A God Journey

SIGNS AND WONDERS
The message of salvation to a lost and dying world continues to be God’s main emphasis to the people of this planet. **Everything God says and does is specifically designed to focus attention on this theme**; and when it comes to supernatural signs and wonders performed by God, they are no exception. In fact the Greek word “sign” as found in **Mark 16:17 & 20**, presents the idea of a mark or a signal given to visually confirm the gospel as truth.

**GOOD NEWS DECLARED AND DEMONSTRATED**

1.) According to **Mark 16:20**, what were the disciples doing as they went from place to place.

2.) What did the Lord provide as a mark or signal to confirm their message was from God?

3.) Now it is important to note that the emphasis of preaching the gospel, as well as supernatural signs and wonders, are always connected in scripture. Both work together in harmony to create the ultimate impact upon those in need of the Lord. That is why Jesus taught his disciples in **Mark 16:15,17** to

   “… Go ye into all the world and __________________ the gospel…”

   “And these ____________ shall follow them that believe;”

4.) Also notice a somewhat duplicate thought found in **Hebrews 2:3,4**. According to this passage, the verbal message of salvation was also marked or proven by what?

   * ________________

   * ________________

   * ________________

5.) It would appear the early church clearly understood this truth. Take a good close look at the prayer presented to the Lord in **Acts 4:23-31**. As they prayed, they requested that God would give believers boldness to speak forth the Word, and that their preaching would be accompanied by what?

   _____________________________

6.) Here we see that supernatural signs and wonders were seen as critical ingredients for effective ministry.

   YES ___  NO ___

7.) After reading **Acts 8:4-8**, which verses show that Philip not only declared, but also demonstrated the powerful gospel of Christ to the people of Samaria?

   ___ verses 4&5  ___ verses 6&7  ___ verse 8

8.) It would appear that God is more than willing to demonstrate his power in order to give added emphasis to his message.

   YES ___  NO ___
The bible records many examples of the demonstrative work of God through the use of miraculous signs and wonders. Let's take a close look at some of those examples in this lesson. No doubt you will be able to think of many more instances from God's Word in which the Lord worked visibly to add extra emphasis to his message.

**ESTABLISHING A PATTERN**

1.) In Exodus 7:8-12, what sign did Moses and Aaron perform in the presence of Pharaoh, to begin dealing with this Egyptian ruler to let the people of Israel go free?

2.) According to Exodus 14:21-31, what mighty wonder did God perform before the people of Israel, to show that his message of deliverance was true?

3.) In 1 Kings 18:30-39 what sign convinced the Children of Israel at this time that the God of Elijah was truly their God?

4.) Now in the New Testament, see if you can find the message the Lord was emphasizing, and the sign he performed as found in Matthew 9:1-8.

   * The main message at the moment was ____________________________.

   * The sign Christ performed was ____________________________.

   * Was the visible added emphasis successful? YES  ____ NO  ____

5.) What sign in Acts 10:44-47 proved to Peter and the others with him that these Gentiles had truly been saved and baptized in the Holy Spirit?

6.) What sign of protection did God perform in Acts 28:1-10 which led to a mighty move of God on the island of Melita?

7.) Have you personally witnessed a demonstration of God's power in your lifetime? YES  ____ NO  ____

8.) Briefly describe your experience. ____________________________________________

Gaining an understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **But That They May Know**: Christ makes it extremely clear that the miracle he was about to perform would be done for the purpose of validating that his message of forgiveness of sin was absolutely true.

- **They Saw It... And Glorified God**: The response of the people confirms the fact that the healing of the crippled man was an effective visual aid of the gospel of Christ.

- **They Changed Their Minds**: A miracle of divine protection was the turning point which led to the people of Melita becoming open to Paul's sharing of the gospel.

A personal application statement as it pertains to what I have learned.

*When God shows up in the form of a miracle, it's extremely hard for people to deny the reality of the gospel!"*
As we continue to establish a clear, scriptural pattern of ministry, let’s take a much closer look at Christ and his disciples to see just how important the use of signs and wonders were as the gospel was being presented.

**ESTABLISHING A PATTERN (Part Two)**

1.) Since Christ is our example, let’s see what pattern he established while involved in presenting the gospel. Notice the following passages of scripture.

   * In Matthew 4:23,24, was his preaching accompanied with signs & wonders?
     
     **YES** ____  **NO** ____

   * In Matthew 9:35, was his preaching accompanied with signs & wonders?
     
     **YES** ____  **NO** ____

   * According to both of these passages, this appears to be the consistent pattern of ministry everywhere Jesus went.
     
