned to Galilee, He traveled to the region of Decapolis.
 - a. Decapolis literally means, "ten cities." {*One of the ten was Gadara (cf. Mark 5).*}
 - b. It was located on the southeastern side of the Sea of Galilee.
 - c. Thus, it was across (on the east of) the Jordan River and in the country of the Gentiles.
4. So, Jesus is still avoiding the Jewish crowds who lately turned against Him.
5. Yet, He continues to work miracles and preach the Gospel.

I. The Miracle

- A. According to Matthew, this was only one of many miracles Jesus performed here (Matthew 15:29-31).
- B. A man was brought to Jesus who was deaf and unable to speak properly.
 1. Mark says he had "an impediment in his speech."
 2. Literally, he was "hardly talking," "tongue tied," or "speaking with difficulty."
- C. Their desire was for Jesus to "put His hand upon him."
 1. For whatever reason, their attention was focused on the outward action.
 2. Some suggest that this was due to the superstition of the people who were given to the practice of magic and other forms of trickery.
- D. In spite of their curiosity, Jesus took him away from the crowd.
- E. Jesus healed this man in what seems to be an unusual manner.
 1. Yet, Jesus' actions were probably a means of communicating with the deaf man about what was going to occur.
 2. Notice that Jesus' touching his ears or tongue did not heal the man. {*This is important to remember in healing where someone touched Jesus' clothes.*}
 3. It was the power of His word that opened his ears and loosed his tongue.
- F. Following this miracle, the people began to spread the word about Jesus' power.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus showed His deity while also demonstrating His submission to the Father.
- B. Each action of this miracle manifests the comforting compassion of the Savior.

III. The Message

- A. Jesus did not perform magic tricks to entertain a crowd – He healed the sick.
- B. Jesus helped all men, including the Gentiles and pagans.
- C. "Some of the most effective service rendered is in private."
- D. Jesus does "all things well."

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-Six

Feeding of Four Thousand Men

Text: Matthew 15:32-39; Mark 8:1-9

Introduction:

1. While Jesus was in Decapolis, many were brought to Him to be healed.
2. Keep in mind that this region was in the country of the Gentiles across the Jordan River.
3. This crowd was more receptive than the Jews had become, for they came from great distances and stayed with Jesus for three days.
4. So, Jesus again performed a marvelous miracle before the multitude.

I. The Miracle

- A. The crowd that was with Jesus had no food to eat, so He would not send them home without feeding them.
- B. The disciples replied that it was not possible for a man to find enough bread in the wilderness to feed the multitude.
 1. They were right – it was impossible for mere men.
 2. However, it was not impossible for God.
 3. How sad it is to think of the possibility that the disciples had already forgotten about the miraculous feeding of the five thousand.
- C. They had only seven loaves and a few little fishes for food.
- D. Yet, Jesus used that small offering to feed the entire multitude.
 1. He commanded the crowd to sit down.
 2. He gave thanks for the food and then divided it among the apostles.
 3. In turn, they distributed it to the multitude.
 4. After everyone had eaten until they were filled, seven baskets were filled with the remains.
- E. In all, about 4,000 men were fed – not counting the women and children.

II. The Manifestation

- A. As in the previous miracle of feeding a multitude, Jesus proved His deity by creation.
- B. He also demonstrated great compassion toward the needs of man.

III. The Message

- A. Jesus is the bread of life.
- B. Repetition is the key to learning, for men often forget.
- C. Consider the events following this miracle...
 1. Jesus sent the crowd away and traveled to Dalmanutha in Magdala.
 2. The Pharisees and the Sadducees desired a sign from Heaven (Matt. 16:1-4).
 3. Jesus departs for the other side of the Sea, north toward Bethsaida.
 4. On the way, the disciples learn that they forgot to bring food for their trip.
 5. So, when Jesus warned them to “beware of the leaven of the Pharisees,” they thought He was talking about literal leaven and bread.
 6. Jesus reprimanded them for their lack of understanding – He was speaking of the doctrine of the Pharisees.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-Seven

Healing the Blind Man at Bethsaida

Text: Mark 8:22-26

Introduction:

1. Due to division among the Jews, Jesus continued to remain on the eastern side of the Jordan River, in Gentile territory.
2. After He feed the 4,000 men, Jesus used that miracle to teach an important lesson to His disciples (Mark 8:14-21).
3. This lesson was taught while they were traveling toward Bethsaida – on the north coast of the Sea of Galilee.
4. Upon arriving there, Jesus performed another marvelous miracle.

I. The Miracle

- A. Jesus had worked many miracles in Bethsaida, but the people refused to repent (Matthew 11:21-24).
- B. Upon His return to the city, they brought a blind man to Him to be healed.
- C. In order to heal him, Jesus led the man out of the town.
 1. This is similar to His healing of the deaf man (Lesson 24).
 2. The town's rejection of Jesus might be part of the reason for this (cf. Mt. 25:27).
- D. Then, He spit on his eyes and put His hands upon him – and the blind man was healed.
- E. This miracle is presented as two healings to emphasize the power and wisdom of the Son of God.
 1. Some claim that Jesus did not heal this man perfectly at first, so He had to try again.
 2. Nothing could be farther from the truth!
- F. First, Jesus healed this man's vision.
 1. Notice that the blind man's eyesight was perfectly restored.
 2. He was blind, but now he could see – period.
- G. Second, Jesus healed this man's perception.
 1. The ability to see is more than just a function of the eyes.
 2. One who has his sight restored must also have his mind taught to understand what he now can see.
 3. He could see perfectly, but did not comprehend what he was seeing.
 4. Thus, Jesus performed a second miracle on his mind so that he could see *clearly*.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Of course, Jesus proved His power and His deity.
- B. He also demonstrated great wisdom and understanding of man both physically and intellectually.

III. The Message

- A. Carefully consider this miracle of seeing but not perceiving in the context of the misunderstandings of the disciples.
- B. The great message of this miracle is the importance of seeing things in focus.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-Eight

The Transfiguration of Jesus

Text: Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:2-13; Luke 9:28-36

Introduction:

1. Jesus and His apostles traveled north to the region of Caesarea Philippi – still in Gentile country.
2. Here, Peter confessed the deity of Christ and Jesus informed His apostles about the building of His church (Matthew 16:13-20).
3. He also began instructing them that God’s plan would involve His death (Matthew 16:21-28).
4. These ideas all come together in an amazing miracle witnessed by Peter, James and John – the transfiguration of Jesus.

