

Chapter 1 : Sermons about The Miracle Of Salvation - calendrierdelascience.com

The Miracle of Salvation God's loving hand of healing is extended to all, but in return He expects obedience and reasonable service. Behold, thou art made whole: SIN NO MORE, lest a worse thing come unto thee (John).

And there are some striking similarities to the first. As with Pentecost, Luke first supplies a straightforward narrative of the miraculous event itself. That is followed by a sermon delivered by Peter in which he interpreted the event in much the same way as he interpreted Pentecost, arguing that this too was the work of the glorified Jesus Christ, the very Jesus whom these people had put to death. At the conclusion of his sermon Peter called upon his audience to repent, as he had before. Luke now gives us one particularly dramatic example. He was carried there at that time to catch the crowd leaving the temple after the evening sacrifice, all the more as they would be well disposed after worship to give to a beggar. He was praising God, not Peter, for the extraordinary gift that had been given to him. They were baffled to see this man who for decades had been unable to walk now leaping and dancing. Jesus had taught there and we will read in Acts 5: They murdered the very one who came to bring life to the spiritually dead. Thankfully, God raised him from the dead! Their crime was not the last word. We have already heard him describe the great evil of what they had done and soon he will call on them to repent. It was ignorance of a kind, but no excuse. Jesus came to suffer and die because the salvation of the world required nothing less. So it was possible simply to wipe the ink off the paper. Wiped away as if they had never been! The blessings that come from repentance and faith in Jesus, Peter said, are: But there was no need to distract his audience at this point with the thought of their sharing the gospel with the world, an often unwelcome thought, as we will see. You remember that at the outset of this second volume, Luke wrote that he would record in his second volume what Jesus continued to do in the world after ascending to heaven. The exalted Jesus was still at work in the world, though now not visibly and immediately, but through his disciples empowered by the Holy Spirit. Another astonishing thing had happened and Peter took the occasion to declare to his audience that this too, the healing of the congenitally lame man, was the work of Jesus of Nazareth. Now Peter had already said in his Pentecost sermon 2: In a way, that was a side benefit, not their true purpose. They pointed to something else. That his miracles were pictures of salvation, you remember, was a great emphasis of the Lord during the days of his public ministry. Jesus often made a point of identifying a miracle he had performed with the reality that it signified. That account and this have many similarities. Being delivered from illness was a picture of being delivered from the guilt and the power of sin and miraculous healing was a demonstration that Jesus had authority to grant both. We find Peter drawing that same connection between healing and forgiveness here. In a similar way in Luke 5 and often in the case of others of his miracles, the Lord drew attention to the importance of faith on the part of the one being healed or those who brought the person to Jesus in hopes of his being healed. You have here a man who was powerless and hopeless. He had to be carried to the gate so that he could beg for alms. In fact, no mere man could fix it. Still today, modern medicine would not have been able to fix his problem. Forty years of paralysis was the proof of that! And yet see a lame man leaping and dancing. That is the human predicament "we are incapable of solving our fundamental problem, our estrangement from God" and this is the glorious declaration: But there is more here than simply the demonstration and illustration of that fact. We learn some important things here about how Christ Jesus saves sinners. First, the gospel is a command. Forget the others passing by whose alms you may be losing. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth rise up and walk! Men and women, boys and girls, are not invited to believe in Jesus if they wish. They are commanded to believe. As one of the English Puritans put it: Is this not what Peter said bluntly when quoting Moses in vv. Hyper-Calvinism, 97] The deliverance from sin and death was the work of the Son of God. To refuse to embrace that salvation is only exacerbating the sinful rebellion for which a man or woman is already condemned. We hear from Peter here both the unashamed declaration of what God has done in Jesus Christ to save us from sin and death and our absolute obligation to obey the summons to believe in him and be saved. There is no question, obviously, as to whom this man owed his healing after so many years of being unable to walk. It was Jesus Christ who did this for him. No mere man could accomplish such a thing. The man stood

