

# “MY GOD... THAT IS WHO YOU ARE”

WAY MAKER – MIRACLE WORKER – PROMISE KEEPER – LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

## MESSAGE: “MIRACLE WORKER”

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DECEMBER 5, 2021

In this series, we are inviting you to \_\_\_\_\_ who Jesus is and \_\_\_\_\_ to choose Him, and only Him, as your **WAY MAKER, MIRACLE WORKER, PROMISE KEEPER, and LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS**

### THE BIRTH OF JESUS

[Angel Gabriel to Mary] *“Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you...Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”* Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’ The angel said to her, **‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God... For nothing will be impossible with God.’** Then Mary said, **‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’** Then the angel departed from her.” LK 1:28-38 (NRSV)

### WHAT IS A MIRACLE?

*“A miracle is an event (1) brought about by the power of God that is (2) a temporary (3) exception (4) to the ordinary course of nature (5) for the purpose of showing that God has acted in history.”*

**RICHARD L. PURTILL, (DECEASED) PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF PHILOSOPHY AT WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**

### THE BIBLE ON MIRACLES

- In the New Testament, miracles are also called (1) wonders, (2) signs, (3) mighty works/deeds
- In the Bible, we see miracles over (1) nature, (2) disease, (3) demons, (4) supply/provision, and (5) death
- Miracles are by definition not normative
- Miracles are not about outcomes but God's glory
- Miracles are not a report card on faith

- Miracles never define God's character
- Miracles are not the answer, God is
- *“Jesus' miracles were a sign of the inbreaking of the Kingdom – or the rule – of God... They were a taste of the future, when healing will be complete.”* DR. CRAIG KEENER
- *“Temporary miracles are not solutions to our fallen condition. This is why **the message of salvation and eternal life was Jesus' main priority, and not the healing of all-to-mortal persons.**”* DR. BEN WITHERINGTON

*“The disciples saw Jesus do many other miraculous signs in addition to the ones recorded in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe [“come to believe” – NRSV] that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.”* JN 20:30-31

*“This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls...”* HEB 6:19

### WHY DID JESUS PERFORM MIRACLES?

- To reveal the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, full of love and compassion, grace and truth (JN 1:14)
- To affirm His \_\_\_\_\_ as the Christ, the one and only Messiah, Son of God, Lord and Savior (LK 7:22)
- To manifest and model the \_\_\_\_\_ of God available through the Holy Spirit (ACTS 1:8; JN 14:12)
- To give us a glimpse into the \_\_\_\_\_ of God in making all things new (REV 21:5)

### HOW TO PRAY AND ASK GOD FOR A MIRACLE

- (1) Forget formulas, just pray
- (2) Pray with specificity, boldness, humility, and confidence
- (3) Keep praying in faith
- (4) Invite others to pray with you
- (5) Keep believing and keep trusting

*“Even when I don't see it, You're working... Even when I don't feel it, You're working.... You never stop... You never stop working.”* WAY MAKER