I. The Miracle

- A. Jesus took Peter, James and John aside from the other apostles and they went up onto a high mountain.
 1. This is the second time these three have been separated from the other to witness an important work of the Savior.
 2. The “high mountain” is possibly Mount Hermon near the city of Caesarea.
 3. However, it also seems that Jesus was back in Galilee when this event transpired.
- B. This miracle is unique for it seems to have been done to Jesus rather than by Him.
 1. Jesus went into the mountain to pray.
 2. While He was praying, the transfiguration occurred.
- C. The miracle was marvelous in its appearance.
 1. His face shone like the sun.
 2. His clothing became pure white and began to shine.
 3. Moses and Elijah appeared and talked with Jesus about his approaching death.
 4. They were overshadowed by a bright cloud from which God spoke.
- D. Just as quickly as it had begun, the miracle ended and Jesus was left alone with the three.

II. The Manifestation

- A. This miracle manifested the deity of Jesus, which Peter had recently confessed.
- B. This miracle showed the glory of Jesus (cf. John 1:14; 2 Peter 1:17-18).
- C. This miracle demonstrated the authority of Jesus.
- D. This miracle confirmed the coming death and resurrection of Jesus.

III. The Message

- A. There is life beyond the grave!
 1. This was an encouragement to Jesus as He would soon face Calvary.
 2. It was an encouragement to the apostles that death is not defeat.
- B. Even though the multitude was turning away from Jesus, God was “well pleased” with Him.
- C. The Gospel of Christ superceded the Old Testament Law and Prophets.
- D. We must hear Jesus!

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-Nine

Casting a Demon out of a Lunatic Boy

Text: Matthew 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-29; Luke 9:37-45

Introduction:

1. As Jesus came down from the Mountain of Transfiguration with Peter, James and John, they asked Him about the coming of Elijah.
2. Upon reaching the multitude, they noticed the scribes questioning the other apostles. {*This seems to indicate that they were back in the region of Galilee.*}
3. Thus, Jesus was presented with a child who was tormented by a demon.

I. The Miracle

- A. The man's son suffered terribly at the hands of this demon.
 1. His father was greatly distressed for this was his only child.
 2. Notice that the demon is referred to as a "spirit."
 3. It rendered the child both deaf and dumb (Mark 9:17, 25).
 4. It would take hold of or seize him. {*We get the word "catalepsy" from this Greek word. It seems to indicate something similar to epilepsy.*}
 5. He would suddenly cry out as the demon tore him – literally, to hurl to the ground, break, or cause convulsions (cf. Mark 9:20).
 6. It would cause him to foam at the mouth, grind his teeth and leave him bruised and dried up or withering away (desiccated).
 7. Since he was a child, this demon had tormented him by causing him to fall into the fire or into the water.
 8. In Matthew's account, his father says that he is a lunatic.
 - a. This word literally means, "moonstruck."
 - b. Then, it was believed that epilepsy was affected by the moon's phases.
 - c. This word can also refer to insanity or feeble-mindedness.
- B. Jesus' disciples could not cast the demon out of this child.
 1. This presented an opportunity for some to doubt the power and authority of Jesus
 2. It provided the scribes with ammunition to use in their attacks on Jesus.
 3. Remember, the apostles had been given power to cast out demons (Matthew 10:1; Mark 6:7, 13; cf. Luke 10:17-20).
 4. Here, they were hindered by a lack of faith (Matthew 17:20; Heb. 3:19; 12:1).
 5. They were also lacking in true dedication (Matthew 17:21).
- C. After rebuking the crowd, Jesus rebuked the demon and the child was healed.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus proved His power remains, even when His followers fail.
- B. Thus, He showed His deity and authority over demonic powers.

III. The Message

- A. Consider the contrast from the Mount of Transfiguration to the valley of demonic power.
- B. Our faith must grow continually! (Cf. Matthew 13:31-32; 1 Corinthians 13:2)
- C. When we fail, we should seek to learn the reason why.
- D. There is a need for sacrificial devotion to the Lord and His Way.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirty

Finding a Coin in the Mouth of a Fish

Text: Matthew 17:24-27

Introduction:

1. Continue to notice that Jesus emphasizes His coming death throughout this chapter (vs. 22-23).
2. For the first time in a long time, Jesus and His disciples returned to Capernaum.
3. Here, Peter was challenged with an interesting question about his master, Jesus.

I. The Miracle

- A. Peter was questioned as to whether or not Jesus paid taxes.
 1. The tax in question was the Temple tax (Exodus 30:11-16).
 2. This was not a tax paid to Rome; rather, it was for the upkeep of the Temple.
 3. The amount was a half-shekel – equal to two days' wages.
- B. Thus, he was presented with a dilemma – since Jesus is the Son of God, did He have to pay the temple tax?
- C. Jesus anticipated Peter's predicament and asked him about the nature of taxes.
 1. Notice that Jesus *prevented* (literally, anticipated or preceded) Peter in speaking.
 2. This was a demonstration of miraculous knowledge in itself.
 3. He asked, "Do kings tax their own children or strangers?"
 4. Of course, their children do not have to pay taxes.
 5. Thus, Jesus – as the Son of God – had divine authority to excuse Himself from the temple tax.
 6. However, if He did not pay the tax He would not be in submission – as a man – to the earthly authority of the Law of Moses.
 7. So, to keep from causing someone to stumble, Jesus paid the tax.
- D. By miraculously providing the money, Jesus again proved His authority and divinity.
 1. Some deny that this miracle ever occurred.
 2. However, it was a miracle of foreknowledge and provision. {Remember Jonah!}
 3. Or, it could have been a miracle of creation, if Jesus placed the coin in the fish's mouth.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Of course, Jesus again proved His power and deity.
- B. This miracle also emphasizes the true nature of Jesus and how it should not be forgotten.

III. The Message

- A. Jesus willingly submitted Himself to the laws of God, and so should we.
- B. Jesus lived in such a way as to cause no one to stumble, and so should we (cf. 1 Cor. 6:1-6; 8:13; Rom. 14:3, 21; etc.).
- C. God provides for the needs of His followers.
- D. Christians should be the best citizens (Romans 13:1-2; Titus 3:1; 1 Peter 2:13-18).

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirty-One

Giving Sight to a Man Blind from Birth

Text: John 9

Introduction:

1. As the time of His death grows closer, Jesus leads His disciples back to Judah.
2. Instead of making a grand public entrance, Jesus traveled privately through Samaria to Jerusalem at the time of the feast (John 7:2-10; Luke 9:51-56).
3. Upon arriving, Jesus publicly confronted the rumors about Him and the hypocrisy of the Pharisees.
4. By healing a man who was blind from his birth, Jesus demonstrated both the truth He taught and the deceptiveness of the Pharisees.

I. The Miracle

- A. Jesus met a man who had been born blind.
 1. This affliction was not due to the sins of this man or his parents (cf. Luke 13:4).
 2. Instead, it was an opportunity for the glory of God to be made known.
- B. The details of this man's healing are more elaborate than most other miracles.
 1. First, Jesus made clay by spitting on the ground (cf. Mark 7:33; 8:23).
 2. Then, He anointed the blind man's eyes with the clay.
 3. Finally, He commanded him to go and wash in the pool of Siloam.
 4. None of these things was medicinal, but served to test the faith of the blind man and the sincerity of the Pharisees.
- C. When the blind man obeyed, he was healed and returned seeing!

