

# Warners Chapel Church of Christ

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**Preachers: Kevin V. Rutherford**  
**Mike Glenn**



*"The churches of Christ salute you" Rom. 16:16*

**A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS YOU**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2021**

## **Does God Give Christians Miraculous Gifts Today?**

### **Part One**

A miracle is an action performed that defies natural law. It is an action which has no natural explanation. It is an action which rises above natural law. God is not a being of nature. That is, He is Spirit (John 4:23-24). While everything in nature had a beginning and a cause, God is different from nature in that He is self-existent and He is the cause of nature (Exodus 3:14; John 8:58; John 1:1-4; Colossians 1:14-18; Genesis 1:1). God created the natural laws and is fully capable of doing whatever He chooses to do within the natural laws He has created. God is unlimited in power and knowledge. Additionally, He is sovereign, meaning He has the authority to do whatever He chooses to do. He has the authority and power to work within the natural laws He created. But, He is above natural law being a Spirit and the Self-existent Creator. Therefore, He is fully capable of working outside of natural law any time He chooses. This leads to the conclusion that every single miracle recorded in the Bible is true. We have no reason to doubt God's ability to perform those miracles, and we have an abundance of evidence that supports the credibility of the record of those miracles. Not only is God fully capable of working within, or above the natural laws He created, but He is also capable of giving people the ability to perform miraculous gifts through the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:1-11; Mark 16:16-18; etc.). The focus of this article is the question of whether or not God is giving Christians the ability to perform miracles today. The short answer is no. Now let's look at the evidence that leads us to the conclusion that God is no longer giving Christians the ability to perform miracles today.

First, we cannot find good evidence from those who claim to perform miracles today that they are genuine. The miracles of healing that are recorded in the Bible were miracles that took place with individuals who were often known by many in the community to have their illness, and in some cases for a number of years. Also, in every case of healing in the Bible there was an instant and lasting result. We see none of these characteristics of real miracles in any of the

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work of the modern day, “faith-healers.” I had a long discussion by letters through the mail with a woman who claimed she had been miraculously healed by modern day faith-healers. She was a pedestrian hit by a car. Two men came to visit her to perform a miracle on her. Months later she was released from the hospital and was left with a limp for the rest of her life. If a miracle had been performed by these men in the same fashion as those of the New Testament, this woman would have been healed instantly and she would not have been left with a limp.

Second, let’s consider the purpose of the miraculous gifts that were given to the first century Christians. The Gospel message of the New Testament was in the process of being revealed in the first century (1Corinthians 2). Much of it was passed on verbally by inspiration through preaching and teaching (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20). The miraculous gifts performed by Christians gave them the opportunity to prove the New Testament message they were teaching was in fact from God (John 3:1-3; Mark 16:20; Hebrews 2:1-4). We confirm what we are teaching is from God today by referencing the New Testament. Now that the New Testament has been completed we no longer need the confirmation of miraculous gifts. This ties in with some of the other reasons to believe we are no longer given miraculous gifts.

Third, miraculous gifts would end when the knowledge God wanted us to have was completed. That is, when the New Testament was completed there was no longer any need for miraculous gifts. Further, we are specifically told miraculous gifts would end when knowledge was complete (1 Corinthians 13:8-13). Paul speaks of the importance of unity in the church at Corinth despite the differences in the miraculous gifts given to them (1 Corinthians 12). He then explained the miraculous gifts would end, but love would not and therefore love is of greater value than the miraculous gifts (1Corinthians 13). This gave him the basis for discussing the abuse of miraculous gifts in the first century miraculous worship services in Corinth (1 Corinthians 14). In that context Paul says love never fails, ie., will never cease (1 Corinthians 13:8). The purpose and need for love will never end. He makes this statement in contrast to the fact that miraculous gifts such as prophecy, tongues, and miraculous knowledge would vanish away (1 Corinthians 13:8). The context further tells us those miraculous gifts would vanish away when the perfect (complete) had come. The perfect is contrasted in the context with the incomplete knowledge. When God completed the New Testament man would have access to the full knowledge God wanted Him to have. This would be the time when the complete had come and the miraculous gifts would end. God completed revealing the New Testament to Christians by the end of the first century. This is when miraculous gifts ceased, and this ties in very well with the fact that the purpose of the miracles was to confirm the Word as it was primarily being spoken, and while in the process of being written down in the first century.

*~Kevin V. Rutherford*



## **READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2021**

March 1 - Mark 7:1-13  
March 2 - Mark 7:14-37  
March 3 - Mark 8:1-21  
March 4 - Mark 8:22-38



March 5 - Mark 9:1-29  
March 6 - Mark 9:30-50  
March 7 - Mark 10:1-31

## OUR SICK

### Please Remember in Your Prayers

Please continue to keep the following in your prayers:

*Ronnie Knost, Elwood Flinchum, Kathy and Wayne Hutchins, Steve and Ernestine Martin, Don Jackson, Sandy Smith, Mike & Dora Lundgren, D.J. Harrison, Lisa Stuart, Edith Allen, Martha Kee.*

**Sherrill Stewart** has been ill for some time with COPD and Asthma difficulties which greatly effects his breathing. Consequently, he cannot wear a mask because of the breathing problem he has at this time. Please remember him in your prayers.

