

=MIRACLES OF CHRIST=
Lesson 1
Attacks Against the Miracles

We now begin a new series of lessons on the miracles of Christ. Before we discuss the various miracles, I want to look at the attacks against miracles.

I. EXAMPLES OF ATTACKS AGAINST THE MIRACLES.

1. Perhaps the biggest attack of all against the miracles of Christ is the attack against the Miracle Worker Himself; in other words, His virgin birth and His sinless life.
2. Concerning the raising of the dead. Scoffers have tried to say that Jesus never raised the dead, but that these were simply people who were asleep and He woke them up.
3. Concerning the turning of the water into wine. Scoffers have said that Jesus simply poured water into the wine and made the wine weaker.
4. Concerning the feeding of the 5,000. Scoffers say that Jesus simply held up the lad's loaves and fishes, and everyone opened up his own lunch and ate.
5. Concerning Lot's wife turning to a pillar of salt. Scoffers say that this was a figure of speech and that turning to a pillar of salt was like if we would say that somebody got scared and "froze" at the wheel. They say this is simply the usage of a figure of speech.
6. Concerning creation. Scoffers have always laughed at the teaching of divine creation.
7. Concerning the parting of the Red Sea. Scoffers have said there was a place in the Red Sea where you could step over or jump over.

II. THE TYPES OF ATTACKS AGAINST THE MIRACLES.

1. The attack that Jesus did perform miracles but that He did it in the power of Satan. Matthew 12:24; Mark 3:22-27; Luke 11:15-22.
2. The attack of the heathen religions. The heathen religions believed in the doctrine of polytheism. They believed there were many gods.
3. The attack of saying, "It doesn't matter."
4. The attacks of the nature-worshippers. They say nature itself is the law of God which God will not break because He made the law.
5. The attacks of the skeptics. The skeptics say that if something cannot be explained naturally, then it could not be true.

6. The attack that the miracles were miraculous to the people at the time, but not miraculous to us.
7. Then there are those who are probably as dangerous as any, who say they believe the Bible but believe that everything in the Bible has a spiritual meaning.

III. PROOF OF THE MIRACLES.

1. Many of the miracles have been proven by archeologists. If one simply would get a good book on Biblical archeological discoveries, one would find many of the miracles are fact, not fancy. Some of these proofs are as follows:
 - a) The resurrection of Christ. The resurrection of Christ is accepted in Roman history.
 - b) The lost day. Scholars tell us that some way there has been a day lost somewhere in the history of the world.
 - c) It has been proven that the walls of Jericho miraculously fell.
 - d) God miraculously blessed one mountain in Samaria and cursed another.
2. The Bible is true; that is fact! Of course, all the miracles are based on the fact that the Bible is the divinely-inspired Word of God.
 - a) Its own claim. It claims to be the Word of God.
 - b) Victories over the ravages of time. No other book could have withstood the assaults of history.
 - c) Scientific facts prove the Bible is the Word of God.
 - d) The power of the Bible in human lives. The Bible works!

QUESTION:

- T F 1. When Jesus turned water into wine, actually He just poured water into a jar of wine.
- T F 2. When Jesus fed the 5,000, He actually made enough to feed them from one lad's lunch basket.
- T F 3. Lot's wife did not really become a pillar of salt. This simply was used as a figure of speech.
- T F 4. The Red Sea is very narrow and did not even need dividing; the Israelites just "stepped across" at the most narrow point.