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus proved that He is the light of the world. {*What He could do physically, He also could do spiritually.*}
- B. Jesus proved His deity and, therefore, His authority.
- C. Jesus demonstrated true compassion for the needs of man in contrast to the hypocritical, self-serving religion of the Pharisees.
- D. Jesus manifested Himself as Savior of the world.

III. The Message

- A. Not all afflictions are the result of personal sin.
- B. We must learn to use our sufferings as a means of glorifying God.
- C. We must work while it is day, for night is coming for us all (Hebrews 9:27).
- D. There is water in God's plan of healing (cf. Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; etc.)!
- E. We should always tell the simple truth about how to receive the blessings of God.
- F. "How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles?"
- G. We must not let fear of man cause us to deny Jesus (cf. John 7:13; 12:42-43; 19:38; Matt. 10:32-33; Psalm 27:1; Luke 12:4-9; 22:56-61).
- H. Jesus will receive those who are cast out by man.
- I. Those who believe must worship (cf. John 4:24).
- J. *There is none so blind as he who will not see.*

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirty-Two

Healing a Woman with an Infirmity

Text: Luke 13:10-17

Introduction:

1. By healing a blind man, Jesus proved both His deity and the Pharisees' hypocrisy.
2. Following this miracle, Jesus further demonstrated the differences between Himself and the Jewish leaders by teaching about the Good Shepherd (John 10:1-21).
3. It seems that it was in this area that Jesus sent out 70 disciples to preach, taught the parable of the Good Samaritan and visited the home of Mary and Martha (Luke 10).
4. After more teaching (Luke 11:1 – 13:9), Jesus performed another miracle on the Sabbath.

I. The Miracle

- A. This miracle occurred in the synagogue on the Sabbath Day.
 1. Note where Jesus was and what He was doing on the Sabbath. {*What if one chose that day to forsake the assembly?*}
 2. Note where the infirm woman was on the Sabbath. {*What if she had chosen that day to forsake the assembly?*}
- B. In the synagogue was a woman with a serious infirmity.
 1. She was bent over (nearly double) and unable to straighten her back.
 2. This was caused by a spirit, or demon.
 3. She had endured this affliction for 18 years.
- C. Jesus called her to Him, spoke to her and laid His hand upon her.
- D. Immediately, she was healed and "made straight."
- E. Her healing caused three reactions...
 1. She glorified God.
 2. The people rejoiced.
 3. The ruler of the synagogue was filled with anger.
 - a. Jesus rebuked him for his hypocrisy.
 - b. Jesus rebuked him for his lack of compassion.
 - c. Jesus shamed him simply by doing good and speaking truth.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Again, Jesus proved His power and authority.
- B. Again, He demonstrated great compassion and love.
- C. Yet, He also showed why they should hear and obey Him rather than the Jewish leaders.

III. The Message

- A. Consider the confrontational nature of the miracles Jesus performed.
- B. In the text, this miracle was not solicited – though it may have been an answer to prayer.
- C. Many try to hide their sinful attitudes under a cloak of piety or 'holiness.'
- D. Those in error are usually highly inconsistent.
- E. All adversaries of Jesus will be ashamed on the Day of Judgment.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirty-Three

Healing a Man with Dropsy

Text: Luke 14:1-6

Introduction:

1. After arriving in Judah and confronting the religious leaders of His day, Jesus was asked by the Jews if He was the Messiah (John 10:22-24).
2. Following His reply, the Jews sought to take and stone Him (John 10:25-39).
3. Thus, Jesus and His disciples traveled across the Jordan River into the land of Perea (John 10:40-42).
4. In Perea, Jesus taught in the towns and villages and wept over Jerusalem (Luke 13:22-35).
5. Again, in confrontation with the Pharisees, Jesus healed on the Sabbath Day.

I. The Miracle

- A. Jesus healed a man who had dropsy.
 1. Dropsy is a disease that causes the accumulation of water in different parts of the body.
 2. It is a condition that is quite uncomfortable and often very painful.
- B. The details of the performance of this miracle are important.
 1. Jesus was in the house of one of the chief Pharisees to partake of a meal.
 - a. This man was a chief Pharisee, meaning that he was a member of the Sanhedrin.
 - b. Apparently, Jesus had been invited to dine with him (cf. 14:12).
 2. It was the Sabbath Day.
 3. Jesus was being watched closely by the Pharisees.
 - a. This word means “to observe carefully, to watch closely.”
 - b. However, it also carries with it the idea of “watching from the side or on the sly.”
 - c. In other words, they watched for some way to entrap Jesus.
- C. By this miracle, Jesus challenged their false beliefs and hypocrisy concerning the Sabbath.
 1. They taught that it was permissible to help or save a common animal on the Sabbath Day.
 2. Yet, they wanted to accuse Jesus of sin for helping a man on the Sabbath.
- D. After the miracle and simple question of Jesus, they were unable to dispute with Him.
- E. Thus, He began to teach important lessons about who would be allowed to feast in the Kingdom of the Messiah (Luke 14:7-24).

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus proved His deity, power and authority.
- B. He also proved that His doctrine is true – and the Pharisees taught error.

III. The Message

- A. Just like Jesus, Christians are being watched (cf. 2 Corinthians 3:2).
- B. Yet, Jesus would not allow His good works to be hindered by enemies and critics.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirty-Four

Raising Lazarus from the Dead

Text: John 11

Introduction:

1. After healing a man with dropsy, Jesus taught the Jews about those who would enter into the Kingdom of the Messiah (Luke 14:1-24).
2. Then, He emphasized to the multitude the importance of counting the cost when choosing to follow Him (Luke 14:25-35).
3. When He began to teach even the publicans and sinners, the scribes and Pharisees complained.
4. Jesus answered them with three parables illustrating God's love for (and their hatred of) the lost (Luke 15).
5. He continued to teach both the disciples and the Pharisees (Luke 16:1 – 17:10) until word came to Him that Lazarus of Bethany was sick.

