

THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

6 Reasons We Should Not Obsess Over Miracles, Signs & Wonders Today

- 1. To obsess over M,S&W, diminishes the constant, providential supervision of God over all things.**
- 2. The primary purpose for most M,S&W has already been accomplished.**

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Exodus 4

1 Then Moses answered, "What if they do not believe me or listen to my voice?

For they may say, 'The LORD has not appeared to you.' "

2 And the LORD asked him, "What is that in your hand?"

"A staff," he replied.

3 "Throw it on the ground," said the LORD.

So Moses threw it on the ground, and it became a snake, and he ran from it.

4 "Stretch out your hand and grab it by the tail," the LORD said to Moses,

who reached out his hand and caught the snake, and it turned back into a staff in his hand.

Exodus 4

5“This is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has appeared to you.”

6 Furthermore, the LORD said to Moses, “Put your hand inside your cloak.”

So he put his hand inside his cloak, and when he took it out, his hand was leprous, white as snow.

7“Put your hand back inside your cloak,” said the LORD.

So Moses put his hand back inside his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored, like the rest of his skin.

Exodus 4

8 And the LORD said, "If they refuse to believe you or heed the witness of the first sign, they may believe that of the second.

9 But if they do not believe even these two signs or listen to your voice, take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground.

Then the water you take from the Nile will become blood on the ground."

Exodus 4

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**A primary reason God used
'signs' and wonders...**

**is to set apart a certain man
as His representative,...**

**in order to speak to the world
THROUGH that representative.**

**God certified messengers
for the purpose of revealing
His message on earth**

Acts 2

**22 Men of Israel, listen to this message:
Jesus of Nazareth was a man certified by
God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs,
which God did among you through Him, as
you yourselves know.**

Acts 14

3 So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord, who **affirmed the message** of His grace by enabling **them** to perform signs and wonders.

Hebrews 2

1 Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.

2 For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution,

3 how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?

Hebrews 2

It was declared at first by the Lord, **(Christ)**
and it was attested to us by those who
heard, **(apostles)**

4 while God also bore witness by signs and
wonders and various miracles and by gifts
of the Holy Spirit distributed according to
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Malachi 3

1“Behold, I will send My **messenger**, who will prepare the way before Me.

Then the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple—

the **Messenger of the covenant**, in whom you delight—

see, He is coming,” says the LORD of Hosts.

Acts 3

22 For Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your brothers.

You must listen to Him in everything He tells you.

23 Everyone who does not listen to Him will be completely cut off from among his people.'

John 12

49 I have not spoken on My own, but the Father who sent Me has commanded Me what to say and how to say it.

50 And I know that His command leads to eternal life.

So I speak exactly what the Father has told Me to say.”

