



## ***Have Miracles Ceased?***

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### **Those Who Believe In Miracles Today...**

- Some rely on miracles and do not seek medical help
- Some seek medical help but still think it is a miracle
- Some have *Faith Healing* services (i.e. Oral Roberts)

Believe in Holy Spirit Baptism for believers today as the apostles experienced in Acts 2

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## ***What is a miracle?***

1. *dunamis* NT:1411, "power, inherent ability," ***is used of works of a supernatural origin and character, such as could not be produced by natural agents and means.*** It is translated "miracles" in the RV and KJV in Acts 8:13 (where variant readings give the words in different order); 19:11; 12:10,28,29; 3:5; KJV only, in Acts 2:22 (RV, "mighty works"); Heb 2:4 (RV, "powers"). In Gal 3:5, the word may be taken in its widest sense, to include "miracles" both physical and moral. See MIGHT, A, No. 1, POWER, WORK.

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, Copyright (c)1985, Thomas Nelson Publishers)

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## ***Examples of miracles***

### **Jesus**

- Turned water to wine. John 2:1-11
- Fed the multitude. John 6:1-14
- Opened the eyes of a man born blind. John 9
- Raised Lazarus from the dead. John 11:39-44

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## ***Examples of miracles***

### **Peter:**

- Cured the sick. Acts 5:15-16
- Healed Aeneas. Acts 9:34
- Raised Dorcas from the dead. Acts 9:40
- Caused the death of Ananias and Sapphira. Acts 5:5,10

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## ***Examples of miracles***

### **Paul:**

- Struck Elymas blind. Acts 13:11
- Healed a man born lame. Acts 14:10
- Raised Eutychus from the dead. Acts 20:9-12

***These are not reproducible today!***

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## ***Have miracles ceased?***

### **I. The Purpose Is Accomplished**

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- **The purpose of miracles was NOT for the betterment of men.**

(Not all were fed or healed)

- Epaphroditus almost died.  
Philippians 2:25ff
- Trophimus was left at Miletus sick.  
2 Timothy 4:20
- Timothy had a stomach problem.  
1 Timothy 5:23

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### **I. The Purpose Is Accomplished**

- **The purpose of miracles was to confirm the message of those who performed them.**

- Mark 16:17-20
- Acts 14:3
- Hebrews 2:3-4 (God's word has been confirmed)

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### **I. The Purpose Is Accomplished**

- **To Reveal the word**

• John 16:13; 14:26

• Word is complete (Jude 3; 2 Peter 1:3)

- **To Prove Gentiles are gospel subjects**

• Acts 11:12-18

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## ***Have miracles ceased?***

### **I. The Purpose Is Accomplished**

### **II. Holy Spirit Baptism Has Ceased**

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### **II. Holy Spirit Baptism Has Ceased**

#### **Only Two Cases:**

#### **Apostles**

**Acts 1:4-5; 2:1-21**

- Reveal truth (John 16:13)
- Show things to come (John 16:13)
- Teach all things (John 14:26)
- Bring all things to remembrance (John 14:26)
- Testify of Christ (John 15:26)

#### **House of Cornelius**

**Acts 10:44-48; 11:15-18;  
15:7-9**

- To show that Gentiles are gospel subjects (Acts 11:18)

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**No Promise of  
Holy Spirit Baptism  
for anyone today!**

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## II. Holy Spirit Baptism Has Ceased

Only One Baptism Today – Ephesians 4:5

<u>Holy Spirit</u>		<u>Water</u>
<b>Spirit</b> Acts 1:5	<b>Element</b>	<b>Water</b> Acts 8:38
<b>Christ</b> John 1:33	<b>Administered by...</b>	<b>Men</b> Matthew 28:19
<b>Promised</b> Acts 1:2-8	<b>Nature</b>	<b>Commanded</b> Acts 10:48
<b>To Reveal...</b> John 16:13	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>To Save</b> Mark 16:16

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### *Have miracles ceased?*

- I. The Purpose Is Accomplished**
- II. Holy Spirit Baptism Has Ceased**
- III. Means Of Imparting Gifts Has Ceased**

