

DO ALL MIRACLES COME FROM GOD?

People have often given an account of some miraculous event as the reason for their faith in a particular church or doctrine. By using miraculous experiences to determine truth people have joined false religions and believed false doctrines. We must not interpret the Bible by personal experience. Rather we must interpret our experiences considering the Bible. We can show this truth in the Bible by examining two points.

1. The Bible tells us that we should test the spirits to see if they are from God.

2. The Bible tells us that not all signs, wonders or miraculous events are from God. Satan is out to deceive people to lead them away from the truth. He is more than willing to use his own power to trick people into believing a lie.

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I John 4:1-3 “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; and this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.”

Here we are told that we can recognize these deceiving spirits by what they say about Jesus Christ. So, what did John mean when he said that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh? Well, this same writer tells us what he meant, in the Gospel of John — John 1:1 and 14: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

(Verse 14) “And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

The Word was God and God became flesh and dwelt among us. In other words, those who deny that Jesus was God in the flesh are teaching the spirit of the antichrist. Let's say a person in a false church that denies this truth experiences some sort of miracle within this false church. Does this show that the person belongs to a true church? No, of course not, because not all miracles are from God. We should examine any church or person performing miracles in the light of what they teach about Jesus.

(See also 1 Thessalonians 5:21, Acts 17:11, Proverbs 14:15, Romans 16:17-18, 2 Peter 2:1.)

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Deuteronomy 13:1-5: "If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder comes true, concerning which he spoke to you, saying, 'Let us go after other gods (whom you have not known) and let us serve them,' you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams; for the LORD your God is testing you to find out if you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. You shall follow the LORD your God and fear Him; and you shall keep His commandments, listen to His voice, serve Him, and cling to Him. But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has counseled rebellion against the LORD your God who brought you from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, to seduce you from the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall purge the evil from among you."

Exodus 7:10-12: “So Moses and Aaron came to Pharaoh, and thus they did just as the LORD had commanded; and Aaron threw his staff down before Pharaoh and his servants, and it became a serpent. Then Pharaoh also called for the wise men and the sorcerers, and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same with their secret arts. For each one threw down his staff and they turned into serpents. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs.”

Matthew 7:22-23: “Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’”

Matthew 24:24: “For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.”

Thessalonians 2:8-9: “And then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders.”

Revelation 13:12-14: “And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was **healed**. And he performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life.”

Revelation 16:13-14: “And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs; for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty.”

In summary, if we do not want to be deceived, we must interpret all miracles from personal experience or otherwise in the light of Gods' written word (The Holy Bible). We must test the spirits to see whether they are from God.