



Miracles do they happen today?

Introduction – Over recent years there has been much discussion over the reality of God’s supernatural power and how He expresses Himself through signs and wonders and the gifts of the Spirit. Last century with the Pentecostal movement, the charismatic movement, Toronto and Pensacola there has been a greater belief in the God of miracles and the place of the supernatural within the Christian Faith

Discuss – Do you believe that God does miracles today? If so why? If not why not? Why do you think in the Western world there is a lot of scepticism of the supernatural and miracles? For over a century now England has not seen a great work of a supernatural God why do you think this is?

The word Miracle comes from the Latin “*Miraculum.*” The meaning of this word means wonder and signifies a supernatural interference with nature or a course of events. Alongside of this is a belief that God also controls and uses the forces of nature to perform miracles signs.

In the history of the church, miracles have been seen not only as extraordinary expressions of God’s grace, but as divine approval of the person or the teaching of the one who performs the miracle.

Three Main view Points about Miracles today:- Discuss strengths and weaknesses of the different arguments.

1st View Point – Miracles belong to biblical times and do not continue today.

Many Christians believe today that the age of miracles has passed and that now the church has the canon of Scripture, miracles are no longer needed for the authenticating of God’s message. Some denominations believe that miracles ceased with the apostolic foundation of the church. Yes Miracles happened through the apostles and these were given to authenticate the claims of God’s inspired spokesmen. This was to reinforce the idea that a person was speaking for God.

Look up :- Exodus 4 v 1, 9, 1 Kings 17 v 23 – 24, John 10 v 28 – 38, 2 Corinthians 12 v 12, Hebrews 2 v 3 – 4) However God no longer sends authoritative spokesmen, (the apostles were the last- Acts 1 v 21 – 26) and therefore we should not expect to see miracles today.

What is declared by those denominations that believe this, is that the signs and miracles that are done today are counterfeit miracles and are the work of the evil one. **Read** – Matthew 7 v 22– 23, Matthew 24 v 23 – 24.

People who hold this view point to great periods in the historical church where there has been no evidence of supernatural signs or miracles. Even today they say that the majority of churches do not experience miracles as part of their corporate life together.

2nd View Point – There are natural miracles that God still does today, but signs and wonders are no longer a part of the churches ministry .

People who believe this view declare that God is sovereign and He is a God who at times answers the prayers of His people. However signs and wonders are no longer needed, for again the church has been established and the bible has been compiled . Alongside of this the gifts of the Spirit are not needed as belief in the Word and in the Lord are now matters of faith and NOT matters of sight.

God has created the order of creation and therefore does not need to interfere with that which He has created. However there are occasions when the Lord will use the natural processes of creation to fulfil or answer the prayers of His people, that is in line with His will. HOWEVER this should not be expected and rests in the domain of God’s sovereignty. Miracles therefore should never be expected and prayer should never move beyond the, “Lord IF it is your will,” stage.