

**SPIRITUAL GIFTS
SIGNS AND WONDERS
VARIOUS**

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Introduction

What are Spiritual Gifts? Spiritual gifts come FROM the Lord Jesus Christ BY the Holy Spirit TO those born again individuals who make up the membership of a local New Testament Church FOR the functioning of that particular body of Christ!

(Ephesians 4:7-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4, 11; Romans 12:4-6; 1 Peter 4:10)

According to Mark 16:17-18, some of the spiritual gifts were “sign” gifts.

I. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF “SIGNS AND WONDERS?”

A. “Sign”–“A token; a representation; a witness.”

In *Genesis 1:14*, the lights in the firmament of the heaven are said to be for “*signs*.” This **does not** mean that they are to be used to foretell events!

(Psalm 19:1-6; Psalm 8:1, 3-4; Romans 1:20; Acts 14:15)

B. “Sign”–“A supernatural indication; Especially a miracle performed as evidence of the truth of God’s Word.”

“Wonder”–“Something that arrests the attention by its novelty, grandeur or inexplicableness.”

(i.e. Makes you think, “Wow, what’s that about?”)

In the Bible, signs and wonders include:

- 1. Miraculous Healing**—Giving sight, hearing, etc.
- 2. Raising The Dead.**
- 3. Speaking In Tongues.**
- 4. Prophesying** – In its truest sense of telling the future.
- 5. Miracles Affecting Nature.** Examples:
 - a. The Various Plagues On Egypt.
 - b. Parting Of The Red Sea. (Moses)
 - c. Withholding Rain For 3 ½ Years (Elijah) In Judgment

II. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE METHODS OF “SIGNS AND WONDERS?”

- A. By The “Laying On Of Hands” Of Those Empowered.**
- B. By The Prayer Of Those Empowered.**
- C. By The Spoken Word By Those Empowered.**

D. By The Various Actions With Objects.

(e.g. Moses and “the rod”.)

E. By Other Methods. (i.e. Whatever method God chooses!)

III. WHAT ARE THE PURPOSES OF “SIGNS AND WONDERS?”

A. Signs Were Given For The Purpose Of Accreditation.

B. They Accredited God’s Man And/Or Message.

(Sign Gifts Appear In Clusters In 5 Chronological Eras.)

1. The Prophet Moses. *(Exodus 4:1-19 and 29-31)*

To Back Up That He Was God’s Man With God’s Message!

2. The Prophets Elijah And Elisha.

To Back Up That They Were God’s Men With God’s Message! *(1 Kings 17:1, 14-16, 20-24; 18:30-39, 42-46; 2 Kings 1:10, 12, 16-17; 2:8-9, 13-15, 19-24; 3:14-20; 4:1-7; 5:1-15)*

3. The Ministry Of The Lord Jesus Christ.

To Back Up That He Was Sent From God And Was Indeed The Very Son Of God.

(John 20:30; Acts 2:22)

4. The Ministry Of The Apostles.

a. To Back Up The Word Of God Prior To Its Completion.

(Mark 16:20; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Hebrews 2:4)

b. To Speak To The Jewish Heart.

(1 Corinthians 1:22)

The importance of signs to the Jews:

(Exodus 4:30-31; 31:13; Numbers 14:11; Judges 6:17; 1 Samuel 10:7-9; Isaiah 7:11, 14; Ezekiel 4:3; Matthew 12:38-39; 24:3,30; Mark 8:11-12; Luke 2:12, 34)

5. The Two Witnesses Of Revelation 11:3-7.

To Back Up That They Were God’s Men With God’s Message.

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- C. **To Deceive People And Get Them Against God.**
(1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Timothy 3:13; Revelation 16:14)

IV. WHO ARE THE PRODUCERS OF “SIGNS AND WONDERS?”

- A. **God Himself (Including Jesus).** *(Isaiah 7:14; Acts 2:22)*
B. **Prophets** - Moses and Aaron, Elijah, Elisha.
C. **Apostles** - By the hands of the apostles.
*(Acts 2:43; 4:33; 5:12; 14:3; 19:11; Romans 15:19;)
2 Corinthians 12:12)*
The apostles got this personally from the Lord Jesus.
(Matthew 10:1,2)
D. **Deacons** - The first deacons were given this power by the
apostles. *(Acts 6:5-8; 8:5-7)*
E. **False Christs And False Prophets, Satan And Others Who
Are Satan’s “Ministers.”** *(Matthew 24:24; Revelation 16:14;
Exodus 7:10-12; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15)*
F. **The Anti-christ.**
(Revelation 13:11-15; 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12)

**V. WHAT ARE THE PROOFS OF TRUE “SIGNS AND
WONDERS” FROM GOD?**

- A. **They Worked Every Time - With And Without Faith By
The Recipient.** *(Acts 5:16; Acts 28:7,8)*
B. **They Never Contradicted The Word Of God And Always
Were Subject To Verification.** *(1 John 4:1)*
C. **They Worked Against ALL Forms Of Disease And Satanic
Powers.** *(Matthew 10:1, 8)*
D. **They Worked Until The End Of The Apostolic Age.**
(1 Corinthians 13:8-10; 2 Peter 1:19-21)

**VI. WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS WITH “SIGNS AND
WONDERS?”**

- A. **An Evil And Adulterous People Look For Them - Not True
Seekers Of Christ.** *(Matthew 12:38-41)*

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- B. **The Devil Can Easily Counterfeit Most Of Them.**
(Exodus 8:16-18)

- C. **The Lord Will Allow Signs And Wonders To Confound The
Rebellious And Test The Christian .** *(Mark 13:21-23;
2 Thessalonians 2:8-12; Deuteronomy 13:1-5)*

- D. **Miracles Are To Be Subject To The Word Of God.**
(Isaiah 8:18-20; Deuteronomy 13)

- E. **People Are Only To Believe The Word - Not Miracles.**
(John 4:48; Mark 16:20)

**VII. WHAT IS THE PLACE OF “SIGNS AND WONDERS”-IN THE
PAST AND IN THE FUTURE?**

- A. They were primarily in Israel.
B. They were to the Jews throughout the world - to get them back
to God.
C. They were to some of the Gentiles, but not as a general rule.
D. They were finished at the completion of the Bible.
(1 Corinthians 13:8-10)
E. They will occur again in the Tribulation.
These miracles will once again be directed at the literal
Jews, not Christian believers!

**VIII. WHAT WERE THE PROPER RESULTS OF “SIGNS AND
WONDERS?”**

The apostles demonstrated authority over laying the foundation of the
Church: They had unity in the Church!
There was seriousness about being a part of the Church!
People were getting saved - consistent focus!
People were getting healed (every one that came)! Acts 5:16
Everybody was ready for the coming of the kingdom of
Heaven - i.e. The Millennium

**NOTE: All this is not ever to imply that God Himself has changed!
God is the "miracle worker" and is still in the miracle working business!**