     **YES** ____  **NO** ____

2.) When Christ prepared to send his disciples on a tour of ministry as seen in Matthew 10:5-8, what specific instructions did he give them?

   “And as ye go, preach, saying the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

   “____________ the sick, ______________ the leper,
   _____________ the dead, _____________________ devils…”

3.) Now the question is, did the disciples follow Christ’s directions? After looking at Mark 6:7,12,13 what happened when they went out to minister?

   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

4.) In Luke 10:1-9, Jesus sent out a larger group of 70 followers. Did he expect the same out of them as he had the 12 disciples?

   **YES** ____  **NO** ____

5.) In Luke 10:17-19, did the 70 have similar results? **YES** ____  **NO** ____

6.) Even after Jesus was taken up into heaven, what was the pattern of ministry by the disciples as revealed in Acts 2:42,43 and Acts 5:12-16?

   ________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________

7.) Are you convinced that to share the gospel effectively, believers must not only declare God’s Word, but also demonstrate God’s power?

   **YES** ____  **NO** ____
So far we have learned that supernatural signs and wonders present added emphasis to the preaching of the gospel. We have clearly seen the evidence of such powerful workings all throughout the Bible, but what about today? Has God changed his tactics? Is he doing things differently? Are we as believers challenged to be involved in the same type of ministry as we have already witnessed in our studies up to this point?

**HIGH EXPECTATIONS**

1.) Take time to read the following passages of scripture, then write down the key thought of each verse.

- Matthew 4:19
- 1 Peter 2:21
- 1 John 2:6
- John 14:12-14
- Mark 16:17,18

2.) Would you agree a believer in Christ is someone who has been called by God to pattern his or her life after the example of Christ?

   YES   NO

3.) Now look up and then write down the words found in John 14:12. Keep in mind these are the words of Jesus spoken to his followers.

   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

4.) What peaks your interest about this verse?

   ____________________________________________

5.) Notice the strong, emphatic words of Christ presented in Mark 16:17,18.

   “And these signs _________ follow them that believe;”
   “In my name _________ they cast out devils;”
   “they _________ speak with new tongues;”
   “they _________ take up serpents;”
   “and if they drink any deadly thing, it _________ not hurt them;”
   “they _________ lay hands on the sick, and they _________ recover.”

6.) After a serious look at the scriptures presented in this lesson, does it seem clear that Christ expects believers to not only follow his pattern for living, but also his pattern of ministry including signs and wonders?

   YES   NO
Yes, the gospel is to be declared and demonstrated for all to see and hear. The responsibility of this type of ministry has been laid on our shoulders as the followers of Christ. Maybe we need to dig a little deeper as we set our sights on doing God’s will in the days, weeks, and months that lay ahead.

**TAKING A CLOSER LOOK**

1.) Probably no one adds more emphasis on preaching the gospel along with the demonstration of signs and wonders than does Paul in his letters to the Romans and the Corinthians. Notice Romans 15:18,19, as well as 1 Corinthians 2:4,5.

* To the Romans, Paul said: “I have fully preached the gospel of Christ”. What was his explanation of this particular statement?

________________________________________________________________________________________

* To the Corinthians, Paul said his preaching was not just with words, but also with what?

________________________________________________________________________________________

2.) Now as we take a closer look into the realm of supernatural signs and wonders, we are going to use a specific list of signs boldly presented in Mark 16:17,18 as our focal point. Keep in mind we are not suggesting these are the only signs God performs through believers, but rather this list could be seen as categories of signs and wonders. If that be the case then there are four basic categories mentioned in this passage.

* Signs Of Deliverance:
  “...they shall ___________________________________”

* Signs Of New Languages:
  “...they shall ___________________________________”

* Signs Of Protection:
  “...they shall ___________________________________”
  “and if they ___________________________________”

* Signs Of Healing:
  “...they shall ___________________________________”
  “and they ___________________________________”

3.) Maybe this would be a good time to remind ourselves of the words found in Philippians 4:13 and Mark 9:23. According to these verses...

“I can do ___________________________________.”

“All things are possible ___________________________________. “
The Bible reveals that the spirit world of darkness is very real, and it is not to be taken lightly. Yet when dealing with Satan and his demonic hordes, believers are instructed to be willing to take action, realizing that in Christ, victory is assured.

**SIGNS OF DELIVERANCE**

1.) From the start, every believer needs to know a key scriptural fact clearly stated in 1 John 4:4. Write this verse on the lines below.

2.) In 1 John 3:8, what does the Bible say Jesus came to do?

   ___ To make peace with Satan   ___ To destroy the works of Satan

3.) OPPRESSION is the outward influence and attack of the enemy against people. Demonic forces may oppress or come against people in a variety of ways. Read the following verses then list the attacks of oppression listed.

