

This Is What Real Miracles Are Like (Part 3)

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This is our third article showing that how miracles really happened in the past proves that what people call miracles today are not miracles. Furthermore, we've noticed how prayers and abuses of what people think God will do today in healing are not happening anymore. (If you have not read the previous two articles, do that before proceeding here.)

We concluded our last study with a statement that if people were being healed today, that would necessitate that the dead can also be raised. When Jesus sent the twelve to preach to the lost house of Israel (Matthew 10:6-7), He tied these things together. Notice: *"Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give"* (Matthew 10:8). Therefore, if God were still working miracles on earth today we would see the dead raised just as we read about in the Scriptures.

The Dead Were Raised

Jesus healed the sick (Luke 7:1-10). However, since healing the sick and raising the dead are both in the same light, He also raised the dead. Notice this: "And it came to pass the day after, that he went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people. Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not. And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise. And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother. And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people" (Luke 7:11-16).

Jesus loved Lazarus (John 11:5). Lazarus got sick (John 11:6) and died (John 11:11-14). Jesus was glad that He did not prevent Lazarus from dying so that a notable miracle could be performed (John 11:15). Notice how Lazarus was raised and how long he had been dead before he was raised: *"Now Jesus was not yet come into the town, but was in that place where Martha met him. The Jews then which were with her in the house, and comforted her, when they saw Mary, that she rose up hastily and went out, followed her, saying, She goeth unto the grave to weep there. Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled, And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see. Jesus wept. Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him! And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died? Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it. Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister* of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four <u>days</u>. Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God? Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go. Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him" (John 11:30-45).

Jesus wasn't the only one who could pray and be part of raising the dead. Notice: "Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did. And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid her in an upper chamber. And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring him that he would not delay to come to them. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them. But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up. And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive. And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord. And it came to pass, that he tarried many days in Joppa with one Simon a tanner" (Acts 9:36-43).

Even during a time of worship a man died and was brought back to life. Here is that account: "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together. And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead. And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him. When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed. And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted" (Acts 20:7-12).

Conclusion

Heal the sick and raise the dead are very much tied together. You can see that through the small sample of things we just looked at in this study. For those who think they can pray and have one occur today; they must also conclude that they can pray and have the dead risen as well.

We are going to have one more article on these lines of reasoning next week. In that article, we are going to discuss how if the sick can be healed then demons can possess and be cast out as well. What we shall also see is that just as healing the sick was temporary, demons on this earth were temporary as well.