I. The Miracle

- A. The delay of the miracle (John 11:1-13)
 1. Bethany was located on the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives, about two miles from Jerusalem.
 2. However, at the time of Lazarus' sickness, it seems that Jesus was still in Perea – probably about 20 - 30 miles away.
 3. However, it was not the distance that caused Jesus to arrive after Lazarus' death.
 4. Instead, He knew that this event would serve to glorify the Son of God.
 - a. He also knew that Lazarus' sickness was "not unto death."
 - b. This did not mean that Lazarus would not die, but that he would not be held under the power of death.
 - c. Thus, Jesus waited for two days before going into Judea.
 5. It is important to remember that Jesus loved Mary, Martha and Lazarus – in spite of how things might have appeared to them (cf. 11:21).
 6. Even though many of the Jews in Judea desired to kill Jesus, He did not allow their threats to stop Him from manifesting His power and revealing His identity.
 7. Jesus would go to Bethany and raise Lazarus from the dead.
- B. The details of the miracle (John 11:14-44)
 1. Lazarus died.
 - a. In Jewish tradition, the body was prepared on the day of one's death.
 - b. There were many witnesses to his death and burial.
 - c. Lazarus had lain in the tomb for four days.
 - d. The decay of the body had begun for they expected him to stink.
 - e. He wore grave clothes and his face was bound with a napkin.
 2. The purpose of the miracle was to create faith in the witnesses.
 - a. Jesus raised Jairus' daughter while her body was still in her father's house (Mark 5:35-43).
 - b. Jesus raised the widow's son while his body was being carried to the place of burying (Luke 7:11-17).
 3. Jesus challenged Martha's frustration with Truth – He is the Messiah.
 4. Jesus groaned in the spirit and wept.

- a. It is comforting to know that our Lord understands our sorrows.
 - b. However, Jesus may have been weeping for Lazarus who was to be called out of Paradise and back into a world of temptation and suffering.
 - 5. Jesus came to the grave, commanded the stone to be removed, prayed to the Father and then cried out, "Lazarus, come forth."
 - 6. Thus, Lazarus was resurrected from the dead.
 - a. Not for his sake
 - b. Not for his sisters' comfort
 - c. But, for the glory of God and His only-begotten Son
- C. The discussion of the miracle (John 11:45-57)
 - 1. Many believed on Jesus because of this miracle.
 - 2. But, the chief priests and Pharisees held a council to decide what to do to Jesus to stop His good works and hinder His popularity.
 - 3. The result of their meeting was a plot to kill Jesus.
 - 4. Soon thereafter, they plotted also to kill Lazarus (John 12:1-11).

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus demonstrated His great power.
 - 1. Mary and Martha were convinced of Jesus' power to heal the sick.
 - 2. However, they seemed to think it took more power to raise the dead.
- B. Jesus showed compassion and love.
- C. Jesus proved His deity – He is the resurrection and the life.

III. The Message

- A. Sickness and death come upon all – even the faithful.
- B. Even when prayers seem to go unanswered, God can still be glorified.
- C. Just because bad things may happen to us does not mean that God does not love us.
- D. God operates by His timetable and for His purposes, not ours (cf. Psalm 73:12, 17-19; 2 Peter 3:4-9).
- E. One's religion must not be practiced in secret – even in the face of persecution.
- F. Death is sleep for the child of God (cf. Acts 7:60; 1 Thes. 4:13; 1 Cor. 15:42-44).
- G. Followers of Christ must be willing to die for their Lord.
- H. Jesus groaned and wept over death for God is not willing that any should perish (2 Pet. 3:9).
- I. Consider the power of the word of Christ.
- J. There is coming a day when the word of Christ will raise all from the grave (John 5:28-29; 1 Corinthians 15; 1 Thessalonians 4:13ff).
- K. It is sad that the dead will hear and obey the will of Christ while the living rebel and disobey the Word of God.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirty-Five

Cleansing Ten Lepers

Text: Luke 17:11-19

Introduction:

1. After raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus was not able to walk openly among the Jews in Judah for they sought to kill Him (John 11:54).
2. So, He traveled to a village called Ephraim that was located near the wilderness.
3. The exact location of this town is unknown, but it was away from the populated areas of Judah.
4. When the time for the Passover drew near, Jesus began to journey toward Jerusalem – seemingly falling in with the migrating crowds (John 11:55; Luke 17:11).
5. As he traveled, Jesus passed between (or, along the borders of) Galilee and Samaria, where He was met by ten lepers.

I. The Miracle

- A. Some reminders about the disease of leprosy
 1. It was painful, disfiguring and deadly.
 2. It was contagious and, therefore, isolating.
 3. It was incurable by man.
- B. As Jesus came into a village, ten lepers cried out to Him for mercy.
- C. Jesus commanded them to go and show themselves to the priests.
 1. This was demanded by the Law of Moses (Leviticus 14:1-10).
 2. However, it was not the priests that healed them, for they were cleansed “as they went.”
- D. In spite of the fact that all ten lepers were healed, only one turned back and glorified God by expressing thanks.
 1. The nine were representative of the ingratitude of the Jews generally – and the Pharisees especially.
 2. It is significant that the one thankful leper was a Samaritan, a stranger.
- E. Jesus told this Samaritan that it was his faith that had made him whole.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus demonstrated power over terrible disease.
- B. He also proved His deity by receiving the Samaritan’s thanks.

III. The Message

- A. Leprosy is a type of sin (Leviticus 13:45-46; Numbers 5:2-3; Matthew 25:41).
- B. All men are dependent upon the mercy of God.
- C. Obedience is required in order to receive the promised blessings of God.
- D. When a prayer for mercy is answered, a prayer of thanksgiving should be offered.
- E. Too many pray when in need, but forget God when they are blessed.
- F. Humility was key to this miracle – in asking for mercy, in obeying the Lord, and in giving thanks.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirty-Six

Healing Blind Men Near Jericho

Text: Matthew 20:29-34; Mark 10:46-52; Luke 18:35-43

Introduction:

1. As Jesus continued traveling toward Jerusalem, he taught the crowds around Him many important lessons.
 - a. The importance of prayer (Luke 18:1-14)
 - b. Marriage and divorce (Matthew 19:1-12; Mark 10:1-12)
 - c. Riches and sacrifice (Matthew 19:13-20; Mark 10:13-31; Luke 18:15-30)
2. He also emphasized to His disciples what was about to happen in Jerusalem – that He would be betrayed, condemned, killed and raised from the dead (Matthew 20:17-28; Mark 10:32-45; Luke 18:31-34).
3. In that same context, Jesus reprimanded James and John and warned them that they would suffer also as followers of Him.
4. Following this, Jesus came to the city of Jericho where He was approached by two blind men.

I. The Miracle

- A. This miracle was performed near the city of Jericho.
 1. While Luke's account seems to indicate that this miracle happened as they came into the city, Matthew and Mark say that it was as they left Jericho.
 2. However, there is no contradiction here.
 3. Luke simply states that they had "come nigh unto Jericho," which could happen either going or coming.
 4. Also, old Jericho was located very close to new Jericho (cf. Joshua 6:20-21, 26; 1 Kings 16:34; Luke 10:30).
- B. This miracle was performed on two men.
 1. While Mark and Luke mention only one man, Matthew tells us there were two.
 2. This is no contradiction; rather, it is supplementation.
 3. Mark tells us that one of the men was named Bartimaeus (meaning, the son of Timaeus or, possibly, son of honor), indicating that he was known in the area.
- C. This miracle was performed out of compassion.
 1. Bartimaeus was blind.
 2. Bartimaeus begged.
 3. Bartimaeus beseeched.
 4. Bartimaeus was brave.
 5. Bartimaeus benefited.
- D. This miracle was performed upon demonstration of faith.
 1. The city of Jericho was a powerful reminder of victory through faith.
 2. Yet, it also demonstrated that faith demands obedience (Hebrews 11:30-31; James 2:25).
 3. Bartimaeus had a faith that inquired (Luke 18:35-36).
 4. Bartimaeus had a faith that acted with persistence.
 5. Bartimaeus had a faith that followed in humility.
- E. This miracle was performed in the shadow of the cross.
 1. In spite of what He was facing, Jesus still had time to help others.

