



"A miracle is something which would never have happened had nature, as it were, been left to its own devices."

**Power
Purpose
Promotion**

1. The life of Moses

2. The lives of Elijah and Elisha

3. The lives of Jesus and the apostles

God normally works through the normal...but occasionally works through the miraculous.

Miracle = "Sign"

Rom. 14:8 If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

Rom. 4:13-22 It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who live by law are heirs, faith has no value and the promise is worthless, because law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression. Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring — not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed — the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were. Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead — since he was about a hundred years old — and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness."

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Amazement...Awe...Worship

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**Against all hope...in hope, he
believed**

"He faced the facts"

A faith-filled realist

Gen. 17:17-18 Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, “Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?” And Abraham said to God, “If only Ishmael might live under your blessing!”

**He had his doubts...but in the end
he doubted his doubts and believed
God's word to him.**

How do I grow in faith?

1 Kings 18:36-37 Then he prayed "O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again."

Faith is weak when God is small

Faith is strong when God is big

What can I "believe" God for?