

The Touch of Jesus

“Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them.” (Luke 4:40)

Lessons from miracles Jesus did, as they are recorded in the Book of Luke.

LESSON 12: The Resurrection of Christ

“He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, saying, the Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.” (Luke 24:6-7)

As you listen to the teacher, fill in the blanks!

1. The first miracle in the heart of the dying thief was _____.
2. In a prayer this thief expressed saving _____.
3. When he died, the new convert went directly to _____.

The greatest and most important miracle since Creation was the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ! The story of His resurrection is told in Luke 24. This week, read the whole chapter. His other miracles did not prove that He was the Christ. Acts 2:22 says that Jesus was *“a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs which God did by him.”* The miracles showed that He was *“a teacher come from God”* (See John 3:2), but they didn’t really prove that He was the Son of God. Think about it. Other men had performed the miracles Jesus did.

Elisha cleansed a leper (II Kings 5; Luke 3) as Jesus did. Both Elijah and Elisha raised the dead (I Kings 17; II Kings 4; Luke 7) as Jesus did. Elisha fed a great crowd with a small amount of food (II Kings 4; Luke 9) as Jesus did. It is true that Jesus performed more miracles than any man of God had done before Him, but the sort of wonders He worked had been worked through others (Read John 3:27-36). Acts 10:38 says that *“God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.”* The main reason Jesus did miracles was because He had *compassion* on people in need. We see this in Luke 7:12-15. We find this taught more often in the Book of Matthew (See 14:14, 15:32-38, and 20:30-34). The only sign or miracle that *proved* the deity of Jesus Christ was His bodily resurrection from the dead. In Luke 11:29-32 we read that Jesus said, *“there shall no sign be given”* to His generation *“but the sign of Jonas the prophet.”* The

only miraculous proof of His Messiahship would be the sign of Jonas. This sign is explained in Matthew 12. Read verses 38 through 41.

“ . . . as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. ”

Jonah's “*whale's belly*” experience was a type of the Savior's death, burial, and resurrection, which would prove Who He was.

“They Entered In, and Found Not the Body of the Lord Jesus”

Luke 24 contains at least ten evidences that Jesus really did rise from the dead. Take some time today, and study them.

1. The stone was rolled away (vs. 1-2; Mark 16:1-4).
2. The body was gone (v. 3).
3. The angels said that He was risen (vs. 4-6).
4. Jesus had predicted His resurrection (vs. 4-8).
5. The apostles were skeptical at first, but then later convinced (vs. 9-12).
6. Jesus appeared to several (vs. 13-35).
7. The Old Testament scriptures prophesied His resurrection (vs. 25-27; 44-47).
8. Witnesses saw and touched the wounds He received on the cross, proving that He was really Jesus (vs. 36-40).
9. After His resurrection He ate with His disciples (vs. 41-43).
10. The risen Christ promised the coming of the Holy Spirit, which did occur after He ascended into Heaven (vs. 48-53).

“Believe All That the Prophets Have Spoken”

Jesus was a Bible-believer, and His resurrection proved that the Bible is true (vs. 25-27). Look over these Old Testament passages that predict the raising of Christ from the dead.

1. Psalm 16 (especially verses 9-11, written before 1000 B.C.).
2. Psalm 22 (especially verses 15-27, also written before 1000 B.C.).
3. Isaiah 53 (especially verses 8-11, written about 700 B.C.).

“Ye Are Witnesses of These Things”

The end of the Book of Luke tells us who believe in Jesus what our job is now that Christ has risen. The apostles were especially appointed witnesses to the resurrection of the Lord. See this clearly in Luke 24:46-49, Acts 1:7-8, Acts 1:21-22, Acts 2:32, Acts 5:27-32, and Acts 13:27-31. This is why He so thoroughly proved to them that He had indeed risen from the dead. For fifty or sixty years after the event there were at least twelve men in the world who knew for a fact that Jesus Christ had risen from the dead. Their witness had a powerful effect. We too are to be witnesses for Christ in our generation. Study Luke 24:47, Acts 1:8, Acts 13:32-33, and Acts 26:19-23 to see that Christians other than the apostles are to witness for Christ around the world on the basis of the scriptures. Paul (not one of the twelve) wrote in I Corinthians 15 that he, too, had a personal experience with the risen Christ of which he could and did testify in order to win others (vs. 3-11). So have we.