   Acts 10:38 _______________________________ (physical oppression)

   2 Timothy 1:7 _______________________________ (mental oppression)

   1 Timothy 4:1,2 _______________________________ (spiritual oppression)

4.) POSSESSION is the ultimate controlling work of demons. Demon possession is possible for those who do not have the Spirit of Christ in them, and who open their lives up to the workings of demonic spirits. In the following verses, what did Jesus do and how did he do it when dealing with demon spirits?

   Mark 1:23-27 ____________________________________

   Mark 1:32-34 ______________________________

   Mark 1:38-39 ______________________________

5.) Ephesians 6:10-17 let’s us know in no uncertain terms that we are actually involved in a spiritual battle.

   * Which verse tells us who we are fighting?  Verse_____

   * Which verse reveals where our strength comes from for battle?  Verse_____

   * Which verses instruct us about our spiritual armor?  Verses_________

   * Which verse explains our weapon is the authority of God’s Word?  Verse_____

6.) According to Mark 16:17, people of faith can put the devil on the run?

   YES___ NO___

**References...**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

1 John 4:4; 3:8  
Acts 10:38  
2 Timothy 1:7  
1 Timothy 4:1,2  
Mark 1:23-39  
Ephesians 6:10-17  
Mark 16:17

**Insights...**

Gaining an understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“Healing All That Were Oppressed”:** Healing is not only the release of pain and suffering from off of a person’s life, but also the release of demonic oppression that usually accompanies those times of weakness.
- **“Spirit Of Fear”:** Tormenting fear is another of Satan’s weapons designed to discourage and defeat anyone whose mind is not fixed on the Lord.
- **“Doctrines Of Devils”:** Scripture reveals that during the last days Satan will release a host of lying spirits whose job will be to somehow persuade God’s people away from the truth of God’s Word.

**Perspective.....**

A personal application statement as it pertains to what I have learned.

“Like Christ, we have been given the mandate and the power to set the captives free!”

Written By: James R. Palmer

Lesson #6
Speaking in other tongues has been one of the most controversial topics within the church in the last 100 years. **Even so, millions of people have testified of a God given ability to pray in another language other than their own.** Now the sign of casting out demons clearly shows power and authority over the enemy. What is the significance of the sign of speaking in other tongues?

### SIGNS OF NEW LANGUAGES

1.) After looking up the following passages of scripture, write down the common sign that clearly marked those who had been filled with the Holy Spirit.

   Acts 2:4_________ Acts 10:44-46_________

   Acts 19:6_________

2.) It appears in each incident that speaking in other tongues was the initial evidence of people being filled with the Holy Spirit.  
   
   YES___ NO___

3.) In Acts 2:5-12 we discover a second purpose for the sign of speaking in other tongues. It was a sign to the unbeliever.

   * What was it that caught the attention of unbelievers throughout Jerusalem?

   _____ The music  _____ The preaching  _____ The fellowship

   _____ People speaking in a variety of languages

   * What was it about this sign that so amazed those who gathered?

   _____ Couldn’t understand them  _____ Each heard their own language

   * Were those who spoke in other tongues from different countries?

   YES___ NO___

4.) What does Paul say about this in 1 Corinthians 14:22?

__________________________________________________________________________

5.) According to the Bible, speaking in other tongues is also a powerful avenue of prayer available to all believers in Christ. Notice the following verses.

   1 Corinthians 14:2  A person praying in other tongues is talking to _______.

   1 Corinthians 14:14  A person’s _____________ is actually praying when he or she is praying in other tongues.

   Ephesians 6:18 & Jude 20,21  Believers are strongly encouraged to pray in the _________________.

6.) Finally, in Mark 16:17 Christ clearly announces that people of faith can speak in other tongues.  

   YES___ NO___
Divine protection is another category of supernatural signs that Christ said would follow believers. Contrary to the opinion of some, this does not promote carelessness or even recklessness as some kind of proof of spirituality. Snakes and poisons simply illustrate common dangers people have encountered throughout human history. The protective hand of God effectively demonstrates God’s power to care for his own.

SIGNS OF PROTECTION

1.) First let’s look at a couple of Old Testament examples. Read the following accounts, then briefly describe what God did to miraculously protect those mentioned.

Daniel 3:1-30 ___________________________________ _______________

Daniel 6:1-28 _____________________________ _____________________

2.) Notice the example of divine protection found in Acts 28:1-10. Carefully read this passage, then answer the following questions below.

