

# WORDS OF TRUTH

*A Weekly Bulletin for the Sunrise Acres church of Christ*

Volume IX ~ Issue XXXIX ~ June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009

<http://www.wordsoftruth.net>

*Edited By: Brian A. Yeager*



## *Sunrise Acres* CHURCH OF CHRIST

Meeting at:  
8625 Robert Drive  
El Paso, TX 79904

915-525-5794

### OUR MEETING TIMES:

Sunday Bible Class: 9:45 AM  
Sunday Worship: 10:55 AM

### Are You Visiting With Us?

If you are visiting with us, we want to welcome you to the Lord's church (Matthew 16:18 and Colossians 1:18). Our goal is to simply get to Heaven and to help you do the same. We use the Bible as our standard to govern what we do in our work and worship for the Lord (Colossians 3:17, II Timothy 1:13, II Timothy 3:16-17, and I Peter 4:11).

We welcome your questions and would love the opportunity to study further with you. Luke recorded a fascinating statement we all need to consider: *"Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able"* (Luke 13:23-24). We invite you to join us in being one of the few that are saved!

### Were Miracles Just For Those Who Believed?

*By: Brian A. Yeager*

A couple of months ago Larossa studied with a neighbor of his who professes the errors of Mormonism. While Mormonism is easily answered with Galatians 1:8-9 (since they believe the angel Moroni revealed their truth in "another testament of Jesus Christ" - <http://www.mormon.org/mormonorg/eng/basic-beliefs/the-restoration-of-truth/the-book-of-mormon>), Larossa studied various subjects with his neighbor. One of which was the subject of miracles. Larossa pointed out that miracles were temporary, ending at the close of the completion of the Bible (I Corinthians 13:8-10). Yet, this gentleman pressed on with his teaching that believers today perform miracles such as were done in the New Testament.

It was at this point in Larossa's study that I called and talked with both Larossa and his neighbor. We briefly discussed the idea of a 19 year old, unmarried man, being called an elder as the Mormon Church teaches. He ignored that this was inconsistent with Titus 1:5-6. He then talked of the subject of miracles with me as well. In our brief conversation he admitted he would not change if proven wrong, so I ceased to study with him (Matthew 7:6, Matthew 10:14, and Acts 18:5-6). During that study, I challenged him to perform a miracle. He said he could, but of course this would require the one challenging him would be a believer. I said that miracles were to confirm the word and proved that with Scriptures. He said he would perform a miracle, but kept dodging the challenge. We ended the discussion because of his dishonesty.

This leads to our article today. All the nutcases in the so-called "religious world" that proclaim to perform miracles use the excuse this Mormon tried to use. They say you have to believe for the miracle to be performed. Faithful Christians know that we are to test those who claim such things (I John 4:1). These damned false teachers (II Thessalonians 2:12) will often run and hide at the point of a challenge such as was made for this Mormon. So, we shall prove that miracles are to confirm the word to the unbeliever. Moreover, we will just use the Scriptures to expose this error.

📖 *“And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name” (John 20:30-31).*

📖 *“How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will” (Hebrews 2:3-4)?*

📖 *“I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him” (John 10:37-38).*

📖 *“Now when he was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did” (John 2:23).*

📖 *“And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased” (John 6:2).*

📖 *“But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him” (John 12:37).*

📖 *“Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know” (Acts 2:22).*

📖 *“Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God. But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand. Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord” (Acts 13:7-12).*

📖 *“And it came to pass in Iconium, that they went both together into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed. But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles, and made their minds evil affected against the brethren. Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands. But the multitude of the city was divided: and part held with the Jews, and part with the apostles” (Acts 14:1-4).*

📖 *“And when they were escaped, then they knew that the island was called Melita. And the barbarous people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold. And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand. And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live. And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm. Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god” (Acts 28:1-6).*

📖 *“Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe” (I Corinthians 14:22; cf. Acts 2:1-11).*

📖 *“Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds” (II Corinthians 12:12).*

📖 *“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen” (Mark 16:15-20).*

**What must one do to be saved (Acts 2:37)?** Hear and believe the Gospel (Mark 16:15-16 & Romans 10:17), repent of their sins (Acts 3:19), confess Christ (Acts 8:37), and be baptized (immersed) for the remission of sins into the church of Christ (Acts 2:38-41; 47, I Corinthians 12:12-13, and Romans 6:1-6; 16:16). One must then remain faithful (Colossians 1:23).