Beth-El Baptist Church 04/13/2014 Pastor Greg Tomlinson

How can we take the accounts of miracles seriously?

Many non-Christians discount Christianity because of the numerous miracles that the pages of scripture document. Such things as the plagues of Egypt, the feeding of the 5,000, the raising from dead in the Old and New Testaments, the water into wine, and especially the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

1. What can we look for in order to be able to believe the validity of miracles?

Job **38:4** 1 John **1:1-3** Exodus 10:7; **12:12** John **3:12**

There are several things that can be used to aid in the confirmation of the validity of the numerous miracles in the scriptures. It is important to remember that none of us here today were there when these miracles took place, but the writers of these miraculous events were eye witnesses to them and they documented what they say. Some of the miraculous events, like the plagues against Egypt, would also leave behind some archaeological evidence. The things of this world can be evaluated for confirmation. It is also important to consider the documentation that has been left behind by others that may not have been eye witnesses but were accurately reporting what they heard.

2. What do the miracles demonstrate?

Jeremiah **32:27** Hebrews **1:3**; **7:23-25**

Psalm **8:4-6** Mark 4:41

Some of the things that the miracles demonstrate is the supreme power and authority of God over all of His creation. God is capable of doing anything that He wants to do. It further demonstrates that God is actually involved with His creation. He did not simply start up His creation and walk away but He is intimately involved in its continued functioning.

3. What are the purposes of miracles?

Psalm 106:7-10 John 20:30-31

1 Corinthians 10:11

Some of the miracles were done in order to make Himself known to mankind. Especially to make the identity of Jesus Christ, the savior, known to men. They are also used by God in order to demonstrate how He has worked in the past and how God may work in the future. They are a form of communication from God to man in order to get man to turn to God for life, transformation, hope, and salvation.

4. What do we know about the nature of God to help us understand if the miracles are true events?

Jeremiah **32:17** Titus **1:1-2** Job 9:12-14 Daniel 4:35

We know that God always does exactly what He wants and that there is no one who can counteract the work of God. We also know that God cannot lie nor deceive so that what we read in the Word of God is reliable.