


Next week

I am the True vine – John 15:1-11



THE
MIRACLES
of JESUS

Miracles – Review

What is a “miracle”?

- An act of God, superseding or suspending a natural law
- “An event in the physical world enabled by the immediate power of God and intended as a sign or manifestation.”

What was the purpose of miracles?

- Judgment or punishment (Herod, Acts 12:23)
- Confirm messengers (Mark 16:17-20; Heb 2:3-4)
- Confirm a message (Acts 14:3)

Miracle – Raising the dead

Were there people raised from dead in OT?

1. Elijah prayed to God to raise Son of a Widow in Zarephath (1 Kg 17:17-24)
2. Elisha prays to God to raises Shunammite Woman's Son (2 Kg 4:18-37)
3. Unnamed man raised by Elisha's bones (2 Kg 13:20-21)

Miracle – Raising the dead

Historical Significance

- Elijah and Elisha had each raised to life an only son (1 Kings 17:7-24; 2 Kings 4:8-37)
- Jesus also had for the first time raised an only son in Nain
- Elijah and Elisha did it by praying to God and laying on the boys – Jesus did it with only a word

Miracle – Raising the dead

What is the raising of the dead we talk about most often?

- Jesus Resurrection

Were there others raised from dead in NT?

1. Jesus raised widow's son in Nain (Lk 7:11-17)
2. Jesus raised Jairus' Daughter (Lk 8:40-56)
3. Jesus raised Lazarus (Jn 11)
4. Saints in Jerusalem (Mt 27:52-53)
5. Peter prayed and God raises Tabitha/Dorcas (Acts 9:36-42)
6. Paul returned Eutychus from dead (Acts 20:7-12)
- ? Paul's stoning at Lystra (Acts 14:19-20) "supposing that he was dead"

ISRAEL

IN THE TIME OF JESUS

River
Jordan

Jesus
is teaching
in this
area

Bethany

Jerusalem

Dead
Sea

0 10 miles
0 10 km



Miracle – Raising the dead

Raising of Lazarus – (Jn 11:1-44)

- Jesus had a special relationship with Mary (who anointed Jesus with oil), Martha and their brother Lazarus (v5)
- Lazarus was ill and sisters sent for Jesus
- Jesus was a days journey away (across the Jordan)
- Jesus said – “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” (v4)
- Jesus delayed two days before making the journey
- Jesus tells his disciples that Lazarus is dead

Miracle – Raising the dead

Raising of Lazarus – (Jn 11:1-44)

- When Jesus arrives – Lazarus had been dead 4 days
- Martha says – “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” v21-22
- Mary says - “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” v32
- Jesus deeply moved and “Jesus wept” (v35)

Miracle – Raising the dead

Raising of Lazarus – (Jn 11:1-44)

- Jesus goes to tomb and says to remove stone
- Martha points out that body would smell (decompose)
- Jesus “cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” v43
- Lazarus came out – still wrapped in burial clothes
- Again – just spoke and Lazarus arose

Without Lazarus – what would Mary & Martha’s situation be?

What was the reaction of the Jews? (John 12:9-12)

Thought question: Why is this account only found in John?

Miracle – Raising the dead

Raising of dead in Jerusalem – Mt 27:51-53 (Mark 15:38; Luke 23:44-45)

Three events happened around the time Jesus physical death

- Curtain in temple torn from top to bottom
- Darkness over earth – earth shook/earthquake, rocks spit
- Bodies of saint raised from the dead (Matt only)
- At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split ⁵² and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. ⁵³ They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people. ⁵⁴ When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

Why did this happen?

