



You Asked About...

Healing and Miracles

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Here are some of the questions you asked...

In reading the Gospels whenever it talks about Jesus healing the sick, more times than not it describes him as casting out demons. Were there more demons back then and are some of our sicknesses today the result of demons?

How do you know if a person is just sick, or if they are being troubled by demons?

Why isn't everyone healed when they are prayed for? Jesus said, "You shall lay hands on the sick and they shall (not might) recover?"

Are there a right and a wrong way to pray for people to be healed?

WHAT IS A MIRACLE?

We must begin by understanding the **providence** of God.

...the continuous actions of God by which he is actively involved in preserving, sustaining, caring for, guiding and governing everything in creation, causing all things to achieve the purpose for which they were created.

Ephesians 1:11, God is the One who makes everything agree with what he decides and wants. (NCV)

Romans 8:28, *We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.* (NIV)

God does not **intervene** in human affairs. He is in **control** of human history.

Two aspects of divine providence:

Normal acts of divine providence are every day events that are common and that seem repetitive to us.

Extraordinary acts of providence are demonstrations of divine power that is out of the normal course of events as we understand them.

WHY DOES GOD WORK MIRACLES AMONG US?

The most common term in the Bible for miracle is "**sign**."

Acts 2:43, *Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.* (NIV)

A Miracle is a sign to...

...attract people to the message of Jesus (Acts 8:6)

...accredit the mission of Jesus (Acts 2:22)

...demonstrate the authority of Jesus (Luke 10:9)

...reveal the character of Jesus (Acts 10:38)

WHY DO PEOPLE GET SICK?

The Underlying Reason: We are **mortals** who live in a world cursed by sin.

Genesis 2:17, *If you ever eat fruit from that tree, you will die!* (NCV)

Secondary Reasons:

An attack of Satan (Acts 10:38)

Neglect of laws of physical health

Why are not all healed?

So that God's glory would be seen. (John 11:4)

So that God can work godliness in our lives. (2 Corinthians 12:7-10)

So that we can be prepared for compassionate ministry (2 Corinthians 1:3-7)

So God can place us where we need to be (Galatians 4:13-15)

Incomplete answers:

Sin in your life (John 9)

A **lack** of faith (John 5)

Why I Believe in Miracles and Healing

I believe in **God**. (Exodus 15:26)

I believe that Jesus has not **changed**. (Hebrews 13:8)

I believe the Holy Spirit has placed **healing** in the church. (1 Corinthians 12:9)

I believe prayer is **powerful**. (James 5:14-16)