2. His burden did not override His compassion or His service.

II. The Manifestation

- A. This miracle proved the power of Jesus as the Son of God.
- B. It also demonstrated His compassion toward those in desperate need.

III. The Message

- A. This miracle demonstrates the grace of God and man's need for it – blind and helpless.
- B. Persistence will give critics an opportunity to praise God.
- C. In order to come to Jesus, we must cast aside anything that hinders us (cf. Heb. 12:1-4).
- D. Healing must lead to following – especially spiritual healing.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirty-Seven

Cursing the Fig Tree

Text: Matthew 21:18-21; Mark 11:12-24

Introduction:

1. After healing the blind men near Jericho, Jesus made an important stop at the house of Zacchaeus, where He taught several significant lessons (Luke 19:1-27).
2. Afterward, He set out for Jerusalem, passing through Bethany (Luke 19:28; John 11:55 – 12:11).
3. On the next day, Jesus entered Jerusalem and was received with great ceremony by the people (Matthew 21:1-17; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-44; John 12:12-19).
4. This event – Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem – must be discussed to understand properly the miracle that followed.
 - a. This event was planned (Matthew 21:1-3).
 - b. This event was prophesied (Matthew 21:4-5; Zechariah 9:9).
 - c. This event demonstrated the humility of Jesus (Matthew 21:6-7).
 - i. Jesus rode upon a borrowed animal.
 - ii. He rode without a saddle, but upon the outer garments of common men – His disciples.
 - iii. He rode upon the lowliest of animals – the colt of a beast of burden.
 - d. This event manifested the royalty of Jesus.
 - i. He fulfilled the prophecy concerning Israel's King.
 - ii. He entered the town with the procession of a King.
 - iii. He was treated as a King.
 - e. This event showed the divinity of Jesus (Matthew 21:8-9; Mark 11:8-10; Luke 19:36-44; John 12:12-19).
 - f. This event illustrated the need of the people (Matthew 21:10-17).
5. Following His entry into Jerusalem, we read of a miracle of great symbolism and power.

I. The Miracle

- A. After visiting the Temple, Jesus returned to Bethany where He spent the night.
- B. As He returned to Jerusalem the next morning, He was hungry.
- C. In the distance, Jesus saw in the road a fig tree bearing leaves.
 1. This tree was “in the way,” meaning that it was alongside or in the road; thus, it was public property – anyone could eat from it.
 2. Because it had leaves, Jesus came to it expecting to find fruit on it.
 3. In that part of the world, fig trees produce their fruit before the leaves emerge.
 4. When Mark says that “the time of figs was not yet,” he means that it was not time for the harvest of figs.
 5. Thus, the figs should have been produced but not picked.
 6. So, from every outward appearance, this tree was healthy and productive.
 7. However, upon arriving at the tree, Jesus saw that it was worthless, for it produced no fruit.
- D. When He saw that the tree had leaves but no figs, Jesus cursed the tree.
 1. The idea of cursing does not imply something done in anger or with the use of vulgar language (Mark 11:21).
 2. Instead, it means that Jesus pronounced the doom of this tree.

3. He said, "Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward forever."
- E. Following this, Jesus went into the Temple again and returned to Bethany that night.
- F. On the next morning, as He and His disciples journeyed into Jerusalem, they saw that the tree was withered away, dried up from the roots.
- G. Jesus used this miracle to teach His disciples the importance and power of faith.

II. The Manifestation

- A. This miracle demonstrated the authority, power and deity of Jesus.
- B. However, it also illustrated His righteous judgment.

III. The Message

- A. Jesus used this miracle to teach about faith, prayer and forgiveness.
 1. This was true in a unique way during the age of miracles.
 2. This was especially true for the Apostles of Christ.
 3. However, the principles are still true for Christians today.
- B. This miracle illustrates God's condemnation of hypocrisy.
- C. This miracle illustrates God's condemnation of fruitlessness.
- D. This miracle illustrates the true condition of the Jews gathered in Jerusalem.
 1. They had failed to obey the Law of Moses.
 2. They had rejected the prophets of God.
 3. They were rejecting the Messiah, the Son of God.
 4. They pretended to be righteous, but bore no fruit (Matthew 21:33-43).
 5. Thus, Jesus pronounced judgment upon them (Luke 19:41-48).
 6. Their withering from the roots up would happen sooner than they knew.
- E. This miracle illustrates the righteous and certain judgment of God.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirty-Eight

Healing the Ear of Malchus

Text: Luke 22:47-51

Introduction:

1. Following His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, Jesus cleansed the Temple, preached the Gospel and cursed an unfruitful fig tree.
2. In His final days on Earth, Jesus faced many challenges – from the Jewish leaders, Pharisees, Herodians, Sadducees and lawyers (Matthew 21:23 – 23:39; Mark 11:27 – 12:44; Luke 20:1-47).
3. He faced the challenge of foretelling the destruction of Jerusalem (Matthew 24 – 25; Mark 13:1-37; Luke 21:5-36).
4. He faced the challenge of betrayal by one of the twelve (Matthew 26:14-16; Mark 14:10-11; Luke 22:3-6).
5. As they partook of the Passover meal, Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper and washed the feet of His disciples (Matthew 26:17-29, Mark 14:12-25; Luke 22:7-20; John 13).
6. After a final discourse to His apostles (John 14 – 17), Jesus and the twelve journeyed to the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-46; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:39-46; John 18:1).
7. After praying to the Father, Jesus was betrayed, arrested and forsaken (Matthew 26:47-56; Mark 14:43-52; Luke 22:47-53; John 18:2-12).

