

Signs, Wonders, and Miracles

There are two verses in the KJV Bible that include these three words together.

Acts 2:22 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.

Hebrews 2:4 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?

Whether it was to approve Moses before the eyes of Pharaoh or Israel or Elijah before the prophet of Baal, God used these means to confirm His mission and His servants' commission. Peter declared unequivocally on the Day of Pentecost that Jesus of Nazareth was approved of God as was testified by *miracles and wonders and signs*. The writer to the Hebrews asserted their power to give witness along with the gifts of the Spirit.

Sign is the root word from which *signature* is derived. A sign is God's signature. It is a distinct mark, autograph, and endorsement of God. It appeals to man's intellect.

A **wonder** appeals to man's emotions. A wonder causes man to marvel and be amazed. Often those emotions leave men speechless for a time. The jaw drops, and the eyes stare as men are left standing and gazing at the sight before them. Something strange, mysterious, and wonderful has happened.

A **miracle** is a display of Divine Power. The Greek word is *dunamis*. This act supersedes and surpasses all known human powers or abilities. It exceeds man's physical powers and resources. Miracles appeal to the will of man. To word it this way: Man would, but cannot. His will lacks the power to perform. God lacks no power, and when He wills something done, it is! We still believe in miracles!

I do not propose that we go chasing signs, wonders, or miracles, but I do believe these things are very much needed today. They command attention. They often silence gainsayers. They are part of God's vindications. By these, cities have been stirred and moved to hear the saving message that can turn them upside down.

-RWT