

2 Thessalonians 2:9—12 says that Satan -works through signs (miracles) and lying wonders (or false miracles). But these miracles are deception or lies, they are not real. They are a strong delusion sent by God that those who do not love the truth might believe a

> lie and be damned. Revelation 13:13 describes the False Prophet as doing great signs like making fire come down from heaven in the sight of men. Matthew 7:22 shows that false teachers will claim to prophesy, cast out demons,

and do many mighty works in Jesus' name, but He does not know them. 2 Corinthians 11:13,14, 15, describes false apostles, deceitful workers, who claim the powers of apostles but are in reality ministers of Satan who will be destroyed.

FALSE MIRACLES AND FALSE TEACHERS MUST BE PROVED

The only way to know false teachers is to prove them. Christians must prove all things and avoid every appearance of evil (I Thessalonians 5:21, 22). I John 4:1 commands us not to believe every spirit but to prove the spirits whether they are of God, because many false prophets are in the world. Verse 6 gives the way to prove every teacher. The apostles are of God, and their writings in the Bible are of God. He that is of God will hear or read what the apostles have said in -the Bible. By this (or hereby) we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. Acts 17:11 says that if what you hear is true, when you search it in the Scriptures, it is so. I Corinthians 14:37 shows that the man who thinks himself a prophet or spiritual must acknowledge the writings of Paul as the commandments of the Lord.

MODERN TONGUES FAIL THE BIBLE TEST. YOU MAKE THE TEST

Acts 2:6, 8 shows Bible tongues were actual languages, but modern tongues are nonsensical jibberish. I Corinthians 14:19 shows that tongues in the Bible were inferior to understandable teaching, but modem tongues are claimed to be superior to teaching. Verses 33, 34 command the women to keep silent in the assembly, but modern tongue-speakers are often leading speakers in the assembly. Modem tongues, when proved by the Bible, must be abstained from. They must not be believed. They are spirits of error. They are not so (I Thess. 5:21,22,1 Jn. 4:1, 6, Acts 17:11).

MODERN MIRACLE-HEALING FAILS THE BIBLE TEST, YOU MAKE THE TEST

Acts 3:2 shows that persons healed were unquestionably lame, and no one doubted the unhealed condition. But modem victims claim internal problems that are out of sight and cannot be verified. Acts 4:16 shows that there were no doubters of Bible miracles, even the enemies of the apostles admitted the miracles. Today there are many doubters, and rightfully so. Real Bible miracles could not be disproved, but present false miracles can be. Acts 5:16 says that the apostles healed every case, but many cases today are not healed by false apostles. Acts 19:11,12 proves that Bible healing was immediate without long hours of emotional agonizing and disappointment. But the opposite is usually true of false healing today. Modem false miracle-healing fails the Bible test. They must be abstained from. They must not be believed. They are spirits of error. They are not so!

WHY DONT MODERN MIRACLE-WORKERS WALK ON WATER?

Both Jesus and the apostle Peter walked upon the sea (Matthew 14:25, 29). Why don't men do this today? Both Jesus and the apostles raised the dead (John 11:44, Acts 9:40, 20:9, 10). Why don't modem miracle-workers raise corpses that are stinking (John 11:39)? They do not because they cannot! They cannot because the Bible plainly teaches that miracles have ceased. Miracles have ceased because their purpose to bring us the Bible has been accomplished. Do not be misled by fake healers and lying miracles today. True miracles have been written so that you can believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and believing, you can have life in His name (John 20:31).

MIRACLES HAVE CEASED

MIRACLES HAPPENED. MIRACLES CEASED

The same Bible which teaches that miracles happened in Bible times also teaches that miracles have now ceased. If one believes Bible teaching that miracles happened, he must also believe teaching that miracles ceased. God began all things by miracles, but He continues all things without miracles. God never created but one man by miracle—Adam, the first man. He began mankind with miracles but continues mankind without miracles. Was your body created by miracle like Adam's? If not, then you see that God began all things by miracles but continues them by natural processes without miracles. Read Genesis 1:27, 28.



Were You Created By A Miracle?

Could You Write By Inspiration?



THE BIBLE WAS CREATED BY MIRACLES

God began the Bible by miracles. Inspired men spoke and wrote miraculously to bring us the Bible. They preached in languages that they had never studied. They prophesied or spoke by inspiration for God. God miraculously used men to bring into the world His message, the Bible. But once the Bible was completed, miracles no longer happened. When the process of miracles produced the product intended—the Bible, then according to God's great plan, miracles ceased. And God's message, the Bible, is now carried on by non-miraculous teaching by uninspired men. No more men are being created, and no more Bibles are being created. God's plan for miracles has ceased. Read 2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21, and 2 Timothy 2:2.

GOD TELLS WHY MIRACLES CEASED

God's two reasons that miraculous speaking and writing have ceased is that they were (1) part-by-part, and not complete, and (2) they were temporary, and not permanent. Each inspired man was given only a part of God's revelation, but the completed Bible is "all truth." All miracles were temporary, but the Bible is permanent.

MIRACLES WERE WRITTEN THAT MEN MIGHT BELIEVE

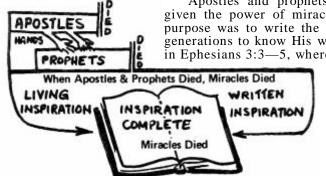
John 20:31 teaches that the miracles of Jesus were written down in Scripture so that men might believe that He is the Son of God.





God's plan was not for continuing miracles, but for a permanent and continuing record of miracles for all ages, the Bible. Readers believe in Jesus because of His written Word which is a permanent and error-free record of His miracles which prove that He is the Son of God. A truth once confirmed is forever confirmed. A fact once proved is forever proved. Men in all ages have believed in Jesus by His Book of Miracles, but they have never seen a miracle, nor do they need to see a miracle to believe. Miracles served God's purpose and are no longer needed.

