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## The Effecting of Miracles

### 12: 10a



**The effecting of miracles** was also a temporary sign **gift**. It refers to **God's** power in mighty deeds. A **miracle** is a supernatural intrusion into the natural world and its natural laws, explainable only by divine intervention. **ADONAI** often leads us, or warns us by working through other believers, through ordinary circumstances, or through natural laws. These are supernatural workings of providence by **God**, but they are *not* **miracles**. A **miracle** is an act of **God** that is contrary to the ordinary working and laws of nature, an act that only **He** could accomplish by overruling nature, and that could not otherwise occur through any normal circumstances.

**John** tells us that **Messiah's turning water into wine** was **the first of Yeshua's miraculous signs** that **He did in Cana of Galilee; He revealed His glory, and His apostles came to believe in Him (John 2:11)**. That was the purpose. The **miracle** was not to improve the party or to show off great power to the curious. Even with **Yeshua**, the working of **miracles**, just as the working of **healing (to see link click Cn - The Gifts of Healing)**, was confirmation of **His** coming as the long awaited **Messiah**. Near the end of **his** gospel, **John** says: **In the presence of the talmidim Yeshua performed many other miracles which have not been recorded in this book. But these have been recorded here so that you may**

trust that **Yeshua** is the **Messiah**, the **Son of God**, and that by this trust you may have [eternal] life because of who He is (John 20:30-31). **Yeshua performed miracles to prove that ADONAI was being revealed in Him.** At Shavu'ot, **Peter** told the crowd to whom he was preaching: **Men of Isra'el! Listen to this! Yeshua of Nazareth was a man demonstrated to you to have been from God by the powerful works, miracles and signs that God performed through Him in your presence. You yourselves know this (Acts 2:22).**

**Yeshua** performed **miracles** and healed the sick for only about three-and-a half years of **His** ministry. Contrary to certain myths and legends that have cropped up through the centuries, the Bible indicates that **Yeshua** lived a quiet, normal life as a child and as a young man, exercising absolutely no supernatural powers until the wedding at Cana. As is clear from the quotation from **John 2:11** above, **Yeshua's miracles** began when **His** ministry began.

**The apostles** and a few other early leaders in the Messianic Community also performed **miracles** as confirming signs of the gospel message. In Iconium **Paul** and **Barnabas** remained for a long time, speaking boldly about the Lord, who bore witness to the message about His love and kindness enabling them to perform signs and miracles (Acts 14:3). Paul later wrote to the **Corinthians**, "For the signs of the apostle were performed among you in all perseverance, and in signs, and wonders, and miracles" (Second Corinthians 12:12 BLB). **Miraculous signs** were the mark of an apostle, authenticating the apostles' message and work as being of the Lord. In **Hebrews** we read: **The Good News was first declared by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him; while God also bore witness to it with various signs, wonders and miracles, and with gifts of the Ruach Ha'Kodesh which he distributed as He chose (Hebrews 2:3-4).** The apostles performed **miracles** just like **Yeshua** did (see [Acts Ap - Peter Heals a Lam e Beggar: A Closer Look at Miracles in Acts](#)). But even the **miracles** in **Acts** were not normative that time. **They** were highly unusual and only used to authenticate the message of the **apostles**. The early church was not a **miracle** working church, it had miracle working **apostles**. Once the **apostles** passed away, those authenticating **miracles** were no longer needed because **God's Word** and the Church had been established.

But just what kind of **miracles** did the **apostles** do? **Yeshua** made wine, made food, walked on water with **Peter**, took a coin from the mouth of a fish, disappeared

from a hostile crowd, and ascended into heaven in a cloud. All those **miracles** related to nature and done only by **Him**. No **apostle** is ever reported to have done a **miracle** of nature. Then, what **miracles** did **they** do? The answer is in the word for **miracle** (Greek: *dunamis*, meaning *power*). In fact, the term is translated **power** in the gospels, and is frequently connected with **the casting out of demons (Lk 4:36, 6:18, 9:42)**. It is precisely that **power**, to **cast out demons**, that **the Lord** gave to **the Twelve** and to **the seventy (Lk 9:1, 10:17-19)**. We have no such power today by which someone can successfully go about commanding **demons** to come out of unsaved people, as **the apostles** and **the seventy** did. **Philip** and **Stephen** demonstrated **the effecting of miracles (Acts 6:8, 8:7)**. **Paul** used it to confirm **the hand of the Lord** and bring a man to **faith (Acts 13:6-12)**. Some **Jews** who tried to cast out **demons** without the true **gift** were beaten up and chased out by **the demons they** were trying to exorcise **(Acts 19:14-16)**.

Those **miracles** accompanied **God's Word** only so long as **He** was revealing **the Word**. When the revelation stopped, the sign **gifts** stopped. B. B. Warfield (1851-1921), the great biblical theologian wrote, "These **miraculous gifts** were part of the credentials of **the apostles**, as authoritative agents of **God** in founding the Church. **Their** function confined **them** distinctly to the apostolic Church, and they necessarily passed away with it."<sup>372</sup> Nothing in Scripture indicates that **the miracles** of the apostolic age were meant to be continuous in subsequent ages. Nor does the Bible exhort believers to seek any **miraculous** manifestations of **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh**. In all the B'rit Chadashah there are only five commands relating to the believer and **the Spirit**.

**Walk by the Spirit (Galatians 5:25)**

**Do not grieve the Spirit (Ephesians 4:30)**

**Be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18)**

**Do not quench the Spirit (First Thessalonians 5:19)**

**Pray in the Spirit (Jude 20)**

Dear Heavenly **Father**, Praise **You** for **Your** wisdom and great love, bearing our **sin** so we could have **Your righteousness (Second Corinthians 5:21)**, and also caring so lovingly for the Church that was birthed from **Messiah's** resurrection. Thank **You** for providing different **gifts** used **for building up the body of**

**Messiah, as each individual part produces the body's growth, for building itself up in love (Ephesians 4:12 and 16c).**

**Your** presence in each of **Your** children (**Romans 8:9-10**) is so helpful to guide each of **Your** children how they should live for you, including how to use their **gift** for **You**. **Your** presence also gives strength to conquer temptations and is comforting in times of trial. **For I consider the sufferings of this present time not worthy to be compared with the coming glory to be revealed to us (Romans 8:18)**. How wonderful that we have a sure hope in heaven where our trials will all be past and we will praise **You** for all eternity! Thank **You** for being such a loving and caring **Father**, In **Yeshua's** holy name and power of **His** resurrection. Amen