# Miracles Today The Necessity of Miracles 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

1 Corinthians 2:1–5 (ESV) — And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

### 1. Because <u>GOD</u> is a <u>MYSTERY</u> to be **ENCOUNTERED**

1 Corinthians 2:1 (ESV) — 1 And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom.

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The content of that which has not been known before but which has been revealed to an in-group or restricted constituency—'secret, mystery.'

1 Corinthians 2:7 (ESV) — But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.

1 Corinthians 4:1 (ESV) — This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

Romans 3:10–11 (ESV) — As it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God.

A miracle is a temporary glimpse of God's Kingdom interrupting the normal course of our fallen world to awaken our attention and demand our response.

Matthew 13:11 (ESV) — 11 And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.

Romans 16:25 (ESV) — 25 Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages

### 2. Because <u>GRACE</u> is a <u>MESSAGE</u> to be <u>EXPERIENCED</u>

1 Corinthians 2:2–4 (ESV) — For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. 3 And I

was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, 4 and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power ...

Acts 17:16–21 (ESV) — 16 Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. 17 So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. 18 Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbler wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. 19 And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? 20 For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." 21 Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

Acts 17:32–34 (ESV) — 32 Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, "We will hear you again about this." 33 So Paul went out from their midst. 34 But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

Acts 18:1 (ESV) — 1 After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth.

### 3. Because the GOSPEL is the MIRACLE to be EMBRACED

1 Corinthians 2:4–5 (ESV) — And my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

1 Corinthians 2:4–5 (ESV) — And my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but <u>in demonstration of the Spirit and of power</u>, 5 so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

Demonstration is defined as the means by which one knows that something is a fact—'proof, evidence, verification, indication.'

Romans 15:18–19 (ESV) — For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by word and deed, by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ;

Romans 15:19 (NLT) — They were convinced by the power of miraculous signs and wonders and by the power of God's Spirit. In this way, I have fully presented the Good News of Christ from Jerusalem all the way to Illyricum.

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