I. The Miracle

- A. First, consider the miracle of inspiration.
 1. Matthew and Mark tell us that “one of them” with Jesus cut off the ear of “a servant of the high priest” (Matthew 26:51; Mark 14:47).
 2. John adds that it was Simon Peter who struck and that the servant's name was Malchus (John 18:10-11).
 3. John and Luke both record that it was the right ear that was injured.
 4. However, only Luke records the miracle performed by Jesus in restoring this man's severed ear.
 5. These are not contradictions, but supplementation (cf. Psalm 119:160 – “*The sum of thy word is truth...*” [ASV]).
- B. Consider the uniqueness of this miracle.
 1. It is the only healing of a wound caused by violence.
 2. It is the only recorded restoration of a severed member of one's body.
- C. Consider the power of this miracle – to restore a missing body part!
- D. Consider the compassion of this miracle.
 1. Jesus performed this good work upon one who was carrying out an illegal arrest against Him.
 2. Jesus said, “Suffer ye thus far” – literally, permit or allow.
 - a. If this was said to the disciples, it meant for them to allow Him to be arrested and to cease fighting.
 - b. If this was said to the soldier, it meant for them to allow Him to heal Malchus before He was arrested.
 3. Jesus touched his ear – not with a fist in anger or retaliation, but with gentleness in love and compassion.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Even in His hour of agony and in the shadow of the cross, Jesus proved His power as the Son of God (cf. John 18:4-6).
- B. He also demonstrated great love for all men – even His enemies.

III. The Message

- A. The disciples were willing to fight and die for Jesus, but they were not will to live for Him!
 - 1. Jesus had told them they would need swords for protection as they went forth preaching the Gospel (Luke 22:35-38).
 - 2. However, He did not mean that they were to fight to overthrow God’s plan for man’s salvation – Jesus’ death upon the cross.
 - 3. Also, He did not intend for them to force obedience to the Gospel by the threat of the sword.
- B. Jesus told Peter to put away his sword (Matthew 26:52), for His kingdom is spiritual.
- C. Jesus could have avoided the cross by calling legions of angels (Matthew 26:53).
- D. Jesus set an example for all to follow.
 - 1. He did not retaliate (1 Peter 2:21-23; cf. Matthew 5:39).
 - 2. He loved His enemies (Matthew 5:44; Luke 6:27, 35).
 - 3. He overcame evil with good (Romans 12:21).
- E. How could the soldiers witness such a miracle and still unlawfully arrest Jesus?

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirty-Nine

Miracles Connected with the Crucifixion of Jesus

Text: Matthew 27:45-53; Mark 15:33-41; Luke 23:44-49

Introduction:

1. After Jesus healed the ear of Malchus, He was arrested and led away to stand trial before Annas, Caiaphas, the Sanhedrin, Pilate and Herod.
2. During this time, Jesus was mocked, beaten, denied by Peter, scourged and ridiculed by the Roman soldiers.
3. Then, on the hill of Golgotha, also called Calvary, He was crucified.
 - a. Jesus was crucified at the third hour, about nine o'clock in the morning.
 - b. For three hours, he hanged in agony and made three recorded statements.
 - i. "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).
 - ii. "Woman, behold thy son! Behold thy mother!" (John 19:26-27).
 - iii. "Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise" (Luke 23:43).
4. At the sixth hour – twelve noon – the first miracle associated with the crucifixion occurred.

I. The First Miracle – Darkness over the Land

- A. From noon until three o'clock, there was darkness over the whole land.
 1. Luke wrote that the sun was darkened, but this was not an eclipse.
 2. The feast of Passover was always kept at the time of the full moon.
 3. Thus, God miraculously caused the light of the sun to be hidden from the earth.
- B. The meaning of the miracle
 1. The failing of the light of the sun indicated the importance of the event taking place at Calvary.
 2. It illustrated the darkness of sin that Jesus was bearing on the cross (2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24).
 3. It symbolized the end of the Jewish economy (Amos 8:1-9).
 4. It marked the terrible suffering of the Lord.
 - a. In the darkness, Jesus made four other statements.
 - b. "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)
 - c. "I thirst" (John 19:28).
 - d. "It is finished" (John 19:30).
 - e. "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit" (Luke 23:46).
- C. Thus, at the ninth hour, Jesus gave up the ghost and died.

II. The Second Miracle – Rending of the Veil of the Temple

- A. Upon His death, two more amazing miracles occurred, perhaps simultaneously.
- B. First, we read that the "veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom."
- C. The veil was an important part of the design of the tabernacle and the temple.
 1. It is described in Exodus 26:31-34.
 2. Its purpose was to separate the holy place from the most holy place.
 3. It symbolized the fact that way to God was not yet available (Hebrews 9:7-10).
 4. But, with His death, Jesus made the way to reconciliation, salvation, fellowship and even Heaven accessible to man (Hebrews 9:11-14; 10:19-20).

5. He also brought about the end of the Old Covenant and established the New (Hebrews 9:15-23; cf. Ephesians 2:13-18).
 6. Further, He proved Himself as man's great and eternal High Priest (Hebrews 9:24-28).
- D. Notice that the veil was torn from top to bottom – not from bottom to top.

III. The Third Miracle – Earthquake that Opened the Tombs

- A. Next, we read of a great earthquake that caused rocks to be split apart and sepulchers to be opened.
 1. In that region, tombs were often carved out of rock and the bodies within hidden by a stone rolled in front of the entrance.
 2. An earthquake that caused rocks to be split would create open access to many of these graves.
- B. This opening of the tombs symbolized the fact that Jesus had conquered death by His own death upon the cross (Hebrews 2:14-15; 2 Timothy 2:10).
- C. Imagine, for the three days Jesus was in the grave, people could peer into tombs throughout the land and see the decaying bodies of the dead.
- D. Yet, on the first day of the week, an even greater miracle took place...

IV. The Fourth Miracle – Resurrection of Many Saints

- A. After Jesus was raised from the dead, “many bodies of the saints which slept arose.”
 1. Jesus was the first to rise from the dead (Acts 26:23; 1 Corinthians 15:20, 23; Colossians 1:18; Revelation 1:5).
 2. After His resurrection, these faithful followers of God had life restored to their bodies.
 3. They were able to come out of their graves, for the earthquake had opened them by rending the stones.
- B. These resurrected saints went into the city of Jerusalem and were seen by many people.
- C. This served as confirmation of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.
- D. It also established the fact of the resurrection of all men at the end of time.
- E. The reaction of the centurion shows the power of Jesus' death and these miracles – he concluded that Jesus truly was “the Son of God.”
- F. Yet, in spite of all these miracles, the people of Jerusalem continued in sin and rebellion against God and, in a matter of years, saw their city destroyed.

V. The Manifestation

- A. These miracles confirmed the significance of Jesus' death on the cross – it was not an ordinary crucifixion.
- B. They proved His deity – He is the Messiah and the Son of God.
- C. They demonstrated God's approval of the sacrifice of His only begotten Son.
- D. They assure the faithful of the truth of the Gospel – death is conquered, resurrection is certain and victory is promised.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Forty

The Resurrection of Jesus from the Dead

Text: Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-11; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-10

Introduction:

1. After Jesus gave up the ghost on the cross, the Roman soldiers pierced His side with a spear in order to confirm that Jesus was dead (John 19:31-37).
2. Joseph of Arimathaea made an urgent request of Pilate for the body of Jesus that he might give him a proper burial.
3. He and Nicodemus wound Jesus' body in burial clothes and placed it in Joseph's new tomb (Matthew 27:57-60; Mark 15:42-46; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42).
4. Then, they rolled a great stone before the door of the sepulcher.