up, the man walked and jumped, but that was only his joyful response to what God had said to this man and done for him. And so we read that the man praised God, not Peter, and certainly not himself! It is a beautiful picture of salvation we are given here. With the command, came the power to obey; with the summons came the ability to respond to it. Even Christians can often be mistaken on this point. I do not think the young convert is at first aware of this. I, J Spurgeon had realized, in other words, that salvation, just like this miraculous healing, is the gift, the work, the power, the accomplishment of God, however much it produces a response in us. Indeed, what divine power does is precisely to illicit that response from us. The man walked because he was told to and because God enabled him to. Faith is the required response. In some ways, it is striking, even unexpected that any role whatsoever should be given here to the man himself. After all, nothing is more obvious than that he was helpless. He wanted money, whatever little money they might be pleased to give him. He had been helpless all his life. He was used to being helpless. But Peter did not scruple to say in v. Some have thought that the faith being referred to in v. In the similar case of the paralyzed man let down through the roof in Luke 5, it was not only the faith of the man himself but also the faith of the men who brought him to Jesus that the Lord drew attention to as he performed the miraculous healing. I think the reference here is to faith on the part of the man himself. And at the first dawning of that faith in his heart, at the first tentative exercise of that faith in Jesus, the man was healed. We see such sudden belief in a number of instances in the Bible: But whether sudden or more gradual, whether a response to a single command or to extensive teaching and explanation, this salvation, this change, this transformation of life, this forgiveness of sins, this entrance into eternal life is always the result of a man or woman placing his or her confidence in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Peter here mentioned repentance as well, as he did in his Pentecost sermon. In Acts faith and repentance are virtual synonyms though they lay stress on different aspects of a believing and an obedient response to the gospel summons. Faith is the credit one places in the promise and work of God. No doubt the man repented too. Those who joyfully praise God for his grace to them always want also to live to his praise! But the main thing is to notice that this man believed and Christ saved him. It changes our lives root and branch. This man was a beggar. I think we can be sure that he never begged again. He left his former life behind him that day! He had been helpless even to move himself around. Now multitudes were standing agape watching him try out his legs and feet, walking, jumping, perhaps clicking his heels, if you can click heels in sandals! He was making up for forty years of sitting still! But more important than that, see this man praising God at the top of his lungs. He knew now how gracious God was and how powerful. And everywhere in the Bible salvation is this way. It changes a man or woman, changes him or her profoundly. It makes him or her a worshipper of God and changes so much more. Again and again in his letters the Apostle Paul reminds his Christian friends of the life they used to live “how unworthy and how unpleasant it was” and what a difference Christ had made in them. They now live in a very different way, doing very different things, for very different reasons. Any Christian who has come to Christ in the middle of his or her life often recalls what a tremendous revolution occurred when first he or she came to Christ. He had been spiritually in a condition like this man had been in physically. As he put it: But it turned out to be good for me in the end, because God used the time to shape and mold me into something better.

Chapter 2 : The Miracle of Salvation

Daily Devotion The Miracle of Salvation By Diane Pearson Guest Writer. calendrierdelascience.com - "We're not sure Dad's going to make it this time," Linda said to her family.. Linda's father had been in the cardiac intensive care unit for ten days.

He concocted a caramel-colored syrup in a brass kettle in his back yard. Coke was basically an American drink until the company got serious about global expansion in the s. The executives set a goal of making Coca-Cola available to every person on the planet. Every day, there are 1. With such amazing global expansion over the past years, someone said if Jesus had given the Great Commission to the Coca-Cola Company, the gospel would have already been presented to every person on earth! He gave it to us! The last words a person speaks before they die are usually remembered as being profound or valuable. A man who mentioned that his elderly father had recently died. Mother was with him until the end. But these are the last words He gave to His disciples before He returned to heaven. He saved the best for last. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. What made this commissioning special was the fact that her bow was made with 7. We understand the importance of the commissioning of a navy vessel, but do we really take seriously the commissioning Jesus gave us? He launched the church to go into every part of the world and make disciples. But for many people, the Great Commission has become the Great Omission. A Christian who never attempts to share his faith has embraced the Great Omission. The great missionary leader Hudson Taylor said: Homogenized, Pasteurized, fortified, Low-fat, Vitamin-enriched. We have no money, no machinery, and no means. How can we argue with the sophistication and intellectualism of the Greeks? That means whenever Jesus speaks in heaven, it is done. He also claimed to have all authority on earth. And He has given that authority to us. And in Acts 1:

Chapter 3 : Acts , The Greatest Miracle – West Palm Beach church of Christ

Salvation is one of the essences of Christianity. The Son of God descended from heaven to reveal the kingdom and the will of His Father and be a sacrifice. Jesus died for our place.

