

**It was a Miracle**

# What is a miracle?

- Car crash survival?
- Childbirth?
- Getting an “A”?

# I. Three Words, Hb.2:1-4

# What is a miracle?

## 1. Signs: proof of divine mission

- God would not equip imposters with signs
- Moses: Ex.4:...8-9, 17, 28, 30... 10:1-2

# What is a miracle?

- NT signs – Jn.2:11, 18, 23
  - Effect: Jn.3:1-2
  - Jn.4:48, “feeble faith”
    - Jn.6:2...14, *the Prophet* (Dt.18:15)
      - Jn.7:31, And many of the people believed in Him, and said, “When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this Man has done?”

# What is a miracle?

- NT signs – Jn.2:11, 18, 23
  - Effect: Jn.3:1-2
  - Jn.4:48, “feeble faith”
    - Jn.6:2...14, *the Prophet* (Dt.18:15) (Jn.7:31)
    - Jn.11:...45-47, enemies cannot deny...
    - Jn.12:18 . . . 37
    - Jn.20:30-31, written signs...
    - Mk.16:17...20, confirmation
      - Acts 4:16, 22, 30 (5:12)

Paul:  
1 Co.2:4-5

# What is a miracle?

1. Signs: proof of divine mission

2. Wonders: effect of miracle on witnesses

- Ac.2:6-8, 12, reaction
- 2 Co.12:12, Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds.
- Ro.1:11, For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established.

# What is a miracle?

1. Signs: proof of divine mission
2. Wonders: effects of the sign
3. Miracles: superhuman power
  - Acts 2:22, *knew* (26:26)
  - Ac.2:43, apostles
    - Ac.8:6, 13, persuaded Simon
    - Ro.15:18-19



I. Three Words, Hb.2:1-4

II. Miracles Were . . .

# Miracles were...

- Immediate. Ac.3:7
- Complete. Ac.3:16
- Above natural law. Ac.3:16
- Undeniable. Ac.4:16 (6:7)

I. Three Words, Hb.2:1-4

II. Miracles Were . . .

III. Miraculous  
Divine Healing

## The issue is not:

- Is healing divine?
- Did God ever heal miraculously?
- Could God heal miraculously today?
- Should we pray for the sick?

## The issue is:

Does God heal miraculously today?

# Never underestimate power of God's providence

- Ja.5:17-18, God's providence? 1 K.18
- Even in days of miracles, God's providence worked great things
  - Gn.37-50, Joseph
  - Ruth
  - Ro.15:30-32, Rome
    - Walk to Rome on water? (miracle)
    - Ride on ships? (providence)

## NT healing

## Modern fakes

All kinds	Select few
No failures	Many failures
Non-believers	Believers only
Complete cure	Partial
Immediate	Gradual
Undeniable	Hidden
No testimonials	Need testimonials
Not for money	All credit cards

I. Three Words, Hb.2:1-4

II. Miracles Were . . .

III. Miraculous Divine Healing

IV. Healings And Deception

# “Miraculous” misdiagnosis

- ✓ Patient misdiagnosed own case
- ✓ Doctor misdiagnosed patient
- ✓ Recovery occurs over time; heals through natural means
- ✓ Patient only thinks he is healed (2 Th.2:9-12)
- ✓ Logical fallacy: ‘before this, therefore on account of this.’



# Illustrations of failures / deceivers

- Ray Dodd Hembree
- Oral Roberts, hospital...
- Tammy Faye Baker
- Todd Bentley
  - God talks to him
  - He visited heaven
  - Talked to Jesus/Paul
  - Kicked lady in face
  - Drop kicked man
  - Slammed leg
  - Adulterer