Miracles
Acts 2:22
Introduction:
A. Do you believe in miracles? In Jesus? The Bible?
B. Do not believe in every thing that is called a “miracle” – “It’s a miracle!”
C. Do believe in “miracles”, “wonders”, “signs” of text.
   1. “Miracles” from dunamis meaning power. (“Mighty deed” 1; “Mighty work” 11; “Miracle” 8; “Power” 77)
   2. “Wonders” from teras - Almost always used in connection with signs and miracles.
   3. “Signs” from semeion - meaning a sign (“Miracle” 22; “Sign” 51; “Wonder” 3)
D. What do we mean then by miracle?
   1. Not a mere wonder? Wonders of nature.
   3. An overt act that only God can do, signifying it must be from God. (Cf. John 3:2; 9:16-24).
E. We shall discuss three aspects of miracles:
Discussion:
I. Bible Miracles And Their Purpose
   A. It cannot be denied that they served immediate needs.
      1. Hungry needed food.
      2. Blind needed sight, etc.
      3. If satisfaction of immediate need was all that was seen then the point missed. (John 6:26).
   B. In O.T. God communicated with man by various miraculous interventions. (Cf. Heb. 1:1).
   C. In N.T. miracles centered around Son and His revelation. - Confirmed and aided.
   D. The purpose of N. T. miracles was to confirm certain claims.
         b. Miraculous repetition not necessary to our faith. (Rom. 10:6-17).
II. Bible Miracles And Divine Providence
   A. A Miracle has a clear sign on it that says “No man can do it, only God”.
   B. An act of providence is just as much from God, but it does not have clear sign.
      1. It could have been “by chance”. (Lk. 10:31).
      2. It could have been natural event or phenomenon.
      3. It could been an “act of God”.
   C. Both Miracles and acts of providence are acts of God - but both not signs.
      1. Birth of Jesus and births of Isaac and John the Baptist.
         a. Birth of Jesus was a sign. (Isa. 7:14).
         b. Births of Isaac and John the Baptist were neither chance nor sign.
      2. Drought and Rain were acts of God in Elijah’s day, but not a sign. (Jas. 5:17,18)
      3. Important to trust providence of God, but important not to attribute every event to that - will begin trusting something other than word.
III. Bible Miracles And Modern Claims.
   A. Bible miracles did not have to be proven - some questioned their origin.
   B. Bible miracles were not drawn out processes.
   C. Bible miracles were not isolated incidents like many claims today.
   D. Bible miracles did not require vivid imaginations like many today.
   E. Bible miracles were not fund-raising gimmicks like many today.
Conclusion:
A. A miracle is something “no man can do” - only God.
B. A miracle is not needed today to produce faith -- we have complete revelation. (Jude 3).