By Wayne Jackson In discussing the theme of biblical miracles, several important areas of consideration must be surveyed. First, exactly what is a miracle? People use that term rather loosely – frequently, not at all in a scriptural sense. And what are those tell-tale traits that identify the miracle and distinguish it from a natural phenomenon? If folks only knew what to look for in certifying the miraculous, they surely would be aware that supernatural deeds are not being performed in this age. Further, does the Bible itself contain any information as to whether miraculous displays would be perpetual, i. These are questions which we propose to answer in this study. Definition and Classification of Miracles How does one define a miracle? A miracle is an event which the forces of nature – including the natural powers of man – cannot of themselves produce, and which must, therefore, be referred to a supernatural agency Fisher , 9. A miracle is a divine operation that transcends what is normally perceived as natural law; it cannot be explained upon any natural basis. The miracles recorded in the Bible fall into several categories. The following examples are illustrative, though certainly not exhaustive: First, there are supernatural acts of creation. Certain creation activities were accomplished by the word of God Hebrews Second, there were miracles which involved a temporary and localized suspension of laws regulating nature. Jesus calmed a ferocious storm on the Sea of Galilee Matthew 8: The blind were made to see John 9: Fourth, there were signs demonstrating divine power over death. Lazarus, dead four days, was raised John Fifth, some of the wonders of the New Testament age had to do with the expulsion of demons that had entered into human bodies Matthew Sixth, the exhibition of divine authority was seen in the manipulation of certain material things. Christ turned water into wine John 2: Seventh, miraculous power was demonstrated in both the plant and animal kingdoms. In this study, we will limit ourselves mostly to a consideration of miracles recorded in the New Testament record. Characteristics of a Genuine Miracle What are the traits of a genuine miracle, as opposed to feigned signs? Consider the following facts. A supernatural display of divine power is not an arguable proposition; it is a dramatic, demonstrable fact. No where in the New Testament is there a record of a divine spokesman arguing for the validity of miracles. No logical scheme is needed to establish such a case. When Jesus performed signs, even his enemies did not deny the effect of such; they merely attempted to attribute his power to some other source e. Is anything being done today of such compelling nature as to elicit this type of reaction? In biblical times, miracles always had a worthy motive. Signs were not done for the purpose of personal aggrandizement. When Peter encountered the lame man of Acts 3, he had no money v. As a general rule, the miracles of the Bible era were done in the presence of a multitude of credible witnesses – even hostile observers. When the Lord multiplied the loaves and fishes, possibly some ten thousand or more people were present cf. Genuine miracles were not slow, progressive processes; rather, they produced instantaneous effects. In the New Testament, one never reads such statements as this: True miracles must be subject to sense perception. The water that Jesus turned into wine could be tasted John 2: The wonders of the Bible were objective demonstrations, not subjective speculations! Actual signs must be independent of secondary causes. By this we mean there must be no possible way to explain the miracle in a natural fashion. One is reminded of the boy whose cat gave birth to kittens. When the lad noticed the kittens were blind, he prayed for them. Sure enough, in about nine days they all could see! Can the miracles of Christ be explained in any natural fashion? For instance it cannot be argued that the blind man of John 9: How can a perfectly restored ear, that had been amputated, be explained by current processes Luke A genuine miracle will generate more than a superficial and temporary interest. It will have an abiding effect. The miracles of Christ were never denied during the apostolic age, nor even in the immediate ages beyond. We submit, therefore, that so-called modern miracles do not meet the criteria suggested above. They thus must be rejected and explained upon some other basis. Their Purpose and Method of Reception What was the purpose of miracles in the ministry of Christ, or in the apostolic age? As noted above, their design must be consistent with the lofty theme of redemption. Of the early disciples who

