



## Miracles do they happen today?

**3rd View Point** - God intends that miracles and signs and wonders that happened in biblical history are to take place in every generation of the church.

The third view points takes into consideration the continuity of both God's character and His work in creation. What is declared here is that a threefold witness testifies to the fact that the Lord is a God of miracles and manifests His supernatural power and provision to His people. **In the Old Testament** we see how God manifests mighty miracles of healing, protection and provision for His people.

Examples:- Plagues that hit Egypt in Exodus 6 – 10. The crossing of the Red Sea in Exodus 14. The giving of Manna and meat in Exodus 16 and so on!! The promise of the Lord to be a healer to His people in Exodus 15 v 26. In fact in this verse the Lord reveals Himself and gives Himself the name "Yahweh Rapha," which means the Lord that heals, cures, restores you. In fact a number of times the Lord brings healing to people in the Old Testament. Many, many miracles are done in the Old Testament as God reveals His supernatural sovereignty over the nations.

**The New Testament** shows us that the ministry of Jesus was both a ministry of words and supernatural acts. He healed the sick, walked on water, (John 6 v 15 – 25) fed the five thousand, (John 6 v 1 – 14) turned water into wine, rose the dead. Many times he declared that the reason he did these things was Not just because he was testifying to Himself, but the reason He did it was because he had compassion on people. Just as God had compassion on His people in the Old Testament and Jesus had compassion on people in the New, So the Lord does not change, He still has compassion on people today and discharges His grace, healing and provision in the lives of His people today.

Jesus declared that His ministry was to proclaim the **Good News of the Kingdom** in words and in actions. The signs that he did were given as evidence that the Kingdom of God was near and in fact was here through His ministry. ( Matthew 4 v 23 – 25)

Jesus calls His disciples to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom and He discharges His authority and power to us to proclaim the reality of the Kingdom of God. Signs and miracles are a testimony of the nearness of that Kingdom reign and are manifested through the ministry of the church which is called to discharge the ministry of Jesus today. ( Mark 6 v 7 – 13) (Mark 16 v 14 – 20)

(1 Corinthians 12 v 4 – 11)

Yes it is true that for big parts of church history that miracles were not common place in the church. However for many generations the church did not believe in a miracle working God and therefore did not expect, pray or believe in the provision of miracles. Scripture is clear about the way lack of faith limits the giving of miracles, healings and signs and wonders. As the church has discovered a new focus on the sovereignty of God and the doctrine of the Spirit, it is no surprise that we are seeing a dramatic increase in compassion miracles and signs of His Kingdom reign.

In many parts of the world today mighty miracles of God's provision and power are common place and are instrumental in alleviating suffering and bringing people to a personal faith in Jesus. It is mainly in the western church were miracles are not common place that the idea of miracles ceasing has kept a popular sway over the hearts and minds of many Christians lives. It is no surprise that when our experience tells us miracles do not happen today, that we create and cling onto a theology that reinforces the idea that miracles are no longer part of the work of God or His church.

**The starting point for the church today is to go back to the Gospel – to go back to the God who changes not and rediscover the Lord who is the creator of heaven and earth, the sustainer of all things who works acts of love, compassion and grace on behalf of His people today. Scripture promises us that for those who believe miracles and signs and wonders are a natural part of the churches ministry and provision.**

**Discuss** – How do you feel we can create an environment of faith in St. Peter's where we will see the power and provision of God manifest as common place?