

# *The controversy: Miracles in the Bible*

## Controversy?

The Bible begins with the first ever miracle. It says in Genesis 1:1 **“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”** When people think of Miracles they don’t usually think of Genesis 1. Think about it, everything has to come from something doesn’t it. How can you really prove we should exist? We make cars from human minds and metal, they don’t just appear. We mix hot chocolate from H, 2O, and chocolate beans; it has not been here forever as hot chocolate. Is it a controversial miracle that we exist?

You can’t say the big bang theory created us. Didn’t those particles originate from somewhere? Could they just have always existed? How do you create something from nothing? In the beginning don’t we start with nothing? If we say molecules always existed then why not God. I just think that our existence is a miracle. Creation had to begin somewhere and it seems impossible that parts of who we are always existed. That is controversial miracle stuff.

Miracle means “An effect or extraordinary event in the physical world that surpasses all known human or natural powers and is ascribed to a supernatural cause.” The controversy might be that we can’t explain some things. Flight M270 disappeared over the ocean and we are having a hard time finding it. Some have said it would be a miracle to disappear and a miracle to find it. Three girls disappeared over a 10 year period and were presumed dead after all that time. One day they escaped: is that a miracle?

The Jewish God is associated with miracles. His Son Jesus is associated with Miracles. The Holy Spirit works through people who claim to do miracles with the power of God. Is there a controversy about what is called miracles? Is it a miracle we exist? Can a bullet hitting a badge instead of the heart be considered a miracle? Are these the same as Jesus healing a blind man or

walking on water? I know Pastors that don't believe in Bible miracles? I find that weird because God is associated with the miraculous. We make it a controversy when it comes to God miracles. Are they so different than landing a space probe on a speeding comet or traveling to Pluto? The odds of those things happening seem miraculous to me. What do you believe?

### **Maybe?**

There are stories that we know from the Bible. Many of us have heard about Noah and the Ark. It seems a miracle that it rained for 40 days and that people survived in a boat. We have seen pictures of Jesus walking on water. I tried that and sunk fast. Maybe this miracle talk is a controversy if I can't do it? I know that donkeys can't talk but in Numbers 22 one did. I do know that some dumb asses talk too much. They say that the Ark from the flood has not been found. There is no evidence that the Red sea swallowed the Egyptian army. Jesus body has never been found. Maybe that proves there are no miracles?

Maybe some strange stories prove there are miracles. The explanation in the dictionary is that miracles are unexplained. Well we can't explain walking on water, healing the blind, or raising the dead. Someone reported that these things happened in the Bible. A man, while surfing, beat off a shark. Is that a miracle he never died or at-least got bit? A plane, in an emergency, lands on the Hudson River. Is that a miracle because nobody died? Maybe some amazing events in history, stories in the Bible, and in the news are miracles?

There is an interesting story in Acts 20. A preacher names Paul is talking for two hours and a man falls asleep. No big deal people fall asleep in church all the time. This man; however, falls out the window and dies. Paul runs down stairs and lies on him. The man recovers. Is that a miracle or a really cool story: maybe? In Acts 28 this same Paul is bitten by a snake and does not die. The men in the camp call it an act of God. In Acts 2 (what is it with the book of Acts in the

Bible) Holy Spirit comes upon people like tongues of fire. They are not burned but instead they begin to talk in their native language. Better yet, others understand what they are saying. Maybe that is a miracle?

Miracles are fun because we can only give our opinion. We believe that miracles are fake or real. People write books explaining how a miracle is not a miracle. Why do we believe that person is right? Do they really know the truth if something remains unexplained? In my Astronomy class we received a text book. It states at the beginning that science begins with the Big Bang theory. Time for this book begins with a miracle called a cosmic explosion. People surmise (without witnessing) that this happened. It makes sense to them. What they ignore is the real beginning of time. To explain that might make them uncomfortable because it just might be a miracle. What do you believe?