were endowed with spiritual gifts, Mark declares: And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word by the signs that followed Mark. The function of the signs was to confirm the revelatory process, i. The writer of Hebrews argues similarly. The word denotes evidence that establishes the validity of the divinely-given word Brown , The supernatural gifts of the primitive age, therefore, had as their design the establishment of the credibility of Christ and his spokesmen, and so ultimately, the validation of their message, namely, that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Savior of the world! Now observe this very important point. If it can be established that those early miracles do corroborate the testimony of Christ, and those commissioned by him; and further, that the recording of these events in the New Testament was designed to perpetually accomplish that function, then it stands as demonstrated that the repetition of such signs is not needed today. The fact is, that is exactly what is affirmed by the apostle John. Even those who claim that God is working miracles today, when asked if they believe that the recorded miracles of Christ in the New Testament are sufficient to establish faith in him, will answer affirmatively. It ought to be abundantly clear, therefore, that since the miracles of the Bible continue to accomplish their original purpose, there is no need for a repetition of them today. They are not being replicated in this age! Next, one should explore the method of gift reception, as that concept is set forth in the New Testament. Christ, of course, was empowered directly by God to work miracles. So far as New Testament information goes, there were only two ways by which others received spiritual gifts in the apostolic era. The first was by means of Holy Spirit baptism, i. Let us consider the biblical facts regarding these two matters. Holy Spirit baptism was demonstrated in only two New Testament situations. It was given to the apostles of Christ Acts 1: Then, as a very special case, it was received by the household of Cornelius Acts. Is Holy Spirit baptism available today? We can show that it is not by the following logical argument. First, when Paul wrote to the Ephesians ca. It is generally conceded that this baptism must be either Holy Spirit baptism or water baptism. If it can be established that the one baptism of Ephesians 4: That water baptism is age-lasting is demonstrated by the fact that it is the baptism of the great commission cf. Whatever the baptism of this passage is, therefore, it continues in force until the end. This baptism, however, must be water baptism, as evidenced by the fact that it is administered by human beings: It must be concluded, therefore, that the one baptism of Ephesians 4: Such being the case, spiritual gifts are not received via Holy Spirit baptism today. Other than by Holy Spirit baptism, miraculous gifts could be conveyed only by an apostle of Christ. Philip, the evangelist not an apostle, could perform miracles, but he could not pass that gift along to others. Accordingly, apostles, namely Peter and John, were sent to Samaria, where Philip had been preaching, so that the church there might be furnished with certain divine gifts cf. He wanted to purchase that privilege for himself, but he was informed that he had neither part nor lot in that matter, i. Such, however, was a very illogical position, for that church possessed spiritual gifts 1 Corinthians, and they had received them from none other than Paul. If to others I am not an apostle, yet at least I am to you; for the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord 1 Corinthians 9: Some argue that 1 Timothy 4: However, the passage does not suggest that. This verse asserts that Timothy had received a spiritual gift on the same general occasion when elders had laid hands upon the evangelist—doubtless to appoint him to some special mission. It does not affirm that the elders themselves imparted miracle-working ability to Timothy. Since, therefore, there is no Holy Spirit baptism today; and further, since there are no apostles or successors to them in this age, it should be quite clear that men are not in possession of supernatural gifts of the Spirit in this post-apostolic era of the Christian dispensation. Two Contexts Considered Were miraculous gifts to abide with the church until the end of time, or, due to their specific design, were they only a temporary phenomena? This matter is discussed rather comprehensively in two New Testament contexts.

The miracle, which is the greatest miracle of all, is our salvation. The forgiveness of sins and salvation from the chains of hell is the greatest miracle of the three miracles we have looked at this morning.

The Miracle of Salvation What is salvation that is being offered by Christianity? From where and what are we going to be saved? Is it really possible that a god will incarnate on earth just to save us? Why does someone needs salvation? Salvation is one of the essences of Christianity. The Son of God descended from heaven to reveal the kingdom and the will of His Father and be a sacrifice. Jesus died for our place. Man being a sinner, was heading for condemnation, a death an eternity in hell. The first batch, the first ever generation of man, our parents already committed sin. And the result of this sin is death. Adam and Eve committed the first sin which is the desire to be like, or in the same level with, God. The devil was the first to commit this sin. He desired to be like God and he wants us to do the same. When God was so delighted on His creation on man, the devil was so furious and jealous because he knows we are the inheritors of heaven and he will be condemned soon. He wants to mess up the party. So he tricked Eve to eat the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge. And suddenly, they were naked. And why God prevented them from eating the fruit if this will make them aware of good and evil? Is God scare of something might be revealed? God loves man so much. He picked up a clay, He molded it, and breath on our nostrils to give us spirit; we were made in His own image. He was so delighted when He saw us. In my opinion, the reason why He prevented us from knowing good and evil is that it will make us decide for ourselves and it will make us liable for our decision. God knows that with our immaturity, we tend to choose the wrong choice. Choices that can be destructive for us. Our parents used to have everything around them; unlimited supply of healthy food, eternal life, fresh air, good health, sex, everything. In fact, whenever we hear the word Paradise, an image of green landscape appears to our mind, or the Garden of Eden, and not luxurious buildings and night clubs that we created. However, we have a notion that we must be independent to decide on our own; that we must learn on our mistakes and its consequences on our own; that conflicts and problems are healthy and challenging. Well, here we are now. As a loving parent, despite the love that He shown and things that He provided, it must be hurtful and disappointing for Him to be disobeyed and betrayed by His children. God may love us so much but we still have to pay for our sin, we must be liable for our decisions. This is the consequence of free will. God loves us so much that He gave us free will even though He knows its possible outcome. He wants us to love him on our free will. And this is also what makes us special: We are His only creation that can make a choice, not even angels have this privilege. And this what makes us also gods Psalm And because we sinned, we must die. And because God loves us so much, He find ways to fix our mess. And there is only one way; His Son Jesus. His own Son that came from His own bosom is more than enough to be a sacrifice for the lives of the entire humanity, from the past and to the future. It must have been depressing to experience the same thing twice; the death of His first son and the death of His only begotten Son. They must choose a blameless animal to sacrifice in place of them. The blood of the sacrificed animal will pour into the soil and will serve as a payment for their sin. God used this method to save and cleanse us from our sins. We must be sinless and blameless to be able to enter into heaven. Jesus, being perfect and sinless, is the perfect sacrifice. His blood washed away our sins. He covered up our sins to make us appear sinless to the Father and be qualified for heaven. As sinners, we are unworthy to be with the glorious God. As gods, we are meant to live for eternal. You will notice it by how you feel inside yourself; it feels the same as you were in your high school. And in the spirit world, there are only two places; heaven and hell. The result of our sin is eternal life in hell. He still wants to spend the eternity with us. With our free will and the power to choose, He gave us the option where to spend the eternity. By recognizing Jesus and what He did to us, it makes us qualify to be inheritors of His kingdom and spend the eternity with Him. To those who rejected His Son, they will spend eternity in hell among the condemned devil and his angels. The choice is ours. The idea of a punishing God is usually used by unbelievers against Christianity. They say that instead of a judging and hating God, as Christians usually do, a God, being perfect, is a loving and understanding God, and must not punish and hate. He understands our weaknesses as humans. I agree on this. This is also the God that I

