



Signs, Wonders, and The Word

A C T S 5 : 1 2 - 1 6

Acts 1–4

The Birth of the Church

- Acts 1 finds the disciples of Jesus waiting on a promised “Spirit”.
- Acts 2 sees the Holy Spirit come and the church born.
- Acts 3 show’s early signs and sermons of the church.
- Acts 4 show’s early, though unorganized and inept, structural opposition to the church.



Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

Acts 5:12-16

Acts 5:12–46 “At First Glance”

- 12-13: The apostles were performing signs and wonders publicly, gaining fame in the process.
- 14-15: Many people came to believe in Jesus because the apostles were performing signs and wonders.
- 16: Such was the Apostles power and fame that there was a revival of healing in the region.

The early church was at it's most effective when God was showering His people with signs and wonders.

“I would believe in God if X happened”

“If God wants me to believe He knows where to find me.”

“Why would God do one thing in the Bible and another thing now?”

“Why would God stop doing the one thing He knows would get people to believe?”



What are “Signs and Wonders”?

First Mention

Exodus 7:3

- “But I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and though I multiply my signs and wonders in the land of Egypt”
- The “signs” were to point Pharaoh towards the words of Moses.
- The “wonders” were to establish God as triumphant over the gods of the day.
- During this time, Moses’s staff was the source of the signs and wonders.



Not Enough To Save

Exodus 19–32

- Exodus 19-24: God reveals himself to the people of Israel and eats face-to-face with the elders. The people make a covenant with God to become His and for Him to become theirs.
- Exodus 25-31: Moses and Joshua spend 40 days receiving instruction on how the people can approach God everyday.
- Exodus 32: The people began worshiping a gold calf.



Surrenders to The Word

Numbers 20:2-13

- God commands Moses to speak to the rock, thus receiving its waters.
- Instead of trusting in the Word, Moses trusts in the staff and strikes the rock.
- Because Moses is not willing to operate in a world of the Word, he is restricted from continuing leadership.



Gifted to Writers of Scripture

- Though God always works miracles in our daily lives, only specific people were ever given the ability to perform “signs and wonders”.
- They were all, without exceptions, people who were given authority to write Scripture.



“Signs and Wonders” are divine directions to the Holy Word, the only thing capable of truly changing a person.

Acts 5:12–16 “The Wonder of the Word”

- 12-13: The Signs and Wonders performed by the apostles gave them the authority to speak on what was true about who God is.
- 14-15: So powerful was the authority given to Peter that even his shadow could heal.
- 16: Despite this, the Apostles were not leaving Jerusalem to bring The Word to the end of the earth as commanded.

People were being healed, but they were ultimately coming because they believed what the apostles were saying about who Jesus was and what he did.

Hebrews 1:3a

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

Romans 5:8

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**Have you seen others in your life changed
by the forgiveness of Jesus?**

**Have you found truth in Gods Word about
the brokenness of this world?**

**Have you found truth in Gods Word about
your own brokenness?**

**Have you seen Gods work in your own life
despite so much brokenness?**

How then shall we live?

- **Live Transformed:** Christ has changed who you were that you may become who you were always meant to be. Therefore, live righteously.
- **Live Forgiven:** Christ has forgiven you of your sins so that you may go and sin no more with a clean slate. Therefore, forgive others.
- **Live Driven:** Christ has called you to a Great Commission - the active sharing of the Gospel in the life of those around you. Therefore, read.
- **Live Clearly:** Christ has given you His Word, much greater than any “sign” or “wonder”, to direct your step. Therefore, preach boldly.
- **Live Fearlessly:** Christ has given you through faith the holy spirit, always with you, that fear may lose its grip upon you. Therefore, pray.