Please remember **Abby Little** in your prayers as she is recovering from her surgery on February 9th.

Please keep **Roger Allen** in your prayers as he has had considerable pain after undergoing spinal epidermal treatments which he hopes will subside as he heals.

**Steve Martin** has an appointment with a doctor on March 18th to see about his throat and voice problems. Please pray that they may be able to help him.

Debbie Southern's aunt, **Betty Johnson**, will undergo hip surgery on Monday, March 1st. Please keep her in your prayers.

Please keep **Shawn Houle** in your prayers. He is a police officer who was shot last Sunday and reported to be in serious condition. He is married with 2 small children.

An announcement was made this recently from someone in the congregation requesting prayers in behalf of a friend, **Sandy**, who is having a difficult time with cancer. Please pray for her.

### THANK YOU SO MUCH ~

We cannot begin to express our appreciation for all the support and love that has come our way over the last month. You have been our strength in this storm of life and we have leaned heavily on you and we want to thank you. It is a blessing to be part of the family that looks after each other. —with much love, the Cloud Family. (We have shared together the blessings of God.)

### ~IN SYMPATHY~

*Our sympathy and prayers go out to Savannah Quinn and family in the recent passing of her grandfather.*

*Our sympathy also go out to the family of **Flossie Holder** who passed away recently. A private graveside funeral was held on Tuesday, February 23rd. Flossie was 94 years old and the wife of the late Odell Holder.*

### Begin a Correspondence Ministry:

*Many are sick or lonely or need encouraging words. Send notes, cards, texts - be creative.*

# Welcome

**WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU VISITING WITH US THIS MORNING. WE INVITE YOU TO RETURN THIS EVENING AT 6:00 P.M. FOR THE SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE AND AT 7:00 P.M. EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING FOR THE MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY.**

**March 3 - Classes for the children will begin on Wednesday, March 3rd.**

### House to House – Heart to Heart

### Some Good News about the Good News

Last year, even in the midst of a pandemic, we have had more conversions reported than every before in our existence. **370** baptisms were reported in 2020. People are looking for the truth! Look at the faces of some of those 370 people who made 2020 their best year ever.

Share these stats and this graphic with your congregation to remind them that people still want the gospel, and we can take it to them.

Let's encourage each other to keep sharing the **Good News of the Gospel.** —**Matt Wallin**

Thank you for taking time to pray for the kingdom (James 5:16).

**SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS**

**MARCH, 2021**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY: TODD HINSON**

**COMMUNION FOR MARCH: DAVID MOORE**

**OPENING PRAYERS FOR MARCH:**

**SUNDAY - a.m.**

March 7 - Gene Southern  
March 14 - Jim Harrison  
March 21 - Brad Hoots  
March 28 - Andy Santiago

**SUNDAY - p.m.**

March 7 - Adam Warner  
March 14 - Mark Minor  
March 21 - Carl Cooper  
March 28 - David Queen

**WEDNESDAY**

March 3 - Bob Tesh  
March 10 - Tim Allen  
March 17 - D.C. Mock  
March 24 - Wayne Allen  
March 31 - Johnny Spillman

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**BUILDING SECURITY: OPENING, SETTING UP FOR TEMPS, AND LOCKING BUILDING:  
SUNDAY AM OPEN BY 10:10, PM BY 5:25, AND WEDNESDAY BY 6:25**

**MAIN BUILDING: GENE SOUTHERN AND TIM ALLEN**

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**SONG LEADERS FOR MARCH:**

**SUNDAY - a.m.**

March 7 - Wayne Allen  
March 14 - Clayton Workman  
March 21 - Roger Allen  
March 28 - Charley Belch

**SUNDAY - p.m.**

March 7 - Wayne Allen  
March 14 - Clayton Workman  
March 21 - Roger Allen  
March 28 - Charley Belch

**WEDNESDAY**

March 3 - Roger Allen  
March 10 - Clayton Workman  
March 17 - Wayne Allen  
March 24 - Charley Belch  
March 31 - Roger Allen

**IF YOU SHOULD BE UNABLE TO SERVE ON ASSIGNED DATES, PLEASE GET SOMEONE TO TAKE YOUR PLACE**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE.**

**GENE SOUTHERN**

**“GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BIBLE” at 10:30 p.m. each week night on Cable 8**  
**SEARCH PROGRAM - Sunday Mornings at 7:30 a.m. on Cable 68**

**WARNERS CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST  
8999 LASATER ROAD  
CLEMMONS, NC 27012**

***ELDERS***

Tim Allen  
Todd Hinson  
Steve Tesh  
Andy Santiago

***DEACONS***

Randy Warner  
Keith Warner  
Mark Minor  
Jason Allen  
Jody Everett

Gene Southern  
Shawn Thomason  
Mark Roy  
Adam Warner  
Jacob Woodbury