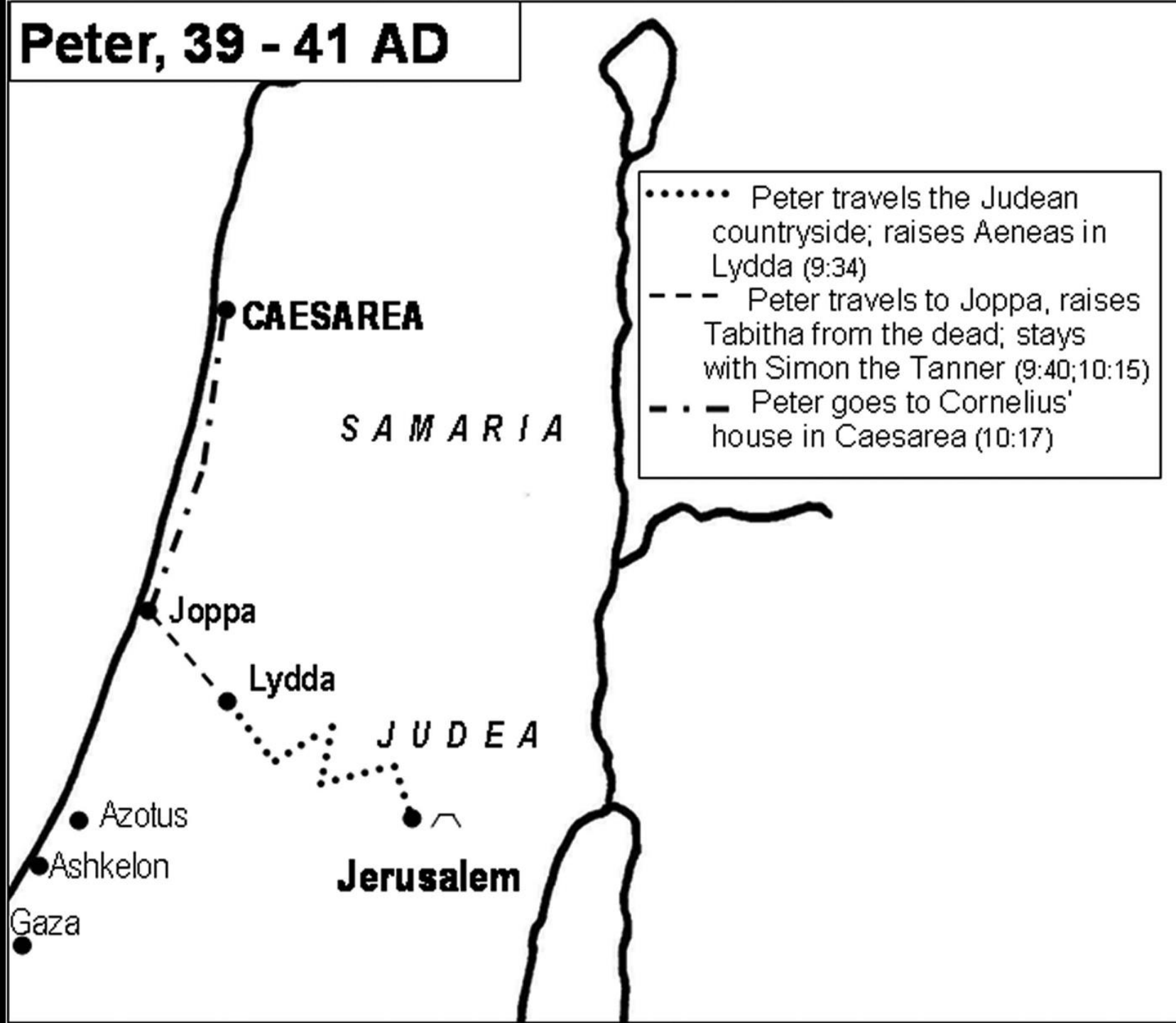
- V 54 - Eph 4:8; (Psm 68:18) – ascended – lead host of captives

Miracle – Raising the dead

Raising of Tabitha/Dorcas by Peter (Acts 9:36-42)

- Church “grew throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up.” v31
- Peter went “here and there among them all” –
- Aeneas in Lydda – paralyzed and bedridden for 8 years
- Peter said “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed.”
- Seeing him, people “turned to the Lord” (34-35)
- Tabitha, a good woman, died in the nearby town of Joppa

Peter, 39 - 41 AD



Miracle – Raising the dead

Raising of Tabitha/Dorcas by Peter (Acts 9:36-42)

- Tabitha, a good woman, died in the nearby town of Joppa (also called?, how far?)
- Hearing Peter was nearby – they sent two men to Peter saying “Please come to us without delay.”
- People showed Peter all the good things this woman had done for them
- Peter went alone to where she was, prayed, and she arose
- Peter said to give her food
- And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ And he stayed in Joppa for many days with one Simon, a tanner. (v42-43)

