

John 14:12-15

John 14:12 *“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”*

- A. Jesus worked miracles such as healing the sick (**Matthew 14:14**), raising the dead (**Mark 5:35-43**), casting out devils (**Mark 16:9**), etc. (**Luke 7:22**).
 - 1 He promised that those of faith would do those things too (**Mark 16:15-20**).
 - 2. Believers were able, during the age of the miraculous, to do these things that Jesus did (**Acts 5:16, Acts 8:6-7, and Acts 9:36-42**).
- B. Jesus does not specify what “greater works” believers would later do, thus we must be cautious not to speak here without evidence (**Proverbs 30:5-6**).
 - 1. Jesus had used similar terms before this point (**John 5:20**).
 - 2. Jesus has also talked of showing greater works (**John 1:50**).
 - 3. Miraculous works have certainly been discussed as being greater than the witness of men (**John 5:36**).
 - 4. Yet, I am unaware of what specifically Jesus is talking about. Until we KNOW something for sure, we must not speculate (**I Thessalonians 5:21**).

John 14:13-14 *“(13) And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. (14) If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.”*

- A. Jesus told the disciples that whatsoever they asked, by His authority, He would do (**Matthew 7:7, John 15:7, and John 16:23-26**).
 - 1. Faith and prayer are coupled together (**Mark 11:24**).
 - 2. Since prayer and faith are coupled together, we must remind ourselves how we obtain faith (**Romans 10:17**).
 - 3. These things were done so that the Father would be glorified in Christ (**I Peter 4:11**).
- B. “Anything” comes with many qualifiers (**II Corinthians 12:7-10**).
 - 1. That which is requested must be in accordance with the Lord’s will (**I John 5:14-15**; cf. **James 4:3**).
 - a. It is God’s will that miracles ceased (**I Corinthians 12:31 and I Corinthians 13:8-13**).
 - i. That which is perfect is the revealed word of God (**II Timothy 3:16-17**)
 - ii. We now have all that we need through His word (**II Peter 1:3-4**).
 - b. This means some things prayed for during the 1st century are no longer to be prayed for, notice two examples (of many we could discuss):
 - i. Wisdom was a spiritual gift that was prayed for (**James 1:5**; cf. **I Corinthians 12:8**) now fully available through the word of God (**Colossians 3:16**).

- ii. Prayer and healing were tied together (**Acts 28:8** and **James 5:14-15**), but that was miraculous (**I Corinthians 12:9**).
 - c. God is not going to grant requests that require Him to be a respecter of persons (**Romans 2:11** and **I Peter 1:17**).
 - d. God is not going to grant requests that removes our freewill (**Luke 11:28**) or has Him doing things we're expected to do ourselves (**Acts 2:40** and **Philippians 2:12**).
2. In this context, Jesus was certainly talking about miracles (cf. **Matthew 21:17-22**).

John 14:15 *"If ye love me, keep my commandments."*

- A. Love is obedience (**John 15:10-14** and **I John 5:2-3**).
 - 1. True love for the Lord is sincere (**Ephesians 6:24**) and shown (**I John 2:3-5**).
 - 2. We love Him because He first loved us (**I John 4:19**).
 - 3. What is the greatest instruction (**Mark 12:28-30**)?
- B. Seeing as how love is obedience, we are sure that obedience is of the greatest importance to God (cf. **I Samuel 15:22-23** and **Jeremiah 7:21-23**).
 - 1. God punishes disobedience (**Romans 1:18**, **Ephesians 5:6**, **Colossians 3:5-6**, and **II Thessalonians 1:7-9**).
 - 2. God rewards obedience with salvation (**Hebrews 5:8-9**).