worship. God wants everyone to be saved 1 Timothy 2: The problem is on the people who rejected His salvation, strayed away from Him, and chose to be their own god. Being their own god is believing their own perception. Lucifer chose to be his own god. Adam and Eve chose to be their own god. They are their own god. Whenever we follow ourselves, we chooses to be our own gods. We are gods because we live for eternity and we have our own free will. But there is only one supreme God who created us all and deserves our worship. We have the power to choose between Him and ourselves. I also came to realize that what Jesus said in Matthew This is the miracle of salvation.

Chapter 5 : What Does the Bible Say About Miracles? : Christian Courier

That his miracles were pictures of salvation, you remember, was a great emphasis of the Lord during the days of his public ministry. Jesus often made a point of identifying a miracle he had performed with the reality that it signified.

First Two Miracles A. He has become a disciple of Jesus by being baptized for the forgiveness of sins. The focus will now shift back to the apostle Peter as we read the next couple chapters. Peter is traveling about the region and comes to the saints who lived in the city of Lydda. In Lydda there was a man named Aeneas who had been paralyzed and bedridden for eight years. Peter arrives and simply says, "Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Get up and make your own bed. The effect of the miracle was powerful because all the people in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord based on what they saw. But Tabitha became sick and died. Since the city of Lydda is near Joppa, the disciples in Joppa sent two men begging Peter to come to Joppa. Peter arrives in Joppa and the widows show Peter all the good works Tabitha had done for the people while she lived. Peter sends them all out of the room, knelt down, prayed, and then said, "Tabitha, get up! Everyone in Joppa heard about what had happened and many believed in the Lord based on this miracle. The Salvation of Cornelius A. The preparation of Cornelius He is a centurion in the Italian Regiment, meaning that he was in charge of soldiers. This is a powerful and influential person. But more than his military power, we learn about the character of Cornelius. He is not the hard man we would imagine being in charge of so many Roman soldiers. Cornelius is a believer in God. Verse 2 tells us that Cornelius "was a devout man and fear God along with his whole household. He did many charitable deeds for the people and always prayed to God. He is devout toward God. He fears God and his whole household also fears God. He prays to God and performs many charitable deeds. We must be impressed with this Roman captain who has this kind of zeal for the Lord. But let us ask an important question at this point: Again, I want to emphasize today that most of the religious world teaches that one is saved by fearing the Lord and offering prayers to God. But we will see that Cornelius was not saved and required something more to receive the grace of God. An angel of the Lord speaks to Cornelius in a vision, telling him that his prayers and acts of charity have come up before God as a memorial offering. Therefore, Cornelius was to send men to Joppa call for Peter who would explain what to do. The preparation of Peter At about noon Peter goes on to the housetop to pray. While on the housetop Peter sees a vision of an object like a large sheet being lowered to the earth by the four corners. In the object were all the four-footed animals and reptiles of the earth and birds of the sky. A voice says to Peter, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat! For I have never eaten anything common and unclean! Now Peter is wondering what this vision met. While Peter is thinking about this vision, the men who had been sent by Cornelius arrived at the door, asking if Peter was staying there. The Spirit tells Peter to go downstairs and accompany the men without doubting because God had sent them. So Peter goes downstairs to the men who are at the door. The explanation to Peter While Peter and the men are traveling to Caesarea, Cornelius has gathered all his relatives and close friends together to hear the message Peter was going to bring. But Peter picks Cornelius up, saying, "Stand up! I myself am also a man. Just as an aside, if Peter did not demand or deserve any worship or titles, we ought to be skeptical of any person who looks to be worshipped by falling at their feet, kissing their hand or ring, giving them a special title, or elevating the person in any manner. If the apostles refused such treatment, no person should receive such treatment except God Himself. Peter explains that he is aware that it is forbidden for a Jew to associate with a Gentile or visit a foreigner. However, Peter has seen a vision in which God has shown him that he must not call any person common or unclean any longer. This is the reason Peter has come without objection. It is important for us to realize how no Jew would have ever done this. A miracle was required for both Peter and Cornelius in the form of visions to make this arrangement happen. Cornelius then go about explaining the reason why they called for Peter. The angel told Cornelius that his prayer had been heard and his acts of charity had been remembered by God. The angel further told Cornelius to summon for Peter and have him come to Caesarea. So Cornelius and his whole family are all present before the Lord to hear everything Peter had been commanded by God. The proclamation of Peter In every nation the person who fears God and does righteousness is accepted by God. The good news of peace began to be proclaimed to