I. The Miracle

- A. The order of events...
 1. Before daybreak on the first day of the week, Jesus was raised from the dead.
 2. An angel descended and rolled away the stone from the tomb.
 3. As the dawn was breaking, Mary Magdalene and other women came to the tomb.
 4. The angels told them of Jesus' resurrection.
 5. They reported this news to the apostles.
 6. Peter and John ran to and investigated the tomb.
- B. Events associated with the resurrection...
 1. There was a great earthquake.
 2. An angel of the Lord descended and removed the stone from the entrance to the tomb (cf. Luke 2:9-14).
 3. The soldiers who were guarding the tomb were overcome with fear and fainted.
- C. This is the most powerful resurrection of all (John 10:17-18).

II. The Manifestation

- A. The resurrection of Jesus is the seal and proof of all His other miracles (Matthew 12:38-40; John 2:18-22; 1 Corinthians 15:17).
- B. The resurrection proved the deity and authority of Jesus (Romans 1:4).
- C. The resurrection confirms our hopes of victory over death (Philippians 3:10-11).

III. The Message

- A. The resurrection proves the accuracy of the Scriptures (Psalm 16:10; Acts 2:25-31; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4).
- B. The resurrection proves the love of God (John 3:16; Acts 13:26-39).
- C. The resurrection proves the hope of Heaven (1 Corinthians 15; 6:14; 2 Cor. 4:14).
- D. The resurrection proves the coming of Judgment (Acts 17:30-31; 1 Thes. 1:10).
- E. The resurrection proves the purpose of life (1 Corinthians 15:19, 58).

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Forty-One

The Second Miraculous Catch of Fish

Text: John 21:1-14

Introduction:

1. After Jesus was raised from the dead, He appeared several times to His disciples.
2. The third of these appearances occurred at the Sea of Galilee (or, Tiberias).
3. On this occasion, Jesus performed a miracle with important implications for His apostles.

I. The Miracle

- A. Seven of the apostles were fishing on the Sea of Galilee.
 1. This was the former occupation of at least four of them (Matthew 4:18; Luke 5:10).
 2. Some imagine that they were returning to their former lives because they had given up hope since Jesus had died (cf. Acts 1:6).
 3. However, Jesus had already appeared to them twice, proving His resurrection.
 4. Also, He had told them that He would see them in Galilee (Matthew 28:7, 10; Mark 14:28; 16:7).
 5. Thus, it seems that while they were waiting they fished to earn some money and to keep from being idle.
- B. They fished throughout the night, but caught nothing. {*Providence vs. Miracle*}
- C. When morning came, Jesus called to them from the seashore and told them to cast their net on the right side of the ship.
- D. When they obeyed, they caught so many fish that they could not pull the net back into the boat.
 1. They caught 153 fish, but the net did not break.
 2. They had to drag the net behind the boat to the shore and then draw the net upon the land.
- E. It was at this point that the disciples realized that it was Jesus.

II. The Manifestation

- A. This miracle hearkened back to the first miraculous catch of fish (Luke 5:1-11) and proved that Jesus was alive, raised from the dead.
- B. It demonstrated His power and authority, even after His crucifixion.
- C. It proved Him to be the Son of God.

III. The Message

- A. Don't fish on the wrong side of the boat (cf. Matthew 7:6).
- B. Jesus was where He promised to be.
- C. One should be properly clothed when in the presence of the Lord.
- D. The great work Jesus had for the apostles required their unity and cooperation.
- E. When we obey the Lord, He will provide for our needs.
- F. To love the Lord is to obey and serve Him – and His people.

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Forty-Two

The Appearances of Jesus after His Resurrection

Introduction:

1. Following His resurrection and before His ascension, Jesus appeared several times to His disciples.
2. Some of these appearances involved miraculous manifestations.
3. Thus, they contain important evidence and teaching about Jesus and His resurrection.

I. The Miracle

- A. FIRST APPEARANCE – *To Mary Magdalene* (Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18)
 1. Jesus arose from the dead on the first day of the week (John 20:1).
 2. After reporting the words of the angel to the disciples, Mary returned to the tomb.
 3. There, Jesus spoke to her – called her by name.
 4. Though at first she did not recognize Him, she came to understand that it was Jesus who was speaking to her.
 5. Jesus said, “Touch me not, for I am not yet ascended to my Father.”
 - a. The word “touch” literally means, “to attach one’s self to; to cling to or adhere to.” (Cf. 1 John 5:18)
 - b. Thus, Jesus did not mean that He could not be touched – for, some did touch Him after His resurrection (Matthew 28:9; John 20:27).
 - c. Instead, she was not to cling to Him, for He would ascend to the Father.
 6. Then, He commanded her to deliver this message to His brethren.
- B. SECOND APPEARANCE – *To the women* (Matthew 28:9-10)
 1. Jesus greeted the women and they fell at His feet and worshipped Him.
 2. Jesus instructed them also to deliver a message to His brethren.
- C. THIRD APPEARANCE – *To Peter* (Luke 24:12, 34; 1 Corinthians 15:5)
 1. The Bible does not record any of the details of this appearance.
 2. Peter went to the tomb, seemingly alone, for a second time.
 3. Following this, the record states that the Lord had appeared to Peter.
- D. FOURTH APPEARANCE – *To two disciples* (Luke 24:13-35; Mark 16:12-13)
 1. They preached Jesus to Jesus!
 2. Then, Jesus preached to them from the Scriptures.
- E. FIFTH APPEARANCE – *To the apostles, except Thomas* (John 20:19-25; Luke 24:36-43; Mark 16:14)
- F. SIXTH APPEARANCE – *To the apostles, with Thomas* (John 20:26-29)
 1. This appearance occurred on the following Sunday.
 2. Jesus proved His resurrection and His deity to Thomas and the others.
- G. SEVENTH APPEARANCE – *To seven apostles at the Sea of Galilee* (John 21:1-14)
- H. EIGHTH APPEARANCE – *To the apostles on a Galilee mountain* (Matthew 28:16-21; Mark 16:15-18; Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:1-5)
 1. The passages in Luke and Acts may refer to another appearance of Jesus.
 2. There, they were told to wait in Jerusalem, not Galilee.
- I. NINTH APPEARANCE – *To 500 disciples at once* (1 Corinthians 15:6)
- J. TENTH APPEARANCE – *To James* (1 Corinthians 15:7)
- K. ELEVENTH APPEARANCE – *To the apostles at His ascension* (Luke 24:50-51; Ac. 1:1-12)
- L. TWELFTH APPEARANCE – *To Saul (Paul) on the road to Damascus* (Acts 9; 22; 26)

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Forty-Three

The Ascension of Jesus

Text: Mark 16:19-20; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11

Introduction:

1. After His resurrection and appearances to His disciples, Jesus' time on earth was at an end.
2. It was time for Him to return to where He was before He came into this world (John 17:5).
3. The ascension of Jesus is an important miracle at the end of Jesus' earthly sojourn.

