

# Sermon Notes

## I Believe In Miracles: Part 1

### February 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

#### - I Believe In Miracles: Introduction

- My introduction to faith in Jesus came through God's miraculous intervention in my life.
  - o Two desired pathways to God are described in **1 Corinthians 1:22-23**.
    - Miraculous signs and wisdom. However, Paul emphasizes a third, but primary, thing.
    - This is Christ crucified. Pretty difficult to go off the rails with Christ crucified.
      - The Greatest Commandment is a response to the greatest truth: God loves you, has redeemed you, has peace, people, and purpose set aside just for you.
      - We love (God and others) because He first loved us.
  - o If you understand Christ crucified deep in your spirit, then you can embrace both wisdom (**1 Cor 2:6-7**) and the power of God (**1 Cor 1:17-18**) in healthy ways.
- Goal: To help you believe in the power of God to do a miracle in your life.
- **Part 1: The Crippled Beggar**
- Set the stage for this miracle: The Crucifixion was maybe 2-3 months ago. Pentecost was weeks ago. This is extremely early in the birth of the church. Very significant time in history.
  - o **Acts 3:1-10**. This is a great miracles that happened to someone many people knew.
    - Where did it happen? How did Peter pray? What did Peter not give him?
- First Point: The greatest miracle is a new lease on life!
  - o This man could now work! He could take care of himself and be productive and respected!
    - True religion is not the opiate of the masses. Faith in Jesus means you don't need to be a beggar anymore!!
- Second Point: A changed life is the greatest proof of the Gospel message.
  - o This miracle was a sign to the Jewish people. **Acts 3:11-26** The healing testified to Jesus.
  - o Just like in Acts 2 (Pentecost) we see a great miracle followed by Peter giving a sermon.
    - Sermon Outline: 1) You made a big mistake rejecting Jesus as the Christ. 2) However, repentance bring forgiveness and times of refreshing. 3) Jesus came not to condemn you, but to bless you by turning you from your wicked ways.
  - o When people see the impact of faith it gives credence to the Gospel message.
    - Opposite also true. When people see prideful, graceless hypocrites it drives them away.
    - People don't need to be told about Jesus. They need to be shown.
    - So, don't be the hypocrite. Also, see past the hypocrites to find Jesus.
- Third Point: To keep your new life you must reject your "crippled beggar" identity.
  - o We don't know much about this guy who got healed beyond **Acts 4:13-14**.
    - I bet he was thrilled to take his stand for Jesus!! But then he needed to get a job...
  - o What is your "crippled beggar" identity? Just a drunk, ditsy girl, need to buy friendship, unforgivable, stuck in poverty, victim, reject, stupid, etc...
  - o I had a few identity lies that I needed to reject. Ex: I don't belong and I'm too stupid to understand.
  - o Let's talk about the "stupid" identity lie.
    - It got in me because I couldn't read as a kid. That was embarrassing and difficult.
      - I believe I got healed in 1988. I mean I got a 2050 in my GREs.
    - I was afraid to talk for fear of being wrong. I hated reading.
      - But hey, God's power is made perfect in weakness! I am good enough!! No Fear!!
- Wrap Up: Let's go get your miracle.
  - o What do you need? Physical healing? I'm believing to get my BP down and get of meds. Deliverance? Financial Miracle? Relationship restored? See the identity lie?
  - o Closing verse **Acts 3:26**.
- Get personal prayer by emailing prayer@goodhope.ag.