

Catch the revival: miracles

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September 2022

About me

In March 2017 my life was turned upside down, or is it, right-side up? I had spent 20 years of rebellion against God, the one known as ELOHIM until I had a radical encounter when his son Jesus visited me and by his Spirit, I repented of my many sins. I got baptized soon thereafter and during the years I have walked with him, as his servant, I have seen that the bible is true and the Lord has been faithful to me. He has answered more than 70 of my prayers, which I recorded as he commanded me. Isn't that a miracle? Then towards the end of 2021, the Lord commissioned me to prepare a series of 12 messages called "catch the revival" of which the full series of messages can be seen here: <https://www.shaweleroad.com/revival>

About this message

This message about "miracles, signs and wonders, tongues, prophesy and being slain in the Spirit" scared me for a second when I saw I had to cover it for this month as message #9. I thought, "but I have never raised the dead! Blind eyes haven't been opened; demons haven't been cast out. Lord, why would you give me this impossible message to preach?"

It took the Lord calming me down to remind me of one who went before me, a prophet called Elijah about whom the bible says this:

Then Elijah said to Ahab, "Go get something to eat and drink, for I hear a mighty rainstorm coming!"

So Ahab went to eat and drink. But Elijah climbed to the top of Mount Carmel and bowed low to the ground and prayed with his face between his knees.

Then he said to his servant, "Go and look out toward the sea."

The servant went and looked, then returned to Elijah and said, "I didn't see anything."

Seven times Elijah told him to go and look. Finally the seventh time, his servant told him, "I saw a little cloud about the size of a man's hand rising from the sea."

Then Elijah shouted, "Hurry to Ahab and tell him, 'Climb into your chariot and go back home. If you don't hurry, the rain will stop you!'" And soon the sky was black with clouds. A heavy wind brought a terrific rainstorm, and Ahab left quickly for Jezreel. 1 Kings 18: 41-45 (NLT)

The first lesson: the secret place from which miracles come

The Lord showed me that the miracle of rain that Ahab received, for it hadn't rained in the land over 3 years, was born in the secret place of prayer. Ahab the king was eating and drinking, but Elijah was on a mountain praying 7 times – persistent prayer, because the Lord had said it would rain at the end of 3 years, but he needed to pray.

The first lesson on miracles, signs and wonders therefore shows that miracles come from faith in God's word previously spoken. We grab a hold of that word and refuse to let go of it, we pray persistently,

often in the secret place until what is already laid hold for us in heaven – becomes manifest here on earth.

The Lord in reminding me of this story wanted me to know that he has already anointed miracles signs and wonders to come and now wants me to prepare people and myself for that which has already happened in the spiritual so that it can happen in the natural.

The second lesson: quick and long miracles

Like I mentioned, I keep track of the prayers I pray to God such that when he answers - these answers being miracles, I have proof. To date the Lord has answered at least 70 of my prayers! But these miracles or answered prayers after often after praying for a long period of time, persistent prayer, like I narrated from the example of Elijah.

Because I didn't realize that these 70 answered prayers are miracles, I thought I have never really experienced miracles. Even this, it took the Lord showing me that I have experienced many. He then caused me to go and review my prayer journal and I didn't realise I have one example from my spiritual journal that I even recorded it as a miracle. Let me share what I wrote:

30/6/21: A miracle happened today! Our flight from MSP to ORD at 15.24 was wildly delayed and when it finally took off and we were in the air, the pilot announced that there might be a further potential delay and we were in a holding pattern due to a storm over Chicago. There was a possibility we wouldn't land and so would have to turn around and go back or land in another airport. I was so worked up I prayed furiously to the Lord and prayed a prayer of faith and told God to clear the storm so we could land. I called on him and said his word is we can tell mountains to move. I stood confidently on faith and over and over told the storm to clear in Jesus' name. I couldn't believe my ears, 5 min later the pilot said the storm was cleared and we could land! I burst into tears and felt the chatter of the Spirit! I was so full of joy! Something has changed Lord, for it's the year of mountain moving Faith and you have showed me what furious prayer can do! Lord thank you for this wonderful testimony!

