

MIRACLES, WONDERS, AND SIGNS

Michael Pickford

What amazes me is that many who claim to believe in God try to deny the miracles of the Bible by "explaining them away."

As proof that Jesus was the promised Messiah, Peter said in his sermon that before their very eyes Jesus performed "Miracles, wonders, and signs." (Acts 2:22). Why three different words?

"Miracle" refers to the act that suspended and/or violated "Natural" laws.

"Wonders" refers to the effect of the miracle performed - it produced wonder in those who witnessed it.

"Signs" indicates the purpose of the miracle. It was performed to prove (signify) that Jesus was Who He claimed to be.

If the suspension/violation of natural laws (miracle) can be explained, then that eliminates the wonder in the people, and the thing it was meant to signify becomes suspect.

You can't explain a miracle. if you could, it wouldn't be a miracle, it'd just be an impressive illusion. Jesus didn't perform illusions, He performed miracles! 🔍

The elements of our worship, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7

COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00



- www.defendthegospel.com
- 1st Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- 5th Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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"They...searched the scriptures daily..." -Acts 17:11

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IN A MOMENT

Michael Pickford

We use the phrase, "In a moment" often in everyday speech. "I'll be with you in a moment." "I'll do that in a moment." It's difficult to define how long a moment is. Some say ninety seconds makes a moment. Others reduce it to 1.5 seconds. However, when the Bible speaks of a moment, it intends to carry the idea of suddenness. Let's consider some things that can/will happen in a moment.

In a moment some folks were consumed. Number 16:21. In this verse, God intended to destroy Korah, Dathan, Abiram and their families because of their rebellion against Moses, which meant rebellion against God. Disobedience to God brings dire consequences (2 Ths 1:6-9).

In a moment people die. "In a moment they die, in the middle of the night..." (Job 34:20). Everyone dies, but no one knows when they will die. For this reason, we must live every moment of our lives in service to the Lord so that we'll be prepared when our "moment" comes.

In a moment cities guilty of homosexuality were overthrown. Lamentations 4:6. This verse references the destruction of Sodom which was destroyed because of its extreme wickedness in relation to going after strange flesh (homosexuality). They were going about their merry lives in their vile sin when they were, "overthrown in a moment." God will punish this sin (Romans 1:26-27).

In a moment the faithful will be changed. 1 Corinthians 15:52. "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye..." faithful Christians who are still living when the Lord returns will have their bodies changed into a body suited for eternal life in heaven!

In a moment our sufferings will end. 2 Corinthians 4:17. When compared to eternal glory, our sufferings here, no matter how intense, are but for a moment. So, keep on keeping on. Be faithful till death and you will receive your crown of life (Revelations 2:10). 🔍

Daily Bible Study

by Michael Pickford

This Week's Theme: What God Wants

Weekly Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 2:4

Introduction: It's interesting to think about God wanting things. The truth is, there are several things that God wants in relation to man – to you and me. Another interesting question is, "Does God always get what He wants?" with God being divine, all knowing, all powerful, and all present, one would think the answer would be a quick and decisive "YES!" The truth is, however, God does not always get what He wants. This does not take away from His sovereignty; it's merely a reflection upon the free will of man. God wants everyone to serve Him, but most people chose not to serve Him, therefore, God doesn't always get what He wants. However, when God doesn't get what He wants the consequences for man are very severe. So, it is imperative for us to understand what God wants and then strive to give it to Him. This week, let's go to the Bible and delve into the desires of God.

Monday: God Wants Man's Love

Matthew 22:36-38

1. What question was Jesus asked here?
2. What is the greatest commandment? Does this reflect God's desire?
3. How do we demonstrate our love for God? (John 14:21; 1 John 2:5; 1 John 5:3).

Tuesday: God Wants Man's Respect

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

1. "Man's all" refers to man's very purpose in life. What is man's purpose in life?
2. Does "Fear" in this verse mean, "scared to death," or, does it mean, "Respect and reverence?"
3. According to this verse along with Deuteronomy 6:2, how do we demonstrate our fear (respect) for God?

Wednesday: God Wants Man's Obedience.

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

1. "Man's all" is to fear God and to do what?
2. Deuteronomy 10:12-13. Note how verse 12 corresponds to our previous two days' points. What does verse 13 add?
3. Hebrews 5:8-9. What will the obedient receive?
4. 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9. What will happen to those who "do not obey the Gospel?"
5. Is obedience essential for salvation?

Thursday: God Wants Man's Praise (Worship).

Read Psalm 148, 149, and 150

1. What do these Psalms insist that all of creation do?
2. Does this reflect God desire to be praised?
3. Psalm 148:5-6. Why should man worship God?
4. Matthew 4:10. What did Jesus tell Satan that man should do?

Friday: God Wants Man's Salvation.

2 Peter 3:9

1. What does God desire everyone to do? Why does he want them to repent?
2. 1 Timothy 2:3-4. What does God desire in this passage?
3. Will everyone be saved? (Matthew 7:13-14).
4. Who will be saved? (Hebrews 5:8-9)
5. Romans 5:8-10. Why did God send His son into the world?
6. Luke 19:10. Jesus stated His purpose for coming. What was it?



DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Jeff Isbell
Reading: Proverbs 11:1-6
- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Opening Prayer.....Sam Miller
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Michael Pickford
Serve.....Lynn Buttrey
Serve.....John Nelson
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Kenny Johnson
- Lord's Table.....Kenny Johnson

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Invitation.....Michael Pickford

Thank You For Serving!

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16;
Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

Obey Today!

**Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!**