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### **III. Means Of Imparting Miraculous Gifts Has Ceased**

- The apostles laid their hands on the seven men of good reputation. (Acts 6:3-6)
- The apostles Peter and John laid their hands on the Samaritans. (Acts 8:18-19)
- The apostle Paul laid his hands on the Ephesians. (Acts 19:6)

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### *Have miracles ceased?*

- I. The Purpose Is Accomplished**
- II. Holy Spirit Baptism Has Ceased**
- III. Means Of Imparting Gifts Has Ceased**
- IV. The Apostle Paul Prophesied They Would Cease With The Complete Revelation**

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### Spiritual Gifts in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century Church – 1 Corinthians 12:8-11

- 1. Word of Wisdom**
- 2. Word of knowledge**
- 3. Faith**
- 4. Gifts of healing**
- 5. Working of miracles**
- 6. Prophecy**
- 7. Discerning of spirits**
- 8. Different kinds of tongues**
- 9. Interpretation of tongues**

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## Spiritual Gifts in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century Church THREE CHAPTERS

1 Corinthians 12 – Enumeration Of Gifts

1 Corinthians 13 – Duration Of Gifts

1 Corinthians 14 – Regulation of Gifts

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*Love Is The “More Excellent Way”*  
(1 Corinthians 12:31)

### 1 Corinthians 13

- I. Without Love – Nothing (vv. 1-3)
- II. Characteristics Of Love (vv. 4-7)
- III. Spiritual Gifts Cease, But Love Continues (vv. 8-13)
  - A. Spiritual Gifts Cease (v. 8-12)
  - B. Love Continues (v. 13)

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### 1 Corinthians 13:8-10

8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.

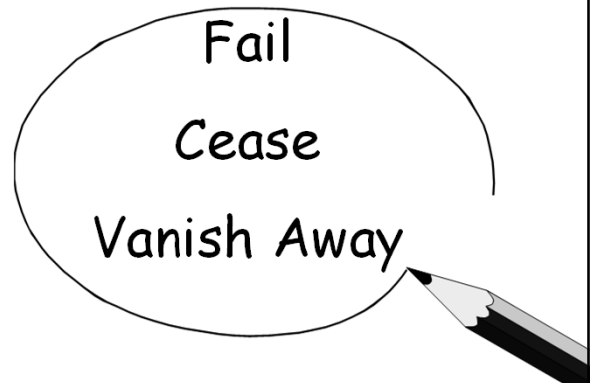
9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part;

10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.

NASB1995

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What was to happen to spiritual gifts?  
1 Corinthians 13:8



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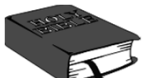
When would spiritual gifts cease?

Two Views of 1 Corinthians 13:10

Miracles Continue  
Until



“Perfect”



Comes

Miracles Continue  
Until



“Perfect”



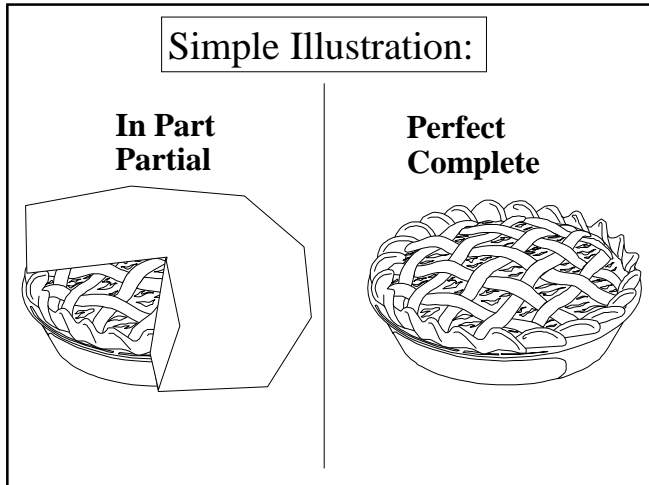
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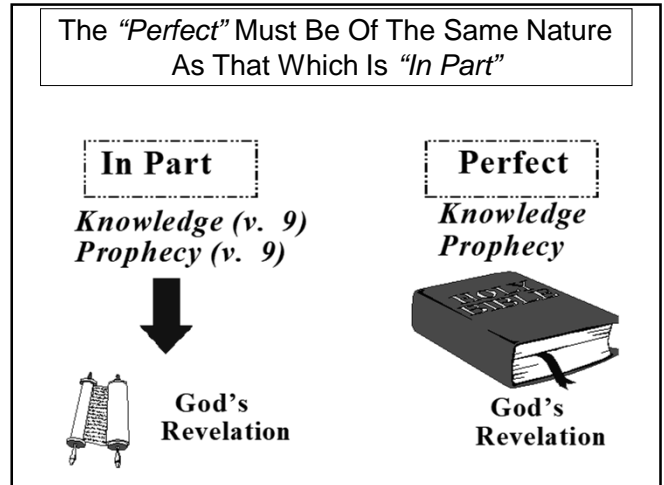
“Perfect” is from the Greek *teleios*

