

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.**
- 3. M,S&W have been and will be used to deceive many.**
- 4. M,S&W do not produce saving faith.**
- 5. We have something better.**

John 20

24 Now Thomas called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.

25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he replied, "Unless I see the nail marks in His hands, and put my finger where the nails have been, and put my hand into His side, I will never believe."

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26 Eight days later, His disciples were once again inside with the doors locked, and Thomas was with them.

Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

John 20

27 Then Jesus said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at My hands.

Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Stop doubting and believe."

28 Thomas replied, "My Lord and my God!"

29 Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed;

blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

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31 But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name

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2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith,
not by sight.

Hebrews 11: 1 Now faith is the assurance of
what we hope for
and the certainty of what we **do not see.**

Romans 10:17...faith comes by **hearing,**
and **hearing** by the word of Christ.

**Today, God uses something much
more powerful than miracles, signs
and wonders, to produce saving
faith in His people.**

Today, He uses...

WORDS

Words that come from God.
Words that can open spiritual eyes
so that we can see...
the mysteries and the wonders of
His glorious gospel of Jesus Christ.
God's words, unlike signs and
wonders, have the power to create
the miracle of a true faith.

Acts

4:4 But many who heard the **word** believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.

6:7 So the **word of God** spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly

8:4 Those who had been scattered preached the **word** wherever they went.

11:1 The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the **word of God**.

12:24 But the **word of God** continued to spread and flourish.

13:5 When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the **word of God** in the Jewish synagogues

Acts

13:44 On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the **word of the Lord**.

13:48 When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the **word of the Lord**;

13:49 The **word of the Lord** spread through the whole region.

14:21 They preached the **gospel** in that city and won a large number of disciples.

16:14 The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's **message**.

16:32 Then they spoke the **word of the Lord** to him and to all the others in his house.

19:20 In this way the **word of the Lord** spread widely and grew in power.

Isaiah 55

**9“For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so My ways are higher than your ways
and My thoughts than your thoughts.**

**10 For just as rain and snow fall from heaven and do
not return without watering the earth,
making it bud and sprout, and providing seed to sow
and food to eat,**

**11 so My word that proceeds from My mouth will not
return to Me empty,
but it will accomplish what I please, and it will prosper
where I send it.**

1 Corinthians 1

17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with words of wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

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The background of the image is a dark, deep blue or black field. From a central point, numerous thin, wispy lines of light radiate outwards. These lines are primarily shades of bright blue and vibrant purple, with some hints of magenta and cyan. The overall effect is reminiscent of a nebula, a starburst, or perhaps a divine spark emanating from the center. The light rays vary in thickness and intensity, creating a sense of depth and movement.

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18 For the **message of the cross** is ... foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Matthew 10

34 Do not assume that I have come to bring peace to the earth;

I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

35 For I have come to turn

'a man against his father,

a daughter against her mother,

a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.

36 A man's enemies will be the members of his own household.'

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19 For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate." [Isaiah 29:14]

**20 Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe?
Where is the philosopher of this age?
Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?**

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**21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know Him,
God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.**

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22 Jews demand signs and Greeks search for wisdom,

**23 but we preach Christ crucified,
a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,**

24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

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Isaiah 43

**5 Do not be afraid, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east
and gather you from the west.**

**6 I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'
and to the south, 'Do not hold them back!'
Bring My sons from afar,
and My daughters from the ends of the earth—
7 everyone **called** by My name and created for
My glory,
whom I have indeed formed and made."**

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6. It takes our joy and focus away from the miracle that we should obsess over...

The miracle that we can receive eternal life.

John 14

12 Truly, truly, I tell you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I am doing.

He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

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John 1

50 Jesus said to him, "Do you believe just because I told you I saw you under the fig tree? You will see **greater things** than these."

51 Then He declared, "Truly, truly, I tell you, you will all see heaven open and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

John 5

20 The Father loves the Son and shows Him all He does.

And to your amazement, He will show Him even **greater works than these.**

21 For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom He wishes.

John 6

**27 Do not work for the food that is perishing,
but for the food enduring unto eternal life,
which the Son of Man will give to you;**

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6. It takes our joy and focus away from the miracle that we should obsess over...

The miracle that God would die for His creation.

The miracle that, because of that, we can...

...be reconciled to God.

...be regenerated by the Spirit.

...participate in the divine nature.

...live eternally.

...live eternally with God and be His people.

2 Corinthians 4

16 Therefore we do not lose heart.

Though our outer self is wasting away, yet our inner self is being renewed day by day.

17 For our light and momentary affliction is producing for us an eternal glory that is far beyond comparison.

18 So we fix our eyes **not on what is seen,** but **on what is unseen.** For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

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