

MIRACLE POWER IN THE EARLY CHURCH

Act 3:1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being the ninth hour.*

Act 3:2 And **a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;**

Act 3:3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

Act 3:4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, **Look on us.**

Act 3:5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

Act 3:6 Then Peter said, **Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.**

Act 3:7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted *him up*: **and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.**

Act 3:8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

Act 3:9 **And all the people saw him walking and praising God:**

Act 8:5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

Act 8:6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, **hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.**

Act 8:7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed *with them*: and many taken with palsies, and that were **lame, were healed.**

Act 8:8 And there was great joy in that city.

Act 8:9 But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:

Act 8:10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.

Act 8:11 And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

Act 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Act 8:13 **Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.**

Act 8:14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

Act 8:15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, **that they might receive the Holy Ghost:**

Act 8:16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

Act 8:17 **Then laid they *their* hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.**

Act 8:18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

Act 8:19 Saying, **Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.**

Act 8:20 But Peter said unto him, **Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.**

There are so many sermons that could be preached from these verses.

Philip, a deacon, now an evangelist went to Samaria to minister the word of God. Persecutions possible led by Saul (Paul) had driven many believers to outlying areas to preach the Gospel and pray for the sick. When Philip arrived in Samaria, he was not known as an Apostle however he showed that his ministry had many characteristics of the Apostles. For we read that many healing miracles as well as deliverances were in evidence. The people gave heed to his preaching. .

Act 8:6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, **hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.**

This was certainly a revival. I am certain that Philip was only one such revivalist doing this work. Other men were out preaching in other towns and villages doing God's work.

Act 8:8 And there was great joy in that city.

Even the well-known sorcerer Simon was converted and baptized in water. (v.13) The miracles were so impressive that he followed Philip around ready to see the next miracle. He was still intrigued after his conversion. "He continued with

Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done".
(v.13)

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The anointing for imparting baptism of the Holy Spirit was obviously on Peter and John.

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Act 19:11 And **God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:**

Act 19:12 So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

Act 14:7 And there they preached the gospel.

Act 14:8 And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked:

Act 14:9 The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,

Act 14:10 **Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.**

Act 14:11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.

Act 16:24 Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

Act 16:25 And **at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God:** and the prisoners heard them.

Act 16:26 And **suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened,** and every one's bands were loosed.

Act 16:27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, **and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.**

Act 16:28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

Act 16:29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

Act 16:30 And brought them out, and said, **Sirs, what must I do to be saved?**

Act 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

You have just read some of the mighty works or “Acts of the apostles”. It is sad that many Christians today do not believe that miracles are for this present day. Miracles just didn’t stop in the 1ST century. They are ongoing today for those spirit-filled believers who believe that God is still the God of miracles.

2Co 4:18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

2Co 4:7 **But we have this treasure in earthen vessels,** that the excellency of the power may be of God, **and not of us.**