

# Miracle Workers

Acts 8:1-19

## Introduction:

- A. Phillip, Peter and John were real miracle workers (vv. 6-7; 14-19)
  - 1. Miracles observed by all.
  - 2. Miracles were part of miraculous story of Bible.
- B. Our text should clear up some common misconceptions about miracles.

## Discussion:

- I. That Miraculous Power Was Given to All Believers.**
  - A. Samaritans believed and baptized but had no miraculous power (vv. 12, 13, 16).
  - B. Mark 16:16-18 does not teach power for all believers (v. 17 refers to those in v. 14).
    - 1. Why limit miracles to healing? (vv. 17-18).
    - 2. Why limit recipients of miracles to believers? (Acts 28:8)
- II. That Miraculous Power Was Given Directly to All Believers.**
  - A. Phillip had received his power by the apostolic hands (Acts 6:5-7).
  - B. Peter and John came to Samaria to lay hands on Samaritans (vv. 14-16).
  - C. Paul could impart spiritual gifts (Rom. 1:11; 2 Tim. 1:6).
  - D. Miracles were called signs of an apostle (2 Cor. 12:12) - no apostle - no miracle.
- III. That Miraculous Power Was to Last for All Time.**
  - A. Phillip was unable to pass the power on.
  - B. Power was for a limited few, for a limited time, for a limited purpose (1 Cor. 13:8-10; Heb. 2:3,4; Mk. 16:19,20).
- IV. That Baptism Commanded Was Miraculous Holy Spirit Baptism.**
  - A. Samaritans were not baptized in the Holy Spirit (v. 16)
  - B. One baptism of Eph. 4:5 was not Holy Spirit baptism.
  - C. Holy Spirit baptism was a promise, not a command (Acts 1:4,5)
  - D. Holy Spirit baptism given to apostles for revelation and confirmation (Eph. 3:3-5)
    - 1. Only the apostles received the promise on the day of Pentecost (Acts 1:26-2:1).
    - 2. Once confirmed do not need miracles (cf. Lk. 16:29-31)

## Conclusion:

- A. If we have same miracles today, do not need the New Testament.
- B. If we have the complete New Testament, do not need miracles.