

**Test your Bible Knowledge**

1. *Jonah was in the belly of the great fish for:*

- a. **twenty-four** hours
- b. seven days and nights
- c. three days and three nights
- d. one day and one night

2. **Tell it not in:**

- a. Aphrah
- b. Gath
- c. Saphir
- d. Zaana

3. *“A bitter and hasty nation”, so termed by the Lord **were** the:*

- a. Assyrians
- b. Israelites
- c. Chaldeans
- d. Egyptians

4. *“The **LORD** gave, and the **LORD** has taken away,” said:*

- a. Job
- b. **Job’s** father
- c. Job’s wife
- d. **a** saint

**Scriptures:** 1) Jonah 1:17 2) Micah 1:10 3) Habakkuk 4) Job 1:20-21

-Fred Singleton

**Schedule:**

Sunday Bible Study – 10:00 AM

Sunday Morning Worship – 11:00AM

Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM

Wednesday Night Bible Study – 7:00 PM

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***“Tell me nothing but the truth in the name of the LORD?”-1King 22:16***

***IS GOD STILL WORKING MIRACLES THROUGH MEN TODAY?***

There are about 2,054 different religious groups in the U.S.A. today. There are more than 5,000 “prophet movements” in Africa and a number of “**faith healers**” in America. Among these different religious bodies, many of them profess to have the ability to work miracles today. Annually there are workshops that are **setup** to help teach people how to speak in tongues; nightly television shows and seminars that are dedicated to training and convincing people that a number of men and woman today have the ability to perform miracles.

***The Definition of the Term “Miracle”***

The word miracle has been misused by many, and what some are **calling** a miracle may not be at all. If someone escapes death in a car accident, or if someone is struck by lightning and **survives**, we are apt to say it was a “miracle.”

“A miracle has been defined as a work wrought by a divine power for a divine purpose by means beyond the reach of man. “ (Herbert Lockyer, All The Miracles of the Bible)

Webster defines a miracle as- “An event or effect in the physical world deviating from the known laws of nature...; an extra-ordinary, anomalous, or abnormal event...”

Mr. Vine defines miracle as, "Power, inherent ability," is used of works of a supernatural origin and character, such as could not be produced by natural agents and means. It is translated "miracles" in the RV and KJV in Acts 8:13 (where variant readings give the words in different order); 19:11; 12:10, 28; 3:5; KJV only, in Acts 2:22 (RV, "mighty works"); Heb. 2:4 (RV, "powers"). (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words,)

In my own words I would say a miracle is a supernatural event that supersedes natural laws; a demonstration of supernatural intervention either directly upon an object or person, or through some person or agent, in which no natural force is responsible for the effect produced.

When [it is said] one says that miracles have served their purpose and are no longer needed [to] today, some charge [you] them with denying the power of God, or perhaps blasphemy. But this is a misunderstanding on their part regarding what the scriptures teach on this subject. The question is not, does God still perform miracles today, because He can do whatever He wants, but does God work miracles through man today? [The] Their answer to the question is not based on the word of God.

Miracles that were performed throughout the Bible confirmed the certainty of truth, which was taught by the one performing them. Jesus performed miracles to establish the truthfulness of His claim to be the Son of God. Listen to Matthew-11:2, *“And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples 3 and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?” 4 Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: 5 The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.”* Christ lived in a time in which many claimed to be “The Coming One.” Christ established without a doubt that he was in fact the Son of God by the miracles [in] which He performed.

Is there any need for folks today to see a miracle to believe that Jesus is the Son of God?

According to what the apostle John wrote we are told that we have all the evidence needed in the recorded testimony of the eye witnesses to prove to us that Jesus is the Son of God, *“truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that*

*Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name”* John 20:30-31.

The miracles of the apostles confirmed the truthfulness of the word “preached”. (Mark 16:14-20; Heb 2:3-4)

The words of God have already been confirmed and delivered once for all to the saints. The miracles of those endowed with spiritual gifts confirmed the word as it was being revealed. Miracles in Bible times were being performed by the apostles and prophets in an effort to edify the church in the absence of the completed revelation of God’s word. (1 Cor. 14:12) Now that the *(faith)* as Jude puts it “...*was once for all delivered to the saints*”; there is no need for the working of miracles today.

I have asked those who believe that God is still working miracles through men today, “For what purpose are these miracles being performed today if God is indeed working miracles through man”? I have yet to receive an answer that does not contradict the God of word.

Paul taught that the miraculous activities were going to cease and vanish away (1 Cor. 13:8-12) *“when that which is perfect has come,”* and I believe that *“that which is perfect”* refers to the completion of the New Testament. James teaches that we have the “perfect law of liberty,” which is the word of God (James 1:22, 25). I believe that the Holy Spirit revealed all truth that God wanted us to know [by the hands of] through the apostles and prophets, and that faith now comes by hearing of God’s word (John 16:12-13; Rom. 10:17; John 20:30-31).

Let us learn to test all things (1 Thes. 5:21) by the standard, i.e. the Bible. Think about this. Have you ever seen anyone turn a rod into a serpent, water into wine, raise someone from the dead, make a deformed arm whole, [or a deformed arm made whole, and] or eradicate [of] AIDS? Have you ever seen anyone walk on water, or feed five thousand with two fish? How is it that none of these so-called miracle

performers **ever** perform any of the above Bible miracles? [Fred, the eradication of AIDS is not a Bible miracle so I would just delete that example]

-Fred Singleton.