APOSTLES & PROPHETS WERE INSPIRED SO THAT THE BIBLE COULD BE WRITTEN



The Same Bible Which Says That Miracles Happened, Says They Ceased

Apostles and prophets were God's temporary men who were given the power of miracles. They were temporary because their purpose was to write the Bible. But God's permanent plan for all generations to know His will was the Bible. Paul explains this plan in Ephesians 3:3—5, where he says that God's revelation was made known to him (and other apostles and

known to him (and other apostles and prophets) so that these inspired men could write by the Holy Spirit. This writing was done so that those (like us) could read the Scripture written by holy men and understand God's revelation as they understood it. Apostles and prophets were temporary because their purpose was to write the Bible, so that now their purpose is completed and their power has ceased.

THE COMPLETED OR PERFECTED SCRIPTURE CAUSED MIRACULOUS GIFTS TO CEASE

I Corinthians 13:8—10 explains God's timetable for miraculous gifts to cease. When the perfect revelation came (the complete and permanent Bible), the temporary and part-by-part miraculous powers would cease. Prophesying would fail, tongue-speaking would cease, and miraculous knowledge would be done away. What stronger words could have been used to say that miraculous powers of inspiration were to stop? Do you believe this plain Bible teaching that miracles were to fail, to cease, and to vanish away?

If You Don't Believe Miracles Stopped, You Don't Believe The Bible!



PRESENT-DAY REVELATIONS CONTRADICT THE COMPLETENESS OF THE BIBLE

The apostles whom Jesus taught were guided into all truth (John 16:13). This means that after the Bible was written, no more truth from God was revealed. All revealed truth was once-for-all given in the Scriptures. This enables the inspired Scripture to thoroughly furnish the man of God unto every good work (2 Timothy 3:16, 17). Because the Bible is perfect, no further revelation or addition to it is allowed (Revelation 22:18, 19). The idea of more truth from God today contradicts the once-for-all completeness of the Bible (Jude 3).

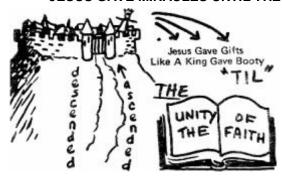


INCOMPLETE PART-BY-PART REVELATIONS ENDED WITH THE PERFECT REVELATION



We do not need more parts to God's complete revelation, the Bible. If more parts are needed, the Bible-is not complete or perfect. God's perfect revelation has come, and tho miraculous part-by-part revelations have ended (I Cor. 13:9, 10).

JESUS GAVE MIRACLES UNTIL THE FAITH AS A UNIT WAS COMPLETED



Ephesians 4:13 clearly says when miracles ceased. Jesus gave them til the unity of the faith or til the faith as a unit. This unity of the faith is also called the unity of the knowledge of the Son of God and the measure of the stature of Christ's fullness. Miracles were given until the Bible was completed as a unit rather than as part-by-part segments. Miracles were given until the revealed knowledge about Jesus was a complete unit. Miracles were given until the Scripture was completed which measures the fullness of Christ's stature.

Verses 7—13 liken the temporary gifts of miracle-working-power to the gifts of booty given by a king in the Bible days. Descending out of his walled city on a hill he conquered the enemy and then ascended back into his own city to give to his people gifts of booty from the battle. In this manner Jesus descended from heaven into the lower parts which are the earth and led captivity captive when He died for our sins and rose again. He then ascended back to heaven and gave gifts unto men. But He gave these gifts (miraculous powers) only until the faith as a unit was produced.

If I stated that you could ride with me until your house, would you keep riding with me beyond your house? When Jesus gave gifts until the faith as a unit, does He still give gifts now that we have the faith as a unit? The word "til" clearly states how long temporary miracles were to last-only until the Bible was completed.

THE HOLY SPIRIT DOVE WAS GIVEN FOR A PURPOSE WHICH HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED

John 1:32—34 describes the Holy Spirit coming upon Jesus as a dove. Verses 33 and 34 show that this appearance of the Holy Spirit as a dove was to identify Jesus as the Son of God who would baptize in the Holy Spirit. When John saw the dove, he got the point. He began to bear record that Jesus was the Son of God.

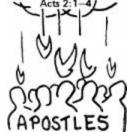
Here is a coming of the Holy Spirit for a clearly-stated purpose. When the purpose was accomplished, no Holy Spirit doves have ever come since. No one expects the Holy Spirit as a dove, because we can clearly see that the purpose has been accomplished. When we understand the purpose, we know that Holy Spirit doves have ceased.

The coming of the Holy Spirit upon apostles and prophets to work miracles had a purpose. That purpose was to write and confirm the Bible as the Word of God (Mark 16:20). Now that we have the Bible, we do not expect miracles, since their purpose has been accomplished. Holy Spirit doves have ceased. Miracles have ceased. This is easy to see when we know the purpose God had for each.



Had A Dove?

JUST BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT FELL ON THE APOSTLES DOES NOT MEAN THAT THIS WILL HAPPEN TO ME TODAY



A terrible mistake is made when I read in the Bible a promise made only to the apostles, and then try to apply that promise to myself and all men today. The apostles were men guided to write all truth in the Bible (John 16:13). What they bound (as they wrote the Bible) is bound upon all men (Matthew 18:18). God set the apostles first in the church (I Cor. 12:28), because they were in the founding of the church (Eph. 2:20). But all are not apostles (I Cor. 12:29), and for me today to claim to be an apostle by claiming promises of inspiration made to the apostles is false. The twelve apostles received the Holy Spirit like fiery tongues sitting on their heads, but I have not. I must apply apostolic promises only to apostles and not claim them today.