

Bible Miracle #3 'Born Again'

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MY LIST OF TOP 10 BIBLE MIRACLES

- #10) The Building of a Nation
- #9) The Miracles of Elijah & Elisha
- #8) The Miracles of Jesus & the Apostles
- #7) The Sun Stands Still & Goes Back 10 Degrees
- #6) The Resurrections to Natural Life
- #5) Enoch & Elijah Taken Straight to Heaven
- #4) The Six Days of Creation
- #3) Regeneration to Eternal Life
- #2) The Final Resurrection
- #1) Jesus' Conception/Birth, Death & Resurrection

Top 10 Miracles #3: 'Born Again'

I. The extent of the problem of spiritual deadness

A. The death that came from sin

Gen 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

Gen 2:17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

B. That death had different elements and different consequences

1. In the day that Adam ate—His body became mortal—Death reigned in the world

1Co 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

2. In the day that Adam ate—There was a death in the mind of man

Rom 8:6 For to be carnally minded *is* death...

3. Without Christ—The death that Adam died is eternal death

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

4. In the day Adam ate—All who were in him died—In all the ways that he died

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

C. Death is a separation from life—The Tree of Life—Jesus is life—God is life

Gen 3:22 And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:

Gen 3:23 Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

Gen 3:24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

D. The extent of the problem can be measured by what was required for the solution

1. There was no solution other than the death of the Son of God

Mat 26:39 ...O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me...

2. It took the appearing of Jesus to abolish the death

2Ti 1:10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, **who hath abolished death**, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

3. There is no way to eternal life but by He who is life—Even the Tree of Life

Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

4. Jesus in the flesh—With power over flesh—Is the giver of eternal life

Joh 17:2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, **that he should give eternal life** to as many as thou hast given him.

Joh 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish...

5. As the sin of Adam has reigned unto death—The grace of Jesus reigns to life

Rom 5:20 ...But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

Rom 5:21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life **by Jesus Christ our Lord.**

II. The extent of what it takes to accomplish regeneration (born again)

A. Regeneration is accomplished by the same voice of Jesus that will raise bodies

Joh 5:25 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.

Joh 5:28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,

Joh 5:29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

B. Regeneration is accomplished by the same power that was needed to raise Jesus

Eph 1:19 And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

Eph 1:20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead...

C. Regeneration is a powerful miracle brought on by a sovereign act of God

Joh 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

III. The miracle of regeneration is an independent unassisted act of God

Tit 3:5 **Not by works of righteousness** which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Tit 3:6 Which **he shed** on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;

Tit 3:7 That being justified **by his grace**, we should be **made heirs** according to the hope of eternal life.

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, **them he also called...**

2Ti 1:8 ...the gospel according to the power of God;

2Ti 1:9 Who hath saved us, and **called us** with an holy calling, **not according to our works**, but **according to his own purpose and grace...**

A. Man does not call to God for this—This miracle is without any help from man

1Co 1:23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

1Co 1:24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

1Co 2:14...the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

Joh 10:24 ...How long dost thou make us to doubt? ...

Joh 10:26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep...

Joh 10:27 My sheep hear my voice...and they follow me:

Joh 12:39 Therefore they could not believe...

Joh 8:43 Why do ye not understand my speech? *even* because ye cannot hear my word.

Joh 5:40 And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him...

Joh 6:65 ...no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

Rom 9:16 So then *it is* not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

B. God does not need man's help to do His miracles

1. Nobody helped God with the miracle of creation

Job 38:4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.

2. Nobody helps God with the miracle of maintaining His creation

Pro 30:4 Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what *is* his name, and what *is* his son's name, if thou canst tell?

3. Nobody had to believe Jesus could do His miracles for Him to be able to do them

Mar 4:39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

Mar 4:40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

Mar 9:23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things *are* possible to him that believeth.

4. Nobody has the ability to believe after the fall into deadness

Joh 12:39 Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again,

Joh 12:40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with *their* eyes, nor understand with *their* heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

5. God never needed anyone to believe He could do miracles so He could do them

Rom 3:3 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?

Rom 3:4 God forbid...

2Ti 2:13 If we believe not, *yet* he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

IV. The Bible compares regeneration to other great miracles

A. Regeneration is likened to the miracle of creation

2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature...

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works...

—Can the uncreated create itself? —Did Adam help God create Adam?

B. Regeneration is likened to the miracle of a resurrection from the dead

Eph 2:1 And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Joh 5:25 ...The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.

—Can the dead raise himself? —How dead is dead?

C. Regeneration is likened to the miracle of a birth

Joh 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth...so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

—Can a man cause his own birth? —What did you do before you were you?

V. Our God is a miracle working God

—Bob, a retired college physics professor, reading through the Bible for the first time

—Asking me hard questions—About God—About right—About life after death

—Bob's wife started a story that Bob finished

—This physics professor was being questioned by a troubled and cynical grad student

—The student asked, "Do you really believe God can resurrect the dead?"

—Bob answered, "It is no greater miracle than me standing here before you."