A DIFFERENT KIND OF MIRACLE

Jesus did many signs, or miracles on earth. These miracles prove that Jesus is the Christ the Son of the Living God.

"And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." (John 20:30-31)

Here are some of the miracles of Jesus in chronological order:

- Turning water into wine John 2:1-11.
- Healing the Nobleman's son John 4:46-54.
- Helped disciples to catch two boat lads of fish Luke 5:1-9.
- Healing a man with an unclean spirit Mark 1:23-26.
- Healing Peter's Mother in law Mark 1:30,31.
- Healing a leper Mark 1:40-45.
- Healing a paralytic Mark 2:1-12.
- Healing an impotent man John 5:1-16.
- Healing the man with a withered hand Matthew 12:9-14.
- Healing the Centurion's servant Luke 7:1-10.
- Raising the widow's son from the dead Luke 7:11-17.
- Healing the man who was both dumb and blind Matt. 12:22.
- Calming the storm Matthew 8:23-27.
- Casting out demons from men into a herd of swine Matthew 8:28-34.
- Raising the daughter of Jairus from the dead Matthew 9:18-26.
- Healing two blind men Matthew 9:27-31.
- Healing a demon possessed man who could not speak Matthew 9:32-33.
- Feeding 5,000 men besides women and children Matthew 14:13-23.
- Walking on the water and calming another storm Matthew 14:24-36.
- Healing the Syrophoenician woman's daughter Matthew 15:21-28.
- Healing a deaf and dumb man Matthew 15:29-31.
- Feeding 4,000 men besides women and children Matthew 15:32-38.
- Healing a demon possessed boy Matthew 17:14-20.
- Finding money in the mouth of a fish Matthew 17:24-27.
- Healing a man born blind John 9:1-41.
- Healing a dumb demoniac Luke 11:14.
- Healing a crippled woman Luke 13:10-21.
- Healing a man with dropsy Luke 14:1-8.
- Raising Lazarus from the dead John 11:1-46.
- Healing ten lepers Luke 17:11-19.
- Healing blind men near Jericho Matthew 20:29-34.
- Cursing a fig tree so that it withered Mark 11:20-25.
- Healing the ear of Malchus Luke 22:49-51.
- Another miraculous catch of fish John 21:6-11.

All of these miracles have something in common. They were temporary! The people who ate the miraculous food got hungry again. The people He made well got sick again. The people He raised from the dead died again.

There is one miracle, however, that was different. This miracle involved something eternal. This miracle helps us to understand what happens when a sinner is born again. The effects of this miracle do not end in the grave, but last forever. Jesus said: "Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding

he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he" (Matt 11:11) This different kind of miracle is the miracle of conversion. When you are born again you are greater in the eyes of God than any prophet born of woman.

THE MOUNT OF TRANSFIGURATION

Peter began to understand the importance of being born again when he was with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration. This miracle convinced Peter that Christianity was true. He wrote:

"For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount." (2 Pet 1:16-18)

The story of this miracle is recorded three times in the Bible: Matthew 17:1-9; Mark 9:2-10.; Luke 9:28-36.

Here is what happened.

- Jesus took Peter, James, and John to a very high mountain.
- Jesus was changed or "transfigured" before them.
- His face did shine like the sun and His raiment was white as light.
- Moses and Elijah appeared to Jesus and spoke about His death in Jerusalem.
- Peter wanted to build three tabernacles. One for Moses, one for Elijah, and one for Jesus.
- A bright cloud overshadowed them.
- The voice of God came from the cloud saying: "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."

The word used in the Bible to describe the change in Jesus is "metamorphosis." This is the word we use to describe what happens to a caterpillar when it is changed into a butterfly. It is the same creature, but it is transformed. The caterpillar destroys but the butterfly does not. The butterfly has a new mind, new desires, and new abilities.

What happened to Jesus on that mountain is what happens to everyone who is born again. It even happened to Peter. When Peter first met Jesus he was known as Simon. He was vacillating and not dependable. For example, he promised to be true to Jesus and then denied him three times that very night. Jesus, however, knew that Peter could change. That's why Jesus gave him a new name. The first time He met Peter, He said: "Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, a stone (Peter)" John 1:42. The name "Peter" literally means a "stone." The vacillating Simon would become a solid as a rock.

YOU CAN ALSO EXPERIENCE THE MIRACLE OF TRANSFORMATION

After describing what happened to Jesus, Peter continued:

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star

arise in your hearts:" (2 Pet 1:19)

When we first consider the Bible it is like a light shining in a dark place. When we are born again it is like a sunrise and a part of this brilliant light arises in our own hearts.

The Scriptures teach: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (2 Cor 5:17)

Here are some of the "new " things you will experience when you are transformed by Jesus Christ:

- New commandment John 13:34
- New man Eph. 2:15; 4:24; Colossians 3:10.
- New Covenant Hebrews 8:8
- New Way Heb. 10:20
- New name Rev. 2:17
- New song Rev. 5:9; 14:3
- And will live in a new heaven and a new earth (2 Peter 3:13.)
- PLEASE RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD AND SAVIOUR NOW!
- YOUR PERSONAL SALVATION IS THAT DIFFERENT KIND OF MIRACLE!
- IT WILL LAST FOR ETERNITY!