

## The Sovereignty-Only Theory

### The Miracles and Hermeneutics of Christian Idealism

Let us turn to several of the miracles of the Bible to see how helpful the analogies of quantum physics and its idealist implications are in hermeneutics. The first miracle we will note is an example of faith unsustained, Peter's aborted water-walk (Matthew 14:28-31).

In this incident Peter initiates the miracle by asking Jesus to call him. Jesus calls, and Peter does walk on the water, "But seeing the wind, he became afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried out... After Jesus saved Peter, He rebuked him with the words, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

This incident is especially instructive because it is fatal to the sovereignty-only theory of Christian materialism. Although God's sovereignty and power (through Jesus) were the basis of Peter's water-walk, it was Peter's mind and spirit acting in faith, then fear, which determined the outcome.

If the only important factor in the miracle was that God sovereignly decided that Peter could walk on water, he should not have mattered that Peter feared, nor would Jesus' rebuke makes sense.

Similar conclusions must be drawn from Jesus' failed ministry in His hometown of Nazareth (Matt. 13:54-58, Mark 6:1-6, Luke 4:16-30). Matthew summarized: "And He did not do many miracles there because of their unbelief." Again the sovereignty-only theory fails.

(Quenching the Spirit: Examining Centuries of Opposition to the Moving of the Holy Spirit by William DeArteaga, Lake Mary, Florida: Creation House, 1992, 142, Paragraph Structure Modified)