Miracle – Raising the dead

Raising of Eutychus by Paul (Acts 20:7-10)

- Paul was in Troas



MACEDONIA

THRACE

BLACK SEA

BITHYNIA AND PONTUS

GALATIA

ASIA

MYSIA

CAPPADOCIA

COMMAGENE

CILICIA

ACHAIA

CRETE

RHODES

LYCIA

PAMPHYLIA

CYPRUS

SYRIA

PHOENICIA

ABILENE

NABATEA

EGYPT

JUDEA

DEAD SEA

AEGEAN SEA

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

MARMARA SEA

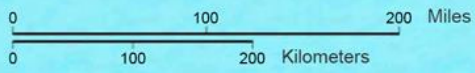
John's disciples believe in Jesus
Jewish exorcists fail to reproduce Paul's miracles
Magic books burnt
Demetrius & craftsmen of Diana cause uproar against the Way

Paul exhorts Ephesian elders & says tribulations & chains await him in Jerusalem
Elders weep because they won't see Paul anymore

Paul restores life to young Eutychus

Disciples warn Paul on the Journey to Jerusalem
Paul determined to do the will of the Lord and go to Jerusalem

Paul arrested in the Temple
Paul defends himself & witnesses to the Jews in Jerusalem



PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 19:1 - 21:14

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches of Asia" - Rev. 2-3
- ← Paul's Route

Miracle – Raising the dead

Raising of Eutychus by Paul (Acts 20:7-10)

- Paul was in Troas – staying there 7 days
- On first day of week – he worshiped/taught until midnight
- They were in an upper room – third story
- Eutychus fell asleep and fell out of window to ground
- “Was taken up dead” v9
- Paul said “Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him.” v10
- Paul broke bread with them and conversed until morning
- “They took away the boy alive, and were greatly comforted” v12

Miracle – Raising the dead

Jesus resurrection (Matt 28:1-8; Mk 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-10; Jn 20:1-8)

Evidence of the Death of Jesus

- Water and Blood poured from his side.
- Jesus ceased breathing in a very visible way
- The Roman soldiers were professional killers – and could recognize death. They know not to break the legs of Jesus as he was already dead.
- Jesus was in the grave from Friday until Sunday morning

Miracle – Raising the dead

Jesus resurrection (Matt 28:1-8; Mk 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-10; Jn 20:1-8)

Evidence of the Resurrection of Jesus

- Nail marks in his hands and sword scar on his side
- Seen by over 500 people
- The guards at the tomb witnessed a violent earthquake and were “paid off” to cover up what happened
- The actions of the first century believers demonstrated that they were willing to die based on belief in the resurrection – and many of them paid this price

Miracle – Raising the dead

Jesus says “I am the resurrection and the life” Jn 11:23-27

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

- Jesus gives life because he is life
- Physical death is not important
- The one who believe in Christ has eternal life that transcends physical death
- The big question – Do you believe this?
- Martha said “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ”

Miracle – Raising the dead

Jesus resurrection - Basis of our faith – 1 Cor 15

- Corinthian church is in trouble – full of division
- Paul reminds them of what he preach to them – gospel
- This is the anchor of their (and our) faith

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. V1-2

Past – received the gospel – present – in which you stand – future- by which you are saved

Miracle – Raising the dead

Jesus resurrection - Basis of our faith – 1 Cor 15

For I handed down to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, v 3-5

- Cephas (Peter's Aramaic name)
- 12 (disciples)
- 500 people (many still alive)
- James
- Apostles
- Paul

Miracle – Raising the dead

Jesus resurrection - Basis of our faith – 1 Cor 15

Why is this of “first importance”?

- No resurrection then Christ not raised
- So – preaching in vain – faith in vain
- We are false witnesses of God
- If dead not raised, Christ not raised
- So – faith is worthless – still in our sins
- All who died in Christ have perished
- We had false hope and are to be pitied

Miracle – Raising the dead

Jesus resurrection - Basis of our faith – 1 Cor 15?

But the fact is:

- Christ has been raised from dead
- Overcoming death brought on my man (Adam)
- Christ was the first raised from the dead
- Because of this – all who believe in him and have their sins taken away – will be resurrected