

Lesson 11: The Lord's Earthly Ministry: Miracles, Signs, and Wonders

Review

3 Witnesses that the GA is not the MoC or DoG

1. The Lord's OWN Declaration to whom He was sent
2. The Gospel of the Gospels
3. Accompanying Signs

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- First, I want you to notice that it wasn't unnatural for God to deal with Israel in their program regarding "signs".
 - Exodus 34:10, "marvels"
 - Psalms 74:9, "not OUR signs"
 - Judges 6:13, "where be the miracles" (Gideon)
 - Again, it is not completely unnatural for God to operate miracles, signs, and wonders in Israel's program, in fact, it is completely natural to do so.
 - As we go through the OT until the Gospel Accounts we find that these "signs" have an ebb and flow to them; however, when we get to the GA there is a "profuse outpouring" of the "signs".
 - Matthew 10:1, 5-8
 - o Signs
 - Signs = signify something; confirm or validate; indicate presence; to be a token or proof of a reality of something
 - There was a profuse working of miracles during the gospel accounts
 - They were not just spectacular events to arouse the people

SIGNS

- What did the "signs" signify, confirm or validate? Or, what did the "signs" indicate and provide proof of a reality of something?
 - Luke 8:1-2 - "shewing glad tidings"
 - Matthew 10:5-8
 - The "signs" validated the message of the gospel of the kingdom. They indicated and confirmed the reality that the kingdom was really "at hand". Reality of the "nearness" of the kingdom.

- Matthew 4:23-25
 - Notice the Lord doing this before He "freely gives" these "signs" or "powers" to the 12 apostles
 - These were even given to the 70 later on.
 - Luke 10:1, 9
 - The 12 and the 70 not only "freely received" the "signs" to "freely give", but were themselves "signs"
 - Isaiah 8:18
 - 2 Hallmark "Signs"
 - 1) All Manner of Sickness
 - 2) Cast Out Unclean spirits
 - Why?
 - 1) Physical Ailments & Infirmities - Isaiah 35:1-10
 - 2) Removal of Unclean spirits - Zech. 13:2
 - These were prophesied "signs" to validate the "gospel of the kingdom".

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

- Notice, these were specific "signs" for a specific purpose and for specific "times"
 - Matthew 16:1-3
 - KoH was "at hand"
 - Timeline issue

CALLING UPON SIGNS

- 2 Instances regarding the validation of the "kingdom": both of which the Lord does so by bringing up the issue of "signs"
 1. Casting out devils by Satan
 - Matt. 12:22-30; Luke 11:14-23
 2. Proof to John's question
 - Matt. 11:1-6; Luke 7:18-23

GREATER WORKS

- John 14:12
- Mark 16:15-18
 - o Sickness & Casting out devils - already happening

- Tongues, drinking deadly things, serpent handling - not happening (greater works)

DELIVERING SIGNS & TASTE OF THE WORLD TO COME

- 1) Serpent Handling - Deut. 32:16-24; Jer. 8:17 (Taste of Kingdom - Isa. 11:1-8)
- 2) Drinking Deadly Things - Rev. 6:8; 8:10-11
- 3) Tongues - Acts 2 (Taste of Kingdom - Zech. 8:20)
- 4) Healing Sicknesses (still going on - James 14-15)

- Hebrews 6:1-6

- These "signs" that "follow them that believe" provide physical salvations or deliverances from deadly judgmental afflictions.

ISRAEL'S PRESCRIPTION OF CLEANSING (SIGNS)

- 3 Baptisms

- Hebrews 6:1-3; Hebrews 9:1-10
- Matt. 3:11

- 1) Water (JTB = baptism with water is the "sign")
 - Ezekiel 35:21-28
- 2) Spirit (tongues = sign of 2nd baptism)
 - Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2
- 3) Fire (cosmic alterations = "sign")
 - Acts 2; Joel 2:28-32 (:2); Job 38:31; Zeph. 1:15; Mal. 3 & 4