

What Did Jesus Do?

Review

- Jesus didn't come to get rid of the Law but to fulfill it – (Matt 5:17)
- Jesus didn't do away with the offices but to become them – (Hebrews)
 - Jesus is our Prophet – Priest – King
- Jesus taught that He is God in the flesh and has called us to follow Him

Main Idea

The miracles of Jesus reveal that He is God and expose the miracle of salvation.

The Miracles

Cleanses Leper:

[Jesus is genuine]

- Matt 8:1-4
- What is a leper?
 - Isolated from community, ceremonially unclean & unfit to worship God, and anyone who comes in contact with them is unclean
 - Going near a leper was a huge deal.
- “Lord if you will, you can make me clean”
 - confidence & faith in Christ's power
 - recognizes kingship
 - isn't half-hearted
 - has a desire to be close to God
- Christ doesn't care about the physical but he goes for the heart
 - He looks past the leper and his disease, and seeks to draw near to him and know him more
 - *This miracle shows us that Jesus cleanses our sin and, as Psalm 51:7 says, makes us “as white as snow”*

Calms the Storm & Walks on Water

[Jesus is sovereign]

- Matt 8:23-27
- “great storm”
 - waves crashing into the boat & filling it up
 - looks like it might capsize
- “save us Lord we are perishing”
 - great fear in the disciples
 - fear for their life instead of realizing they have the all powerful God on their boat
- Matt 14:22
- Disciples see a ‘ghost’
 - Cry out in fear but Jesus replies and says “it is I”
- Immediately they realize it's Jesus and Peter desires to walk out on the water
 - Peter feels the wind against him and loses faith
 - He fears the wind when he has Jesus giving him the ability to walk on water
 - Peter begins to sink
- In both miracles Jesus saves the disciples
- In both miracles the disciples worry because of the problems surrounding them

What Did Jesus Do?

- He calms the storm and he grabs Peter by the hand
 - He showed the disciples and us just how much we can trust in him by controlling the unpredictable elements of the weather
 - ***Jesus proves that his control is not just over the weather but over sin and death***
 - ***Not only this, but he also calms the storm of our sin***
 - ***Stops the disciples fear and worry by the words from His mouth***

Feeds 5,000 and 4,000

[Jesus is Provider]

- Matt 14:13-21, 15:32
- crowd following Jesus
- only “5 loaves and 2 fish”
 - Christ blesses the food & there is an abundance
 - Christ does this with compassion coming from isolation because of the death of His cousin, yet Christ serves others!
 - Christ provides in a desolate place
- ***Jesus foreshadows a greater feast! One that we will take part of in the presence of the Lord.***
 - ***Rev 19***

Raises Lazarus

[Jesus is Human]

- John 11
- “deeply moved in His spirit and greatly troubled”
 - he doesn’t just go around taking care of business, but he cares and loves people
 - has relationships with people
 - “Jesus wept” over a friend who had passed
- “Lazarus came out”
 - though he’s human, he’s still the almighty God
 - arose by the words from Jesus’ mouth
- ***Lets us look at God in a whole new aspect***
 - ***We see that Jesus cares for us by calling us out of the deadness of our sin***

Resurrection

[Jesus is Messiah]

- Luke 24:1, 36-39
- 3 days after being crucified for no true reason
- some of the mothers of the disciples go to see the tomb and find it empty!
 - Once housing the dead body of Jesus, now empty
- In mid-conversation, Jesus appeared “peace be with you”
 - This is truly Christ, nail-scarred hands, flesh & bones
 - Fulfills OT prophecy & what all His teachings have been about
 - Miraculously defeats death, Hell, and the grave
- Jesus does what no one has ever been able to do alone, He disproves the impossible
- He takes it a huge step further than just bringing someone else from the grave and brings himself back

What Did Jesus Do?

- *Jesus has power over the grave. He goes from death to life so that he can bring us from death to life.*

Gift of Salvation

[Jesus is Redeemer]

- Resurrection was an ultimate sacrifice – no more lambs on the altar
- We were all dead in our sins, everyone was once there
 - Carried out the desires of the body, children of wrath
 - Enemies of God
- “But God” takes our death & gives us life
 - “rich in mercy”
 - once dead & alienated from God, now seated with Him
 - this life is made available to us by grace through faith, we don’t have to do anything
 - transformation is almost completely free, the only thing required is faith
 - nothing that we did or can do, but everything that Jesus did
- *God is the ever merciful and loving Father that will always forgive and invite his enemies in, us, if we respond to Him in repentance and faith*
- *Greatest miracle of them all*

Conclusion

- The common denominator in all these miracles is NEED!
 - Leper – “if you will, you can heal me”; Storm – “Save us Lord”; Feeding 5,000 – desolate place w/o food; raising Lazarus – he’s dead; Salvation – save from hopelessness
- Everyone needs help, everyone needs saving from the hurt and pain of this world
 - Christ can bring that comfort
- How do we even know this is true? How can we believe this?
- “Jesus is either a liar, lunatic or lord” – C.S. Lewis
- We can look at all these miracles and ask if this ever really happened, we can not believe them, we can reject them
- Or
- We can trust God’s word because of John 1:1, and we can even look at secular historians who have affirmed these miracles
- We’re left to ask, what will you believe? Liar, Lunatic, or Lord?