

The Miracles of Jesus

A 40 Day Devotional

Lent 2023

Welcome to Lent 2023. From His miraculous birth all the way to His miraculous ascension after the resurrection, the Bible records many different miracles of Jesus. This Easter season our sermon series will focus on some of those miracles. In addition to our Sunday sermons, we encourage you to read about these 40 miracles during the 40 days of Lent. The 40 days of Lent starts with Ash Wednesday and concludes on Easter. The 40 days of Lent do not include Sunday, so you will find a devotion for each weekday and Saturday of Lent.

I encourage you to read one each day. Say a prayer after each one and then spend time contemplating each miracle to discover what God might reveal to you.

(devotions are courtesy of Aboutbibleprophecy.com)

The Miracles of Jesus

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

In the New Testament of the Bible, Jesus is described as being the Messiah (the Christ) who was promised by the prophets of the Old Testament of the Bible. Jesus is fully God and fully human. God allowed himself to be born as a person so that he could live among people, teach people about God's plan of salvation, and die for our sins. Because Jesus also is human, he is called the Son of God and the Son of Man.

Jesus was born to a woman named Mary about 2000 years ago in the town of Bethlehem, which is near Jerusalem, in Israel.

At the time of Jesus' birth, Mary was a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph. While pregnant, Mary and Joseph traveled south from Nazareth to Bethlehem, to take part in a Roman census.

After arriving in Bethlehem, they took shelter where they could find it, in a stable. It was there that Mary gave birth to Jesus.

The miracle of the virgin birth of Jesus is recorded in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke in the New Testament of the Bible. In the Gospel of Matthew, it says:

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus. - Matthew 1:18-25, NIV translation.

Source: <http://www.aboutbibleprophecy.com/virgin-birth-jesus.htm>

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for the miraculous life of Jesus Christ. Reveal to me each day the miracle of my salvation and how living my life in faithful service to you might be the miracle someone else needs.

The Miracles of Jesus

Thursday, February 23, 2023

After Jesus is baptized by John the Baptist, who declared that Jesus is the Messiah, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29-34), Jesus recruits some disciples and travels to Cana to attend a wedding. This is where Jesus performed the first miracle of his public ministry.

Jesus' mother, Mary, who also attended the wedding, informs Jesus that the wedding hosts had run out of wine to serve as refreshments. This was a potential cause of great embarrassment for the wedding hosts. Mary asks Jesus to intervene, and he does. He transforms water into wine, saving the wedding hosts from any embarrassment.

This could be considered the least of the miracles that Jesus performed during his public ministry, which is estimated to have lasted three-and-a-half years, beginning around AD 26, about 2,000 years ago. But, it gave Jesus' new disciples a chance to see that they were not following any ordinary preacher. And it might have helped prepare them for the more spectacular miracles that they soon would witness.

Jesus is recorded in the four Gospels of the New Testament as having performed miracles on more than 40 separate occasions, according to the book, *The Jesus Miracles*, which is available through [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

The town of Cana is near Nazareth, where Jesus spent much of his childhood. Both towns are in Galilee, a region in the northern part of Israel, where Jesus would carry out much of his public ministry.

John, the author of the Gospel of John in the New Testament, records that this was the first miracle performed by Jesus during his public ministry.

As explained in the Gospel of John:

1 The third day, there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee. Jesus' mother was there. 2 Jesus also was invited, with his disciples, to the wedding. 3 When the wine ran out, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no wine."

4 Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with you and me? My hour has not yet come."

5 His mother said to the servants, "Whatever he says to you, do it." 6 Now there were six water pots of stone set there after the Jews' way of purifying, containing two or three metretes apiece. 7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the water pots with water." So they filled them up to the brim. 8 He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the ruler of the feast." So they took it. 9 When the ruler of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and didn't know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the ruler of the feast called the bridegroom 10 and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when the guests have drunk freely, then that which is worse. You have kept the good wine until now!" 11 This beginning of his signs

Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

- John 2:1-11, WEB translation.

Source: <http://www.aboutbibleprophecy.com/m1.htm>

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The Miracles of Jesus

Friday, February 24, 2023

A royal official went to Cana when he heard that Jesus was there and begged Jesus to heal his son, who was dying in Capernaum. Jesus miraculously healed the son, from a distance, and told the man that his son would live.

This was only the second miracle that Jesus had performed during his public ministry, as noted in the Gospel of John. This miracle had a transformative effect on the family of the healed son and they came to believe in Jesus.

The towns of Cana and Capernaum are in the region of Galilee, in northern Israel, and are perhaps a day's worth of travel apart.

This event is described in the Gospel of John:

46 Jesus came therefore again to Cana of Galilee, where he made the water into wine. There was a certain nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum. 47 When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to him, and begged him that he would come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. 48 Jesus therefore said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders, you will in no way believe."

49 The nobleman said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." 50 Jesus said to him, "Go your way. Your son lives." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way. 51 As he was

now going down, his servants met him and reported, saying "Your child lives!" 52 So he inquired of them the hour when he began to get better. They said therefore to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour, the fever left him." 53 So the father knew that it was at that hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives." He believed, as did his whole house. 54 This is again the second sign that Jesus did, having come out of Judea into Galilee.

- John 4:46-54, WEB translation.

The towns of Cana and Capernaum are in the region of Galilee, within the Biblical land of Israel.

Source: <http://www.aboutbibleprophecy.com/m2.htm>

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The Miracles of Jesus

Saturday, February 25, 2023

As Jesus was preaching in a synagogue in Capernaum, a man who was possessed by a demon began shouting at Jesus. Jesus healed the man and news of the miracle spread quickly throughout area of Galilee, which is in the northern part of the Biblical land of Israel.

As described in the Gospel of Mark:

They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are - the Holy One of God!"

"Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching - and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him." News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

- Mark 1:21-28, NIV translation.

Source: <http://www.aboutbibleprophecy.com/m3.htm>

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