Timeline of Bible Miracles

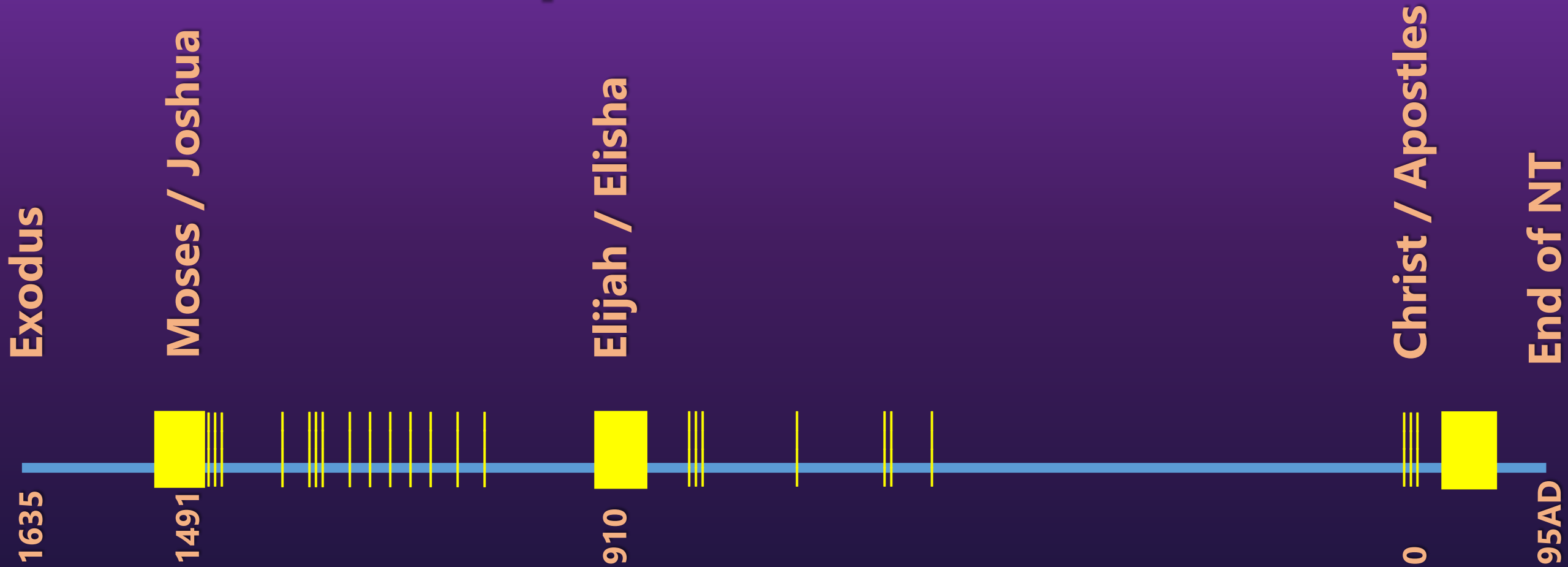
Apx. 9 Miracles



Creation to Exodus (2,369 years)