the sons of Israel available through Jesus Christ. Peter continues that Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit and with power going about doing good because God was with him. The apostles are witnesses to everything Jesus did in Judea and Jerusalem. The Jews killed Jesus by hanging him on a tree but God raised him up on the third day and permitted him to be seen, not by all people, but by the apostles and other witnesses appointed beforehand by God. Jesus commanded the apostles to preach to the people and testify that Jesus is the one appointed by God to the judge of the living and the dead. All of the prophets testify about Jesus that through his name, everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins. The validation of the Holy Spirit and salvation to the Gentiles The believers who accompanied Peter were astounded at the Holy Spirit coming down on Cornelius and his household. Cornelius and his household began to speak in other languages, just as we saw the apostles able to perform in Acts 2. Peter tells his companions, "Can anyone withhold water and prevent these from being baptized, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have? Peter then commands Cornelius and his household to be baptized so they can receive the grace of God. Notice that Peter does not suggest they get baptized. Peter does not tell Cornelius it would be a good idea, but that baptism was not necessary. If these people wanted the forgiveness of sins as they had been praying about, then they need to be baptized to receive forgiveness. The Miracle of Salvation A. The third miracle is not the visions to Cornelius and Peter, though these are miraculous events. The miracle, which is the greatest miracle of all, is our salvation. The forgiveness of sins and salvation from the chains of hell is the greatest miracle of the three miracles we have looked at this morning. Yet you may say that forgiveness of sins and salvation is not a miracle. But the scriptures beg to differ. Paul called salvation a miracle in Romans 1: This word is consistently used in reference to the direct power of God and is even translated "miracle" or "miraculous" 22 times. The Greek scholars say this word refers to, "miraculous power, might, strength" NAS Greek and "specially, miraculous power" Strong's. *Dunamis* is not a generic word for power and authority. The Greek word *exousia* seen many times in Revelation regarding the power of the locusts and armies is the more common word for power and authority. When we read *dunamis*, we are to think of tremendous might and power. In Ephesians 2, Paul told us that we were dead in our sins and trespasses and were by nature children of wrath Ephesians 2: But look what Paul says, " 4But God, who is abundant in mercy, because of His great love that He had for us, 5 made us alive with the Messiah even though we were dead in trespasses. By grace you are saved! Paul is describing a miracle taking place in our lives. We are dead and God is raising us from the dead, making us alive with Christ. Paul is emphasizing what amazing power and abundant love was shown to raise us from our spiritual death. Verse 5 reminds us of our status: But God has authored a resurrection in our lives, taking us from being dead and making us alive. The raising of people from the dead was to show us that God has the power to raise our spiritual bodies from sin and death and make us alive. Specifically, we are to witness this power in the resurrection of Jesus. Paul makes this point in 1 Corinthians Closely look at verses But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. We are still in our sins and lost without the power of God raising Christ from the dead. If one happened, the other has also happened.

Chapter 6 : The Miracle of Salvation Acts | Faith Presbyterian Church

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He was dying of congestive heart failure. The most recent crisis was that his kidneys stopped working. Now he was on dialysis. Linda said, "I had a crushing burden to witness to Dad before he died. Another man was moved into his room, and a curtain was pulled between their beds. I prayed for Dad and told him how much God loved him and wanted to receive him. The Great Banquet is prepared for everyone, but sometimes they turn it down. Everyone is invited, but sometimes people make all kinds of excuses for not accepting the invitation. He was only years-old and his name was Joey. I want to talk to her. Will you pray for me? I want to receive Jesus into my life. Dear Father, I come to you in the name of Jesus. I am a sinner, and I am very sorry for my sins and the life that I have lived. I repent of my sins and ask your forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross and shed His blood for my sins. I confess Jesus as the Lord of my soul. With my heart, I believe that God raised Jesus from the dead. I invite you to come into my heart and become my Lord and Savior. My dad and Joey shared that room for only one night, but it was long enough for this miracle of salvation. Dad got better and was able to go home from the hospital, something we never expected. Now he attends church with us and I continue to pray for his salvation. Can God change your life? God has made it possible for you to know Him and experience an amazing change in your own life. Discover how you can find peace with God. You can also send us your prayer requests [Related Links:](#)