1. **Thayer:** “brought to its end, finished; wanting nothing necessary to completeness; perfect...” (p. 618).
2. **Vines:** “signifies having reached its end (*telos*), finished, complete, perfect” (Vol. III, pp. 174-175).
3. **Strongs:** “complete” (#5046).
4. **Liddell & Scott:** “Complete, perfect, entire” (p. 696).

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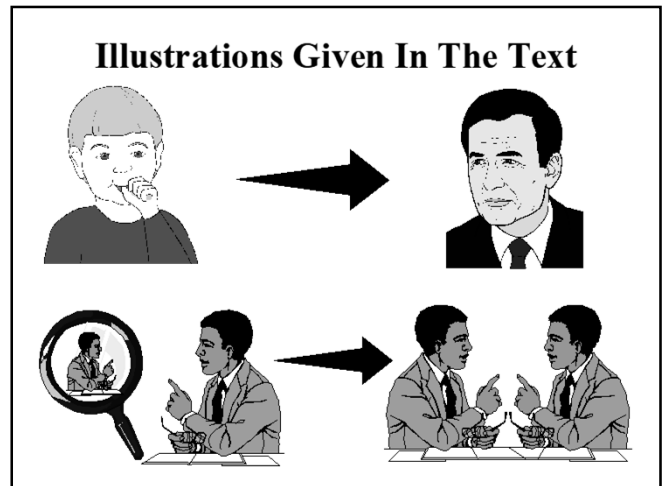


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**The Law of Christ is Perfect**

*"But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who looks intently at **the perfect law, the law of liberty**, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does." (James 1:22-25)*

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**Have Miracles Ceased?**

- I. The Purpose Is Accomplished
- II. Holy Spirit Baptism Has Ceased
- III. Means Of Imparting Gifts Has Ceased
- IV. Ceased With The Complete Revelation
- V. No Evidence of Miracles Today

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**IV. No Evidence of Miracles Today**

1. Speak with tongues. (Acts 2:4-11; 10:46)
2. Do wonders and signs. (Acts 2:43)
3. Heal the lame. (Acts 3:6-11; 4:14, 16, 22)
4. Strike one dead. (Acts 5:7-10)
5. Heal everyone. (Acts 5:15-16)
6. Raise the dead. (Acts 9:36-41; 20:8-12)
7. Strike one blind (Acts 13:7-11)
8. Speak without taking thought (Matthew 10:19)

**Can Those Who Claim Miracles  
Today Do These Things??**

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## ***Why We Believe That Miracles Have Ceased***

- I. The Purpose Is Accomplished**
- II. Holy Spirit Baptism Has Ceased**
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- IV. Ceased With The Complete Revelation**
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## ***How to Obey the Gospel***

### **Hear the word of God**

(2 Thessalonians 2:14-15; James 1:21)

### **Believe the gospel message**

(Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24)

### **Repent of sins**

(Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30-31)

### **Confess Jesus Christ**

(Romans 10:10; Matthew 10:32-33)

### **Be Baptized for Forgiveness of Sins**

(Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Galatians 3:26-27; Romans 6:3-4)

### **Remain Obedient**

(Matthew 7:21; Revelation 2:10; Hebrews 3:12)

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