Timeline of Bible Miracles

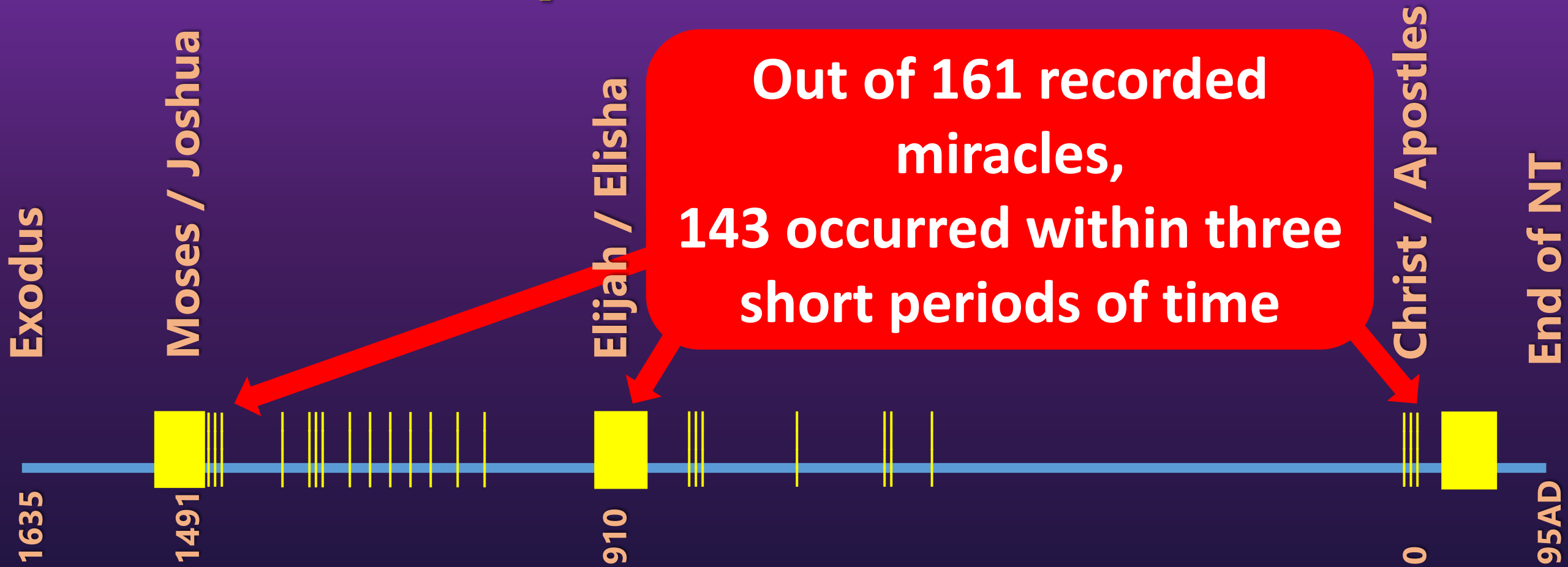
Apx. 161 Miracles



Moses through NT (1,730 years)

Timeline of Bible Miracles

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Moses through NT (1,730 years)

Timeline of Bible Miracles

Moses/Joshua

Major revelation
First Covenant
Law

Elijah/Elisha

Major revelation
Broken covenant
Prophets

Christ/Apostles

Major revelation
New Covenant
Gospel of grace



**Three major time periods of miracles and signs
To validate three major revelations from God**

Timeline of Bible Miracles

Moses/Joshua

Major revelation

First Covenant

Law

All are sinners

All have broken

God's law



**Three major time periods of miracles and signs
To validate three major revelations from God**

Romans 3

19 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God.

20 Therefore no one will be justified in His sight by works of the law.

For the law merely brings awareness of sin.

Timeline of Bible Miracles

Moses/Joshua

Major revelation
First Covenant
Law

All are sinners.
All have broken
God's law.

Elijah/Elisha

Major revelation
Broken covenant
Prophets

Judgement is
coming.
Repent.

Christ/Apostles

Major revelation
New Covenant
Gospel of grace
Christ has fulfilled
God's law.
Trust in Him.



Three major time periods of miracles and signs
To validate three major revelations from God

Matthew 17

1 After six days Jesus took with Him Peter, James, and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

2 There He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.

3 Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared before them, talking with Jesus.

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2 There He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.

3 Suddenly **Moses and **Elijah** appeared before them, talking with Jesus.**

Matthew 17

5 While Peter was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Listen to Him!"

6 When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown in terror.

7 Then Jesus came over and touched them. "Get up," He said. "Do not be afraid."

8 And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

Malachi 4

4 "Remember the law of My servant **Moses**, the statutes and ordinances I commanded him for all Israel at Horeb.

5 Behold, I will send you **Elijah** the prophet before the coming of the great and awesome Day of the LORD.

6 And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers. Otherwise, I will come and strike the land with a curse."

Four reasons I believe miracles, signs & wonders are rare today

- 1. The main purpose for them is completed.**
 - The revelation that they bore witness to is complete and so they are not necessary.**

Jude 1

3 Beloved, although I made every effort to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt it necessary to write and urge you to contend earnestly for the faith entrusted once for all to the saints.

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- 2. They were virtually all performed by apostles**
 - and we have no apostles today.**

2 Corinthians 12

11 I have become a fool, but you drove me to it.

In fact, you should have commended me, since I am in no way inferior to those “super-apostles,” even though I am nothing.

12 The true marks of an apostle—signs, wonders, and miracles—were performed among you with great perseverance.

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- 3. There is no one who has "perfect" theology like the apostles, that God could certify today.**

Acts 14

1 At Iconium, Paul and Barnabas went as usual into the Jewish synagogue, where they spoke so well that a great number of Jews and Greeks believed.

2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers.

3 So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord, who **affirmed the message of His grace by enabling **them** to perform signs and wonders.**

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 - and we have no apostles today.**
- 3. There is no one who has "perfect" theology like the apostles, that God could certify today.**
- 4. A miracle today would be done by God, not as a "sign", but for some other reason only He knows.**

Hebrews 1

1 On many past occasions and in many different ways, God spoke to our fathers through the prophets.

2 But in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe.

3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His nature, upholding all things by His powerful word.

After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

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Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.