

# Why Are Signs In The Gospels?

By B. D. Tate

(16 reasons currently expressed here)

The following list is given to encourage our hearts to realize that the Gospel message is supposed to be validated by signs, wonders, and miracles.

Ac 14:3 Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was **bearing witness to the word of His grace**, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

Mark 16: 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, **the Lord working with them and confirming the word** through the accompanying signs. Amen.

We should realize that it is God's agenda, not ours, **that His word be demonstrated with power** to overcome all the works of the flesh, and the devil.

Ac 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and **healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.**

Then Jesus said:

John 14:12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, **he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also**; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

## 1- Signs Were Not Just To Prove Jesus Is The Messiah, **But To Show God's Compassion.**

Mt 14:14 and when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; **and He was moved with compassion for them,** and healed their sick.

Mr 8:2 **"I have compassion on the multitude,** because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. (And fed the 5,000)

Mt 9:36 But when He saw the multitudes, **He was moved with compassion** for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

Ps 145:8 **The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, Slow to anger and great in mercy.**

## 2-Signs Are So That Our Faith Would Not Be In The Wisdom Of Men, **But In The Power Of God.**

Mt 22:29 Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, **not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.**

1Co 2:5 "...that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men **but in the power of God.**

1Co 1:24 "...but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, **Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.**

## 3-Signs Are To Show (Unbelievers) **Us The Way...**

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, **"I am the way,** the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

John 4:48 Then Jesus said to him, "**Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.**"

John 20:30 **and truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book;**

Ac 2:22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, **a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—**

Lu 4:18 "The Spirit of the LORD *is* upon Me, **Because He has anointed Me** To preach the gospel to *the* poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to *the* captives And recovery of sight to *the* blind, **To set at liberty those who are oppressed;**

**When John the Baptist sent disciples to ask if Jesus was the one or shall we look for another this was His answer: (Pointing to Jesus by what was seen and heard!)**

Lu 7:22 Jesus answered and said to them, "**Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard**; that *the* blind see, *the* lame walk, *the* lepers are cleansed, *the* deaf hear, *the* dead are raised, *the* poor have the gospel preached to them.

**4-Signs Are To Demonstrate That Jesus Is Lord...To Confirm His Word! For God's Will To Be Done On The Earth As It Is In Heaven!**

Mt 10:1 and when He had called His twelve disciples to **Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast**

**them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.**

(Jesus commanded the apostles to teach the disciples the same things...)

Matt. 28:20 **“teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;** and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

Phil. 2:9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and **given Him the name which is above every name,** 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Mark 16:20 And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with *them* and **confirming the word through the accompanying signs.** Amen.

Mt 6:10 ‘Thy kingdom come. **Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven** (Overcoming **confusion that his words and works are one!**).

## **5-Signs Are To Show The Forgiveness of Sins. The Son Of Man Has Power on Earth To Forgive Sins!**

Lu 5:23 “Which is easier, to say, ‘**Your sins are forgiven you,**’ or to say, ‘**Rise up and walk**’?”

24 **“But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins”** —He said to the man who was paralyzed, “I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.”

Jas 5:15 **And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.**

1Jo 1:9 If we confess our sins, **He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Mt 13:15 For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, **So that I should heal them.** {#Isa 6:9,10 }

Mark 4:12 That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, **and their sins should be forgiven them.** {#Isa 6:9,10 }

## **6-Signs Are To Overcome Darkness, Confusion, Doubt, And **Unbelief...Turning Unbelievers Into Believers!****

John 20:27 Then He \*said to Thomas, "**Reach here your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand, and put it into My side; and be not unbelieving, but believing.**" (Overcome unbelief)

John 10:37 "If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;

38 "but if I do, though you do not believe Me, **believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.**"

John 11: 5 Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, **and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him.**

John 9:5 “As long as I am in the world, **I am the light of the world** (He then healed a blind man overcoming darkness).”

Mt 21:21 So Jesus answered and said to them, "Assuredly, **I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt,** you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ it will be done (Overcoming doubt).

## 7- Signs Are To Show Us That **Nothing Is Impossible To Those Who Believe In the Son of God!**

Lu 1:37 for **nothing is impossible with God.**"

Mr 9:23 Jesus said to him, "**If you can believe, all things are possible to Him who believes.**"

John 14:12 “**He who believes in Me...**”

John 9:35 “Do you believe in **the Son of God?**”

John 3:36 Jesus asked. In another place, “**He who believes in the Son...**”

## 8-Signs Are **To Glorify God.**

John 15:8 “**By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit;** so you will be My disciples.

John 17:4 “**I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.**

John 11:4 When Jesus heard *that*, He said, "**This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it.**"(He raised Lazarus from the Dead!)

Mark 2:12 immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so **that all were amazed and glorified God**, saying, "We never saw *anything* like this!"