## **Yes?**

Theory means “A supposition or a system of ideas intended to explain something, especially one based on general principles independent of the thing to be explained.” The Big Bang Theory is not a fact people. The reason it’s called the Big Bang Theory is because it is a theory. A Siamese cat is called a cat because it is a cat. It’s the same with a theory. Yes we have unexplained events called miracles. Yes, we have unexplained events. Some people say they are only unexplained because we have yet to find the answer. It’s not that there is no answer. I get that. We said the world was flat until we had more data. Some people still believe we have no proof the world is round. Yes, miracles cause controversy because of the proof thing.

I was in an accident and my car came to rest on a stop sign post. I think it’s a miracle we were not hurt. It is an odd thing to say I will trust the words in a book called the Bible. To many

people it's just a book of stories. This is why I believe in the events called miracles in the Bible. I have experienced situations I cannot explain. I have prayed to God and experienced answers I could not believe. Why is it easier to believe in dumb luck over God doing it? People say they hope there is a nice place called heaven. They hope God could answer prayer. My experience in the miraculous has increased my hope in God.

In 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 24 King David is given three choices of punishment by God. He said he would rather choose the one from the God (he knows) than from men. That's it for me. I have experienced God and believe in his miracles. I know men and don't really trust their motives. Miracles bring hope in surviving this world. Well Pat, God does not answer all prayer and do all miracles. That seems true but what if God knew better and said no to doing a miracle or prayer? That's seems mean! If a couple gains a lottery and breaks up: is that a blessing? Sometimes good things are not really good things.

Yes, miracles help. Yes, answered prayer is nice. God allowing calamity might be the best thing. What happens if a guy is injured in an accident, but meets a nurse, and they live happily ever after? Is that a miracle within tragedy? Yes, miracles seem ridicules because they fall into the unexplainable realm. Is a theory (not proven) anymore ridicules without facts? The theories about flat and round planets are just as theoretical as inner space compared to outer space. I guess it comes down to who you trust with the facts. Yes, Miracles are a controversy. What do you believe?

### **No?**

No, there is no controversy about miracles. They are just random things that happen. Why do people pray for miracles? Why do unexplained events take place? If things are explainable then why can't we explain them? The real controversy with miracles is all in the

explaining part. Usually they also fall under the defying the laws of gravity part. Jesus in the Bible dies and rises again in three days. In 1 Kings 17 Elijah the prophet tells a widow that her Jar of flour will refill miraculously. That is just not possible because things just don't appear in thin air. Where did the molecules and elements come from to create life? How come they exist before the Big Bang Theory? Did they just appear like the wheat in the Bible story?

It's not much of a miracle that the Titanic hit an iceberg and sank. There were tons of bergs in the water where they sailed. It's more of a miracle that the owner said it was unsinkable, and it sank on the first voyage. No Patrick, it's just dumb luck. Just like a kid a few years ago that slipped in an ally by his home and died because he hit his head, yet a race car driver flipped 10 times and walked away without a scratch. A miracle from God might give explanation more than Darwin could.

Maybe the "No" part is God did it and it's not a controversy. God choses to dispense miracles by his will. He chooses because he is a super being. Miracles come from ways we can't explain. Is it possible that a divine God might have the power to change the rules? Take a look at a star map. The odds that we are randomly in this precise place to have life on a planet is stunning. Try and ignore the fact that we have ozone, water, and were the third planet. If earth was off just a little life would not exist. It might be easy to believe that miracles are stunning and amazing too.

Yes, it's possible there are no miracles. I find it sad to think that we are in the hands of fate. I am like David and hope someone is running the show. I would rather have a design, plan, or will of a God than just fate. I think God is safer than fate. Do you really want to trust in those that have ruined this planet? Do you trust presidents and chemicals? Is the social media trustworthy? I have read about how we work through science and they are probably half right.

What about the other half. Is global warming completely explainable at 100%? I don't trust some politician to have my best interest in mind. Many people don't trust God having their best interests. Who has failed you these days? Maybe it would be a miracle to have better leaders around the world? What do you believe?