I. The Miracle

- A. Mark says that Jesus was "received up into heaven."
 1. The Greek word literally means "to be taken up" or "to take up" (cf. John 14:17; Acts 10:16; Ephesians 6:13, 16).
 2. Luke uses a different Greek word that means "to carry up" or "to bear up."
 3. Furthermore, Luke says that He was parted (removed, separated) from them.
 4. In Acts, Luke uses a word that means "to lift up" or "to raise up." {*It is the same word for when Jesus "lifted up" His hands.*}
- B. Thus, Jesus was miraculously lifted up from the earth and taken up into Heaven.
- C. This was an actual, historic event.
 1. Jesus ascended 40 days after His resurrection (Acts 1:2-3).
 2. Jesus ascended from the Mount of Olives (Luke 24:50; Acts 1:12).
 3. Jesus ascended before witnesses (Acts 1:9-10).
- D. As He ascended and the apostles watched, a cloud "received Him out of their sight."
 1. Literally, He was taken under a cloud.
 2. This word for cloud is also used in reference to the cloud that led the children of Israel in the wilderness (1 Corinthians 10:1-2).
 3. It is used for the bright cloud on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:5).
 4. It is used for the cloud of judgment on which Jesus rides (Matthew 24:30; 26:64).
 5. It is used for the clouds in which Jesus will return at the end of time (Revelation 1:7; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

II. The Manifestation

- A. The ascension of Jesus proves His deity (Psalm 24:7-10; John 6:56-62; 20:17).
- B. The ascension of Jesus proves the beginning of His kingdom (Daniel 7:13-14; Luke 19:12-15; Ephesians 1:20-23; Revelation 1:9; Hebrews 12:28; 1 Corinthians 15:24-26).

III. The Message

- A. Jesus finished (accomplished) the work of God (John 17:4-5; 19:30)
- B. Now, He would send the Holy Spirit to complete God's revelation (John 16:7, 13; 14:26).
- C. Now, He would mediate for man as our great High Priest and Advocate (Hebrews 7:23-25; 9:6-15, 24; 1 John 2:1; 1 Timothy 2:5).
- D. He charted the course for man to follow (Hebrews 2:10; 6:17-20) and now would prepare a place for the faithful (John 14:1-6; Revelation 3:20-21).
- E. He waits for the time appointed to return as Judge to carry His faithful home forever!

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson One	Introduction	Acts 2:22-24
Lesson Two	The Miracle of Fulfilled Prophecy	Luke 24:44-48
Lesson Three	The Miracle of the Virgin Birth	Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38
Lesson Four	Turning Water into Wine	John 2:1-11
Lesson Five	Healing of the Nobleman's Son	John 4:46-54
Lesson Six	The First Miraculous Catch of Fish	Luke 5:1-11
Lesson Seven	Casting out a Demon in the Synagogue at Capernaum	Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:31-37
Lesson Eight	Healing Peter's Mother-in-law	Matt. 8:14-17; Mark 1:29-34; Lk. 4:38-41
Lesson Nine	A Leper Cleansed	Matthew 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-16
Lesson Ten	A Palsied Man Healed	Matthew 9:1-8; Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:17-26
Lesson Eleven	Healing the Man at the Pool of Bethesda	John 5:1-16
Lesson Twelve	Healing a Man's Withered Hand	Matt. 12:9-13; Mark 3:1-5; Luke 6:6-10
Lesson Thirteen	Healing the Centurion's Servant	Matt. 8:5-13; Lk. 7:1-10
Lesson Fourteen	Raising the Widow's Son	Luke 7:11-17
Lesson Fifteen	Casting out a Demon from a Man Both Blind and Mute	Matt. 12:22-33; Mark 3:11-30; Luke 11:14-23
Lesson Sixteen	Calming the Stormy Sea	Matt. 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Lk. 8:22-25
Lesson Seventeen	Casting Demons out of Two Men of the Gadarenes	Matt. 8:28-34; Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-39
Lesson Eighteen	Raising the Daughter of Jairus from the Dead	Matt. 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43; Lk. 8:41-56
Lesson Nineteen	Healing the Woman with an Issue of Blood	Matt. 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34; Lk. 8:43-48
Lesson Twenty	Healing Three Men – Two Blind and One Mute	Matthew 9:27-38

Lesson Twenty-One	Feeding the Five Thousand Men	Matthew 14:15-21; Mark 6:34-44; Luke 9:12-17; John 6:5-14
Lesson Twenty-Two	Walking on the Water	Matt. 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52; John 6:14-21
Lesson Twenty-Three	Healing the Sick of Gennesaret	Matthew 14:34-36; Mark 6:53-56
Lesson Twenty-Four	Healing the Daughter of the Syrophenician Woman	Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30
Lesson Twenty-Five	Healing a Man both Deaf and Mute	Mark 7:31-37
Lesson Twenty-Six	Feeding of Four Thousand Men	Matthew 15:32-39; Mark 8:1-9
Lesson Twenty-Seven	Healing the Blind Man at Bethsaida	Mark 8:22-26
Lesson Twenty-Eight	The Transfiguration of Jesus	Matt. 17:1-13; Mark 9:2-13; Luke 9:28-36
Lesson Twenty-Nine	Casting a Demon out of a Lunatic Boy	Matt. 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-29; Lk. 9:37-45
Lesson Thirty	Finding a Coin in the Mouth of a Fish	Matthew 17:24-27
Lesson Thirty-One	Giving Sight to a Man Blind from Birth	John 9
Lesson Thirty-Two	Healing a Woman with an Infirmary	Luke 13:10-17
Lesson Thirty-Three	Healing a Man with Dropsy	Luke 14:1-6
Lesson Thirty-Four	Raising Lazarus from the Dead	John 11
Lesson Thirty-Five	Cleansing Ten Lepers	Luke 17:11-19
Lesson Thirty-Six	Healing Blind Men Near Jericho	Matt. 20:29-34; Mark 10:46-52; Lk. 18:35-43
Lesson Thirty-Seven	Cursing the Fig Tree	Matthew 21:18-21; Mark 11:12-24
Lesson Thirty-Eight	Healing the Ear of Malchus	Luke 22:47-51
Lesson Thirty-Nine	Miracles Connected with the Crucifixion of Jesus	Matthew 27:45-53; Mk 15:33-41; Lk 23:44-49
Lesson Forty	The Resurrection of Jesus from the Dead	Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-11; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-10
Lesson Forty-One	The Second Miraculous Catch of Fish	John 21:1-14

Lesson Forty-Two The Appearances of Jesus after
His Resurrection

Lesson Forty-Three The Ascension of Jesus

Mark 16:19-20; Luke
24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11