

THE MIRACLE OF OBEDIENCE

John 2:5

Are there miracles today? Maybe you are ready, at once, to say, "No"...Wait about your answer for a little while and we may see differently.

On our trip this summer we stopped in Jackson, of course, and, of course, groceries had to be bought. Dr. Jim and I went down to a grocery store in Morgan center and at that store they have an "Electric Eye Door" Just inside the door are two posts and at the top of each post is a glowing light. With your arms full of groceries you only have to step between the posts and break the beam cast from light to light and the door flies open. You could stand there looking at all day and it would not open. Your help was needed to open the door. All the machinery was there but opening no doors until some one stepped between the lights.

When Jesus performed miracles you will note that He had human assistance. When the Lepers came to Him beseeching Him to help them He said, "Go show yourselves to the priest and as they went they were cleansed. Their obedience sealed the miracle and opened the door to health.

When a blind man came to Jesus desiring his sight Jesus told him to go wash in the pool of Saloam(After Jesus put clay on his eyes) and he went and washed and came back seeing. His obedience released the power of God and opened the door to vision.

An adulteress came to Jesus He told her to go and sin no more and IF she did we can be ~~shure~~ that her obedience helped in the miracle of forgiveness and opened the door to purity of life.

In our lesson to day we see this miracle happening. The ~~host~~ realized that the wine was exhausted. Now to perform the miracle all the elements were there. The empty pots and God in the person of Jesus. The other thing that had to be was the obedience of the servants. When Jesus asked them to fill the pots they obeyed. They acted between God and the empty pots and opened the door to wine.

Can you perform a miracle? All around you are lives empty

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of spiritual blessings, homes empty of family-altars, your own even, lives empty of sympathy, empty of encouragement, hearts empty of courage, and many empty areas. On the other hand here is God with all the power of an atomic creation at His disposal. THIS IS THAT GOD THAT YOU SAY LETS HIS PEOPLE SUFFER AND DIE. The guests are at an empty table and you consider your power as nothing. Yet the guests are starving for some spiritual inspiration. But are not the elements for miracles here ~~mana~~ empty lives and God? The single question is ARE WE AS OBEIENT AS WERE THE SEVANTS AT THE WDDING FEAST? Will you follow the command as did they? "Whatsoever He saith unto you do it."

But what does He say? "If I knew what the Lord would have me do of course I would do it"you say. There are some four things that will produce miracles of your obedience.

1. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God" Fill your life with this water and see what happens. This word first gives people a lot of trouble. The thief on the cross, the Rich Young Ruler, the man who had bought a piece of land, the one who had been to the Tuesday sale and bought a pair of oxen, and the other who had married a wife.
2. The second thing He said to them was "Whosoever will come after me let him take up his cross." Here again are the elements of a miracle..God and the emptyness of cross bearing. In your obedience is wrapped up a miracle. Albert Schweitzer..Read clipping.

He was part of the miracle of pushing back the jungle of ignorance, superstition, disease, and godlessness.

Many of you here thás morning have the outward happiness but the emptyness of inward happiness.

3. The third thing he said unto them perhaps is still harder. "Love one another as I have loved you. The word as gives you the trouble. He loved enough to lay down His life for you. God is here and the emptyness of brotherhood. Maybe the miracle is wrapped up in you.
4. The fourth is still harder, "Go ye into all the world and teach all nations..." This is, perhaps, the climax miracle because as you step in between God and the emptyness of the heathen world you set off a chain of miracles that will continue after you are dead and gone.

And how is this? There was time when a man, if he wanted light or fire he rubbed two sticks together. But if the wood got wet there was no fire. So some one decided to have perpetual fire. This was done by keeping the fire mended and letting neighbors come and share it. Sharing means example.

Can you perform a miracle? God is here. He is glowing on the door posts and the light is glowing on the post of empty hearts, sinned hearts, God is Here and the empty jars are here, will you step between and open the door to poor benighted souls that are empty from a thousand causes?

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