

PLAIN SPEECH

Volume 3 – Issue 14 – 17 January 2009

“Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech” (2 Cor. 3:12)

BY SCOTT PARKER

LET’S SEE SOME REAL PROOF!!!

Every good Bible student knows that since miracles have served their intended purpose, the age of the miraculous is over (1 Cor. 13:8-10; Mk. 16:20; Heb 2:3-4). Nonetheless, many claim to be able to do miracles still today.

What’s interesting, however, is that bona fide, real, undisputable proof is never offered by said folks in order to back up the claims they make. Oh I know that some point to “tongue” speaking (gibberish per their view) as proof. Moreover, I know that some point to “healings” (things like “curing” a bad back) as proof. But, the thing is, those items are very easy to feign. What I’d like to see someday from the charlatans out there is some real proof that they can do miracles. I’d like to see them do some miracles like those we read about in scripture. For instance...

Ax. 3:1-8 reads this way: *“Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour. And a certain man lame from his mother’s womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us. And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them. Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.”* Let’s see modern “miracle” workers do something like this. Let’s present them with a man (not let them select an imposter) who has been genuinely crippled from the womb; one incapable of walking (vs. 2) and let’s see them instantaneously heal him to the point where he walks and leaps (vs. 8). Let’s see some real proof!!!

Ax. 5:16 reads this way: *“There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.”* Let’s see some modern “miracle” worker heal every single person he/she is presented with (not only those whom they choose). Let’s see some real proof!!!

Ax. 9:36-41 reads this way: *“Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did. And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid her in an upper chamber. And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring him that he would not delay to come to them. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them. But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up. And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive.”* Let’s see some modern “miracle” worker bring a dead person they are presented with (not a “dead” person whom they choose) back to life. Let’s see some real proof!!!

Ax. 13:9-12 reads this way: *“Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand. Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord.”* Let’s see a modern “miracle” worker strike a person (not of their choosing) blind. Let’s see them blind someone instantaneously. Let’s see some real proof!!!

Ax. 28:1-6 reads this way: *“And when they were escaped, then they knew that the island was called Melita. And the barbarous people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold. And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand. And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live. And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm. Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.”* Let’s see an unprepared modern “miracle” worker stick his hand into a hole filled with frazzled and defensive King Cobra, Coral, and Black Mamba snakes, resulting in them sinking their fangs into him. If nothing at all happens we’d have some real proof!!!