Chapter 7 : The Miracle Of Salvation – Calvary Baptist Church

Home > The Christ > MIRACLE OF SALVATION When our Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our Salvation on the cross, He accomplished everything. The meaning of the root word for 'Salvation' is Deliverance, Aid, Victory, Prosperity, Health, Welfare, Avenge, Defend, Help, Preserve, Rescue and Saving Health.

Listen to this article Download As thousands of people came streaming to see the miracles unfolding that morning, little did they know that these stunning events would pale in comparison to the unseen, silent miracle coming later that day. It was the Day of Pentecost, A. For His disciples, it had been the most dramatic two months they could imagine – going from the depths of despair at seeing Him murdered to the heights of amazement at seeing Him alive again. After being with Christ for another 40 days, they had watched as He ascended into heaven. But how would that happen, they wondered, and what would it mean? Now they were finding out! And then, the most astonishing miracle so far: Word of these wonders quickly spread among them. The crowds came running, probably hoping to see a miracle, but not expecting to be included in one. However, when they arrived, the miracle now fell on them! How is what happened nearly 2, years ago relevant to my life today? The answer is in what happened next. In these physical signs and wonders, he explained, you are seeing evidence of the spiritual fulfilling of one of the greatest prophecies for humanity. Centuries earlier the prophet Joel had foretold the time when God would pour out His Spirit, Peter said – and this is it! The Jews listening to him certainly knew this prophecy, but Peter still had much to explain. He continued, ending the section from Joel 2 with this: They knew well the string of miracles Jesus had performed for over three years. Furthermore, the greatest miracle of all was undeniable: The thousands gathered there could have scorned Peter at this point, arguing that they bore no responsibility, that they were not even there, or that the Romans had killed Him. But it seems that many of them clearly grasped what Peter meant. If Christ had to come and die for all of our individual sins, then we are all individually guilty of His death. The point was clear. We cannot save ourselves, we cannot live the way we ought, without the Spirit of God living in us. There exists within each human, as Paul explained in 1 Corinthians 2: God also has a spirit, known in the Bible as the Holy Spirit. Where has our human spirit – our mind with its ideas and attitudes – brought us at this point? History shows it has always been a two-edged sword, capable of mind-boggling creations and technological advancements, yet incapable of finding peace or solving our deep-seated problems of selfishness, lust, hatred, prejudice, greed, envy, lack of self-control, etc. This Day of Pentecost takes us back to the time when God acted, as He had promised, to open the door to us for the only possible solution – to receive a different spirit. And Pentecost today brings us back to the reality that we need His Spirit more than ever. Only through the power of the Holy Spirit can our minds be renewed and our lives transformed Romans No greater miracle can happen to someone – and God is still working that miracle today! Pentecost pictures even more than that, though. Having the Spirit of God, Paul stated in Romans 8: Jesus had promised His disciples that He would build His Church, and He did not mean a building or denomination. The word designates the body of believers of which Jesus Christ is Head. Changing your life That incredible Day of Pentecost in A. Nearly 2, years later, God is still calling people to His Church, and for those who listen and respond, receiving His Spirit remains as much an incredible, miraculous event as it was then. But why, when and how does conviction of sin, repentance and receiving the Holy Spirit happen to someone today? Would you have gone running to see the miracles on display that day in Jerusalem in A. Then why not go today for the knowledge that can change your life! In fact, Pentecost is only one of seven festivals God established, each portraying an essential step in His plan of salvation. What happened to them?

Chapter 8 : The Miracle and Meaning of Pentecost - Life, Hope & Truth

It's a miracle He is still performing. I want to examine the Great Commission under the title of "Sharing the Miracle of Salvation." I'd like to compare the Great Commission to something everyone here easily recognizes: Coca-Cola.