From this, I have realized this revelation from the Lord:

1. Miracles are of two types, the ones which come instant or quickly – which many classify as the “miracles” such as raising the dead and the ones which come as the result of a life devoted to prayer - over a longer period – which are the bulk of the ones I have recorded.
2. Miracles nevertheless happen all the time for God is always working but he works silently and quietly often and unless you keep track, you might not see that God is answering you. Keeping a spiritual record of what God is doing will show you and so I encourage you to keep a record of the answered prayers, which are miracles.
3. For the miracles that happen “instantly” these require passionate prayer often, a giant prayer of faith where you won't let the Lord go until he literally breaks through and calms the storm as my testimony and example shows.

The third lesson: why some don't see miracles happening today.

To understand why many might not see miracles as shown in the Bible, I looked into a modern-day revivalist and evangelist Daniel Kolenda and their ministry, Christ for All Nations (CFAN) which has recorded to date over 83m salvation decisions.

Daniel is a successor to the late evangelist Reinhard Bonkke and his ministry like that of his predecessor is full of miracles signs and wonders some have even been raised from the dead in the crusades he has led in front of crowds which sometimes can be 1 million people at a time!

When asked why we don't see miracles today, he responded:

"If you don't pray for dead people you'll never see one raised. If you don't preach the Gospel, you'll never see someone saved. If you don't lay hands on the sick, you won't see any of them healed. If you don't rebuke demons, you'll never cast one out. You've got to go, you've got to take action in Jesus' name," He emphasized. "You're never going to see the power of God in your life while you sit in the pews in your church. You'll not see it sitting in this room. If you want to see the power of God, you've got to have to go."

Going and preaching the good news is what brings the miracles to follow. It is what causes the miracles to follow. The bible shows this:

"Jesus sent out the twelve apostles with these instructions: "Don't go to the Gentiles or the Samaritans, but only to the people of Israel—God's lost sheep. Go and announce to them that the Kingdom of Heaven is near. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cure those with leprosy, and cast out demons. Give as freely as you have received!" Matthew 10:5-8 NLT

Miracles, signs and wonders, prophesy, tongues and slaying are all a sign. A sign of what?

- A sign that the Kingdom of heaven has come near
- A sign that the king of heaven Jesus has come near.

It's why in revivals:

- The gospel is preached
- Signs and wonders then follow the gospel

Put another way, so as to connect the experience of Kolenda and the bible verse:

The starting point of miracles is taking action, going, not doing nothing. This going is an act of faith. You act in faith to:

- Start praying
- Start preaching the gospel
- Start laying hands on the sick, start casting out demons.

But what if you pray and nothing happens?

You keep praying because you are not the one performing the miracles, it's the Spirit of Jesus and who is to tell why it didn't happen this time round, you keep praying, keep preaching and keep trusting the word of the Lord.

This third lesson on preaching the gospel and miracles following is so critical to the mission of Jesus and the bible shows this is what happened before Jesus went to heaven, after his resurrection:

"And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned. These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they

will speak in new languages. They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won't hurt them. They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed." When the Lord Jesus had finished talking with them, he was taken up into heaven and sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand."

Mark 16:15-19 NLT

So are you praying? Are you preaching? Are you baptising? Are you believing?

Keep doing these things and don't doubt and sure enough the miracles will come as they have already started for me!

The Message the Lord Jesus asked me to tell you.

As for this Lord Jesus, who is he and what did he tell me to tell you?

God shows no favouritism and from every nation, he accepts those who fear him and do what is right. For those who are seeking God's friendship, God's peace, he has appointed a man called Jesus, who came to this earth and he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by Satan.

He was killed by those who hated him but he rose again from the dead after 3 days, just as many prophets had prophesied for thousands of years before his birth.

He is now seated at the right hand of the Lord almighty and it is he who God, the Ancient of Days has appointed as righteous judge over the living and the dead, the one with the power to forgive all our sins. Everyone who believes this message as he has commanded me to preach and accepts this Jesus as Lord and asks for forgiveness, they will receive this forgiveness and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit who God promised all those who believe in Jesus his son.ⁱ

Do you believe this? Do you want God's forgiveness, to be at peace with God?

If so, pray with me:

"God of heaven, I confess that I am a sinner and have been one since birth, but I have heard that you can make me new, and you sent your son Jesus to die for me. He rose again and it is he who can give me his Holy Spirit. Please forgive me and welcome me into your Kingdom, teach me how to follow you. In Jesus' name, Amen"

ⁱ Parts of this message come from Peter preaching to Cornelius and his family as told in Acts 10: 34-43