

Have Miraculous Spiritual Gifts Ceased?

by David Padfield

The Means Of Obtaining Spiritual Gifts Has Ceased

- Holy Spirit Baptism (Acts 2; 10).
- The laying on of the Apostles hands (Acts 8:18).

The Purpose Of Miracles Has Ceased

- Revelation of God's Word (John 14:26; 16:13).
- Confirmation of the Word (Mark 16:20; Heb 2:3; Jude 3).

"Miracles" Of Today Are Not Like New Testament Miracles

- Jesus could heal "every sickness and every disease" (Matthew 4:24; 9:35; 8:6; 14:34-35), but modern "Faith Healers" just make big claims about what they can do while never actually healing anyone of a known disease.
- The only time men of God ever failed when attempting a miracle was in (Matthew 17:14-21), and in this case, the Lord blamed His disciples, not the person who was sick!

The New Testament Said They Would Cease

- "Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away" (1 Cor. 13:8-10).
- "That which is perfect" (i.e., the completed New Testament) has been revealed; therefore, "that which is in part" (i.e., spiritual gifts) have ceased.

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

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Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."

Sunday Worship:

9:30 am Bible Study

10:20 am Worship

12:30 pm Afternoon

Wednesday Night

7:pm

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Approved By God

I have found that there is something in women that allows them to read the character of someone they have just met more accurately and quickly than most men including myself. Call it a sixth sense, women's intuition, whatever you will, but God gave woman a heightened perception that I find amazing. Before new people are allowed access to those they care about, especially children and husbands, there is a vetting process that occurs. It might be subtle, almost imperceptible, and happen before I can even get their last name, but it happens. An approval process takes place.

Thayer's Lexicon tells us that our English word approved in the original language means, "properly, accepted, particularly of coins and metals." "For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends" (2 Cor. 10:18). Approval in all spiritual matters must come from God and His word alone must be our litmus test for what is religiously acceptable (Col. 3:17). Paul again exhorts Timothy, "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15). Like a teenage boy seeking the approval of a protective father concerning his daughter, we ought to seek earnestly for our own concerned Father's approval.

God's ultimate approval, "well done, good and faithful servant," (Mat. 25:21) is given only after all testing is complete, i.e. the probationary period of our life in this world. This is what it is to gain God's approval, this is passing the test, this is when the man is blessed. "But he who endures to the end shall be saved" (Mat. 25:13). Not a one-time test, but a lifelong race. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' 'Yes,' says the Spirit, 'that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them'" (Rev. 14:13).

Will Vann

Those to Serve

(B) Doug Pruett FV) Vernon Houts

(O) Mike Mallett (A) Kyle Stifflemire

1st prayer Jack Wall 2nd prayer Keith Stifflemire

Announcements: Calvin Burks Singing: Judd Wall

Prayer List: Naomi Wall , Mildred Lovell , Gene Payne, Lloyd Crownover, Ruby Jones, Pray for our nation, our Troops and Law Enforcement

You should know that truth is--

1. knowable (John 8:31-32)
2. able to make you free (John 8:31-32)
3. more valuable than anything else (Proverbs 23:23)
4. what Jesus came to show us (John 1:17; 14:6)
5. what Jesus came to bear witness of (John 18:37)
6. What has been fully revealed in the Bible (John 16:12-13; 2 Peter 1:3-4; Jude 3)



To

Mike & Connie Mallett

July 19th



To

Mike Lovell July 16

Keith Stifflemire July 22

Dates to Remember

June 26th

Noon Fellowship

July 3rd

Mission Sunday

July 4th

Independence Day

July 31st

Noon Fellowship