She had two sons and no means of support. To stay alive she had borrowed heavily, but the day of reckoning had come. The debt must be paid. The prophet sent her out to borrow vessels from her neighbors; as many empty containers as she and her sons could find. Then she was to close her door and pour oil from the small jar into the pitchers, the pots, and the jars she and her sons had collected. She did this and, marvelous to say, the oil flowed from her one small jar until every container had been filled to the brim. When she reported this to the prophet he told her to sell the oil. It would bring enough money to pay off her debt and support her for a long time to come. It was a miracle; a miracle of deliverance. Can you imagine how this woman felt in the desperation of her poverty? She had lost her husband already and now she thought she would lose her sons. Nothing short of a miracle could have changed her situation. Now she was saved. She must have felt a deep sense of gratitude to the Lord. This miraculous increase of the oil as the widow poured it into the borrowed containers was accomplished by Divine power. It happened as described. Could not He who made the olive tree create its oil as well? And so God saved the widow woman. But there is another reason for this miracle: Who was this widow? A woman in Israel in the days of Elisha the prophet, but it is also you and me. Yes, we are widows like this impoverished woman and the miracle that saved her can save us. The Lord fed the hungry multitudes. He feeds our spiritual hunger. The Lord healed the sick. He heals our spiritual sickness. Have you been blind? Blind to your own shortcomings? Blind to your duty and responsibility in life? Have you been lame? Lame in your efforts to serve the neighbor? Lame in living up to your commitments? Paralyzed in your efforts to stand up for what is right? How are we like this widow? There is something about us, particularly about our religious life, that parallels the life of a widow. The widow has no husband. She has lost the benefit of his love and companionship; his wisdom and judgment; perhaps his income and thus the wherewithal to live a full life. How is our life incomplete? We must learn to love the Lord heart, soul, and mind. Suppose the love is in our heart, but the ideas of our mind are confused? Our life is incomplete—“widow-like”—when heart and mind fail to operate together. There are two things to consider: A full or complete religious life exists when we have the love of God in our hearts and are able to put it into practical expression. What if we desire to serve and lack the ability? Think how you feel when you want to comfort a distraught friend but are just as confused as the friend. Who shows us the way to put spiritual love into practice? The Lord shows us. He saves us from the sorrow and bankruptcy of an unfulfilled life. He demonstrates Divine love in act. He gives us the truth we need to live a good life. He has told us to love the neighbor and He has taught us how. Yet how can we learn to do well unless someone teaches us? We are widows when we lack the truths of religion. These truths are not instinctive. They must be learned. In this we differ from the animal. Animals quickly learn to live the life for which they were created. Instinctively, they know their food, their enemies, how to care for their offspring. We have to learn all of these things. We have to learn each step in life in order to become mature and successful. Religious life is exactly the same. Love of the neighbor is not instinctive. Living a good life does not come naturally. We have to learn it. Just as there are successful principles of business, of child care, of marriage, there are true principles of religious life. Without them, something is missing from our life. We lack guidance in our efforts to attain spirituality. We are like a widow woman who has depended upon her husband for guidance and support in conducting her family affairs who now must go it alone. Such was the case of the widow woman who cried out to the prophet of Israel. And how was she helped? The prophet gave her a responsibility. Not the money she needed to pay her debt, but a way to take what she did have and to build on it. What did she have? The widow had a little olive oil. Let us think about the olive oil for a moment, for it is key to understanding this miracle as it applies to our own life. Olive oil was a precious commodity in Israel. It had a value because of its many uses. The oil, with its smooth golden richness and its many uses, is symbolic of a valuable human commodity—“symbolic of the love that is a pure gift from God, hidden in our hearts. But it was bottled up in a little jar. Therefore, the prophet told the woman

to go out and borrow a lot of empty containers from her neighbors. Then she poured out from her little jar as her sons kept bringing each empty vessel to be filled. Here was the essence of the miracle. The flow did not stop until the last container was filled. And here is the miracle for each one of us. We can be enriched by the very process that enriched the widow. The love in our hearts from God is inexhaustible when we put it to wise use. There is no end of love when applied to uses of life. Such is the nature of spiritual love or good will toward others. It fills every deed of service and every activity with its inexhaustible spirit. A woman bears a child and pours her love into its care. Is that all the love she has to give? She bears a second child and loves it as well as the first. Her love is not divided and diminished, but multiplied. A teacher loves to present his subject to a class. The following year he meets another class and his love finds new expression. He has not given it all away to the first class. In fact, his ability to teach increases from year to year as he becomes more skilled and gains experience in meeting the needs of the students. Love is inexhaustible but it must have a means of expression or else it will remain bottled up. The Lord offers love in unending supply, but we must come up with the ways to use it.

Chapter 9 : Salvation Quotes (quotes)

The Miracle Of Salvation. The Greatest Miracle. Some people seem to think the age of miracles for the church has ended. To that we would say, come to church and see the miracle of changed lives and changed destinies!