* What island was Paul and the others stranded on? ________________

* What happened to Paul while building a fire? __________________________

* What did the natives of the island expect would happen to Paul? ________

__________________________________________ Did he? _______

3.) Since supernatural signs and wonders have a primary purpose of working to demonstrate the power of God to the unbeliever; did the events referred to so far in this lesson do just that?

YES___  NO___

4.) To the seventy disciples who had just returned from a tour of evangelism, Christ reveals the following comments in Luke 10:17-20. Write verse 19 on the lines below.

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

5.) According to Mark 16:18, those who have faith in God can believe for, and expect to encounter God’s divine protection.

YES___  NO___

6.) Any personal examples? ________________________________
Now the subject of divine healing comes to the forefront as another sign or mark of the ministry of believers. In the last lesson the divine protection of Paul lead to a mighty healing campaign, touching the lives of everyone on the island of Malita. Since Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever; there should be no doubt he is still in the healing business.

**SIGNS OF DIVINE HEALING**

1.) The healing ministry of Christ was prophesied in Isaiah 53:4,5. What act did Jesus suffer that took upon himself our sicknesses and provided for our healing?

2.) Take a close look at Matthew 4:23 & 9:35, then answer the following questions below.

   * Was healing the sick a normal part of Christ’s ministry?   YES  ___  NO  ___
   * Did Jesus heal the sick everywhere he went?    YES  ___  NO  ___
   * Was Jesus able to heal all kinds of sicknesses?     YES  ___  NO  ___

3.) Now find at least 3 examples in the book of Acts which demonstrates believers were also involved in bringing healing to the sick and afflicted.

4.) According to Acts 5:12-16, the reputation of the early church as a place to find healing was so well known that in verse 16, what was taking place?

   ___ Drug sales increased   ___ More medical professionals had to be hired
   ___ Multitudes from all over were coming to be supernaturally healed

5.) Read James 5:13-16 to discover some basic instructions concerning this subject, then respond to the following questions.

   * Should the person who is suffering go to God in prayer?  ________

   * Should the person who is sick ask other believers to pray also?  ________

   * What should a person expect when praying for the sick?  (verse 15)

6.) After researching the account given in Acts 9:32-35, which verse clearly reveals that divine healing definitely draws unbelievers to Christ?

   ___ verse 32   ___ verse 33   ___ verse 34   ___ verse 35
Now the critical question is: How does a person begin to operate in the realm of the supernatural and impact the lost for Christ? No doubt the final four lessons of this series will help shine some light on this question.

**AUTHORITY FOR SIGNS AND WONDERS**

(One who has, or has been given special privilege to command, enforce, act, decide, etc.)

1.) Spiritual authority as it relates to supernatural signs and wonders, is clearly identified in Mark 16:17,18.

   “And these signs shall follow them that believe; in ____________...”

2.) In John 5:14-27 we see that Jesus has the authority to give life and to execute judgment. Who gave him that authority according to verses 26 & 27?

   __________________________________________ (Also note John 14:10)

3.) With authority, what did Jesus do in Luke 4:33-37?

   __________________________________________

4.) Now in Luke 9:1, were Christ’s disciples given the authority (privilege) to do the works of Christ?

   YES___ NO___

5.) What symbol does Christ use in Matthew 16:19 to illustrate the authority being given to his followers.

   “And I will give unto you the ______ of the Kingdom of Heaven;”

6.) Notice the following verses. What was the basis of each person’s spiritual authority which led to supernatural signs and wonders being performed?

   - Luke 10:17 ________________________________
   - Acts 3:6 _________________________________
   - Acts 16:18 ______________________________

7.) To illustrate what spiritual authority is not, take a close look at the true account presented in Acts 19:13-17. Did merely using the name of Jesus give them the authority to cast out devils?

   YES___ NO___

8.) It’s important to understand we are talking about someone who is in Christ Jesus (relationship), speaking and acting on behalf of the Lord, in line with his word (authority). Write John 15:7 on the lines below to clarify this point.

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

   (Also take note of a parallel passage found in 1 John 4:4)

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**Insights....**

Gaining an understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.

- **“In My Name”:** Jesus clearly identifies the source of our authority is found in him.
- **“The Keys Of The Kingdom Of Heaven”:** One who possesses keys has been given access and ability to secure something, or to open up something.
- **“Who Are You”:** Demon spirits are not impressed or affected by mere human authority and power.
- **“Abide In Me”:** To abide in Christ refers to those who are in close, continual relationship with the Lord.

**Perspective.....**

A personal application statement as it pertains to what I have learned.

“Exercising the authority of Christ as I continue my intimate walk with the Lord, opens the door to the dynamic and the miraculous!”

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**References....**

Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.