Mt 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works **and glorify your Father in heaven.**

John 14:12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, **he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also**; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father.  
13 "And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, **that the Father may be glorified in the Son.**

## 9-Signs Are So That **Our Joy May Be Full & Pleasing The Lord...**

John 16:24 "Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your **joy may be full.**

1Jo 1:4 and these things we write to you that your **joy may be full.**

Col 1:10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, **fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work** and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Ac 8:8 And **there was great joy in that city** (Phillip has wrought signs and wonders).

Ac 13:52 and the **disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.**

Because...

Acts 14:3 Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, **who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.**

## **10- Signs Are Meant To Turn The People's Hearts Towards God In Repentance!**

Matt. 11:20 Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, **because they did not repent:**

21 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, **they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.**

22 "But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the Day of Judgment than for you.

23 "And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

24 "But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the Day of Judgment than for you."

## **11-Signs Are Meant To Prove That The Kingdom Of God Has Come Among Us!**

Matt. 12:28 "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, **surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.**

## 12- Signs Are To Convince The World That God Sent Jesus And **Is In Him**, And Then In Turn, To **Prove God Is In Us!**

John 10: 37 "If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;

38 "but if I do, though you do not believe Me, **believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.**"

John 17:18 "As You sent Me into the world, **I also have sent them into the world.**

## 13 – Signs Were Given By The Father To The Son, **So That We Would Marvel** (To Wonder, Have In Admiration, And Be Amazed).

Joh 5:20 "For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, **that you may marvel.**

Acts 3:11 Now as the lame man who was healed held on to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch which is called Solomon's, **greatly amazed.**

12 So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: "Men of Israel, **why do you marvel at this?** Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?"

## 14—Signs Were Given **To Prove The Resurrection!**

Ac 4:33 **And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus.** And great grace was upon them all.

## 15- Signs Are To Meet The Needs Of The People, And Prove We Have Been Redeemed From The Curse In The Earth.

Mt 14:16 But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. **You give them something to eat.**" (Jesus expects us to feed and meet the needs of the people; then He fed the multitudes with five loaves and two fish—even miraculously!)

Mt 10:8 **"Heal the sick,** cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. **Freely you have received, freely give.**

Lu 9:2 He sent them to preach the kingdom of God **and to heal the sick.**

Lu 10:9 **"And heal the sick there,** and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

Ga 3:13 **Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law,** having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree")

## 16- Signs Are Meant To Confirm The Gospel Of Grace!

Ac 14:3 Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was **bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.**

## Verses Concerning Signs:

**Signs were used by Christ to draw the people to Him**, to the truth, to the gospel! No other figure in history has worked signs, wonders, and miracles to prove and attest His calling from God except Jesus!

John 7:31 And many of the people believed in Him, and said, "**When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this *Man* has done?**"

John 6:2 Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw **His signs** which He performed on those who were diseased.

John 4:48 Then Jesus said to him, "**Unless you *people* see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.**"

John 7:31 And many of the people believed in Him, and said, "**When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this *Man* has done?**"

John 9:16 Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." Others said, "**How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?**" And there was a division among them.

John 11:47 Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? **For this *Man* works many signs.**

John 12:37 But **although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him,**

John 20:30 **And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book;**

Ac 2:22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, **a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—**

Ac 2:43 **Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.**

Ac 4:30 **“by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.”**

Ac 5:12 And **through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people.** And they were all with one accord in Solomon’s Porch.

Ac 6:8 And Stephen, **full of faith and power**, did **great wonders and signs among the people.**

Ac 14:3 Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, **who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.**

Ro 15:19 **“...in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God**, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.”

2Co 12:12 **Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds.**

## Conclusion:

We need to believe God wants signs, wonders, and miracles happening, **TO CONFIRM HIS WORD** in us, so that others will see, believe, and come to Him! We have the **SAME SPIRIT**, and the **SAME GOD** dwelling in us, to do the **SAME THINGS**, for the **SAME PURPOSE!**

1Jo 4:17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; **because as He is, so are we in this world.**

## A Curious Passage:

Mark 8:11 Then the Pharisees came out and began to dispute with Him, seeking from Him a sign from heaven, testing Him.

12 But He sighed deeply in His spirit, and said, **"Why does this generation seek a sign? Assuredly, I say to you, no sign shall be given to this generation."**

Yet, Jesus performed thousands of signs, why didn't they see them, or accept them?

John 12:37 But **although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him,**

It was because they wanted Jesus to perform signs for their agenda, not God's. They did not have the things of God in mind, but the things of the flesh.

Mr 8:33 But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, "Get behind Me,

Satan! **For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."**

## **We Aren't Supposed To Follow Signs?**

Some have taken this passage (or others) to claim that **we are not to seek signs**; yet, that is what Jesus said:

John 4:48 "Unless you people see signs you will in no wise believe."

Jesus wasn't seeking signs, but signs were following Him! Likewise, as His disciples, we do not seek signs, they follow us! **People, who won't believe God's Word until they see signs, are the ones following signs.** When we believe God's Word with faith, it **produces the promise**; that means signs follow those who believe!

Mark 16:17 "**And these signs will follow those who believe:** In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;