- Mark 16:17,18
- John 5:19-17,26,27
- John 14:10
- Matthew 16:18,19
- Luke 10:17
- Acts 3:1-9; 16:16-18
- Acts 19:13-17
- John 15:7

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**Written By:** James R. Palmer

**Lesson #10**
Along with divine authority, there is a second ingredient given to Christ’s followers in order for them to manifest the mighty works of God. It’s a resource of dynamic power that enables God’s people to do the impossible.

**POWER FOR SIGNS AND WONDERS**

(One who has, or has been given special ability to accomplish, perform, act, do, etc.)

1.) A quick look into the life of Christ shows us the power he had and where that power came from.
   * In **Luke 4:14**, who was the source of his power? ______________

2.) Along with authority, what else did the Lord exercise when casting out the demon in **Luke 4:33-36**?
    ________________________________

3.) When multitudes came to be healed and delivered, what ingredient ministered to them all as presented in **Luke 6:17-19**?
    ______________________________

4.) In **Luke 9:1**, were the disciples given power (ability) to do the works of Christ?
   YES___ NO___

5.) Before sending his followers out to begin spreading the gospel throughout the world, what did Christ emphasize was an absolute necessity? Read **Luke 24:49** and **Acts 1:4** to find the answer.
   ___ Passport ___ Airline ticket ___ Holy Spirit power ___ Talent

6.) Notice this power was promised to them in **Acts 1:5**. Write this promise on the lines below.
    ______________________________________
    ______________________________________
    ______________________________________

7.) In **Acts 1:8**, when did Christ say they would receive this power?
   ___ After graduating from Bible School ___ After a year of strength training
   ___ After encountering the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit

8.) According to **Acts 2:38,39**, is this promise of power available to all believers of every generation?
   YES___ NO___

References:
Consider these in-depth reference points as you begin your journey through this lesson.
- **Luke 3:21,22**
- **Luke 4:1,14**
- **Luke 4:33-36**
- **Luke 6:17-19**
- **Luke 9:1,2; 24:49**
- **Acts 1:4-8**
- **Acts 2:38,39**

Insights:
Gaining an understanding of the basic concepts of this lesson.
- **“In The Power Of The Spirit”**: Identifying the fact that Christ lived and ministered in the power given to him by the Holy Spirit.
- **“With Authority And Power”**: Even the people of Christ’s day noticed that his life and ministry clearly demonstrated divine power and authority at work.
- **“Endued With Power”** Literally meaning to be clothed with the power of the Holy Spirit.
- **“To All That Are Afar Off”**: A reference that all future generations of believers in Christ were included in this promise of power.

Perspective:
A personal application statement as it pertains to what I have learned.

“Christ still expects and enables his followers to do the miraculous through the power of the Holy Spirit!”

Written By: James R. Palmer

Lesson #11
There is a third critical ingredient when it comes to manifesting supernatural signs and wonders, and that’s the ingredient of an absolute, unwavering faith in God. In fact the Bible declares that our faith is foundational.

**FAITH FOR SIGNS AND WONDERS**

(One who fully believes God can, God does, and God will!)

1.) The fact that God has chosen to operate supernaturally through those who demonstrate a powerful faith in God is clearly emphasized in Mark 16:17,18.

   “And these signs shall ___________________________________.;”

2.) Now write down the words of John 14:12 on the lines below.

   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

3.) Respond to the following questions after reading Mark 11:22,23.

   * What was Christ’s emphatic, opening statement? ________________
   * What is a person not to allow when aiming for the miraculous? __________
   * What should the total focus be instead? ________________________________

4.) According to verse 24, a person of faith is to respond in a such way that demonstrates they believe it’s as good as done.  

   YES___  NO___

5.) In James 1:6-8, does doubting God in any way hinder what God wants to do in and through our lives?

   YES___  NO___

6.) Does Matthew 17:14-20 demonstrate this fact?  

   YES___  NO___

7.) Finally, in an effort to feed your faith for the miraculous, write down the dynamic faith phrase found in each of the verses listed below.

   Genesis 18:14 ____________________________________________
   Mark 9:23 ______________________________________________
   Luke 1:37 ______________________________________________
   Luke 18:27 ______________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
To wrap up this series, let’s compile some of the key scriptures presented in an effort to view a more complete picture of God’s emphasis on the subject of “Supernatural Signs & Wonders”. Write out each verse listed below.

**REVIEWING THE FACTS**

Mark 16:20

Hebrews 2:4

Matthew 10:7,8

Mark 16:17,18

John 14:12

Mark 11:22

Luke 9:1

John 14:12

Perspective.....

On the lines below write down at least two of your most favorite perspectives presented in this series.