

## Thirty Days with Jesus

### What proof did Jesus provide to back up His claims?

**Intro:** As we read the Daily Bible we are spending 30 days with Jesus asking some important questions about Jesus. Last week—“What claims did Jesus make for himself? The answer: Jesus claimed to be the God who created all things and the Christ of OT Scripture. Today—“What proof did Jesus provide to back up His claims?”

### **Both Jesus and John pointed to His works or signs as proof of His claims!**

*But the witness which I have is greater than that of John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish, the very works that I do, bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me. (John 5:36)*

*Notice that Jesus claimed that his works would bear witness or give legal proof that He was both the Son of God and the Christ.*

*John likewise appeals to the miracles Jesus performed as evidence for faith in Him as the Christ, the Son of God:*

*Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. (John 20:30-31)*

*The word “sign” suggests the idea of a miracle that points to a truth God is revealing through the miracle.*

### **John recorded seven signs that proved Jesus claims.**

#### *Turning water to wine (Jn. 2:1-11)*

**Jesus first sign was performed at a wedding feast in Cana of Galilee. Six water pots with a capacity of 20-30 each were filled with water. The water was instantly turned into wine of such high quality that the head waiter who knew nothing of the means of its making acknowledged that it was the best wine served at the feast. It was a remarkable demonstration of creative power.**

#### *Healing the nobleman's son (Jn. 4:46-54)*

**In this case a nobleman from Capernaum appealed to Jesus to cure his son who was sick with a deadly fever. Remarkably the fever left the boy the very moment that Jesus said “you son lives”. Yet Jesus was in Cana; the child was in Capernaum sixteen miles away!**

#### *Healing the lame man... (Jn. 5:1-9)*

**This desperate man, lame for 38 years, had placed his faith in a superstition about the stirring of the waters of Bethesda. He waited in vain for a healing there; but Jesus in a single moment and single statement healed him completely.**

#### *Feeding the five thousand...(Jn. 6:1-14)*

**Jesus took a lad's lunch (five loaves and a couple of fish) and made from them a supply of food sufficient to meet the needs of a company that included 5000 men.**

#### *Walking on the water...(Jn. 6:16-21)*

From the eastern shore of Galilee Jesus saw his disciples struggling in a storm on the sea. He made his way across the sea to them walking on the water. The sea is 8 miles across at its widest point. Jesus walked half way across through the storm before the disciples received him into their boat.

*Healing the blind man... (Jn. 9:1-12)*

Jesus found a man in Jerusalem who was blind from birth. He made clay which he put on his eyes, and then commanded him to go to Siloam and wash it off. When he did, he returned seeing.

*Raising Lazarus from the dead...(Jn. 11:39-44)*

Jesus arrived in Bethany at the home of his friend Lazarus four days after his death. Jesus at the tomb recalled Lazarus' spirit from the Hadean realm back into his body and restored him to his sisters.

*Each of these alone would be a mighty display of divine power unlike anything an ordinary person can do. But why did Jesus perform the signs that He performed?*

These seven signs point to seven distinct truths about Jesus.

*If I could give you a magic wand by which you could do any work of power, what would you do?*

Levitate some heavy object.

Make someone or something disappear and reappear

Go out in the night skies and move stars around the heavens to spell a word or your name. And all these would be impressive works that would prove that supernatural power was working in you. But Jesus did not do such works.

*It is interesting that, in at least five of the signs, John also records an explicit discourse by Jesus explaining the significance of the miracle He just performed. In other words, Jesus did not perform miracles for miracles sake, but miracles in order to teach something about Himself. Each of Jesus' miracles attests to not only his physical power but His spiritual power to accomplish the work of redemption!*

*The water to wine pointed to Jesus' power to inaugurate a "new creation"!*

John does not present a discourse of Jesus in connection with this miracle; but Jesus' creative power clearly points to His role as creator and serves as a sign of his power to effect a new creation in the lives of men.

*Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. (2 Corinthians 5:17)*

*The healing of the nobleman's son pointed to Jesus' power to make atonement for sin!*

John does not present a discourse or claim of Jesus in connection with the miracle of healing the nobleman's son. But it is clear that biblically disease is a common metaphor for sin.

Matthew would note Jesus' healings as fulfillment of Isaiah's words:

*He Himself took our infirmities, and carried away our diseases. (Matthew 8:17)  
and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. (1 Peter 2:24)*

***The healing of the lame man pointed to Jesus' power to regenerate.***

**Just as Jesus had made the dead limbs of the lame man alive, so He has the power to regenerate the dead bodies of the living and put them to work for God. Thus, he follows this miracle with the claim that He was only doing that which the Father had shown Him and which He also had power to do.**

*Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life. (John 5:24)*

***The walking of Jesus on the water pointed to Jesus' power to deliver us from spiritual danger.***

**Though the disciples were competent sailors, they were in real danger. Jesus' coming across the sea makes clear that nothing than threatens men, threatens him. Instead he can rescue or deliver us from whatever peril we face.**

*Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. (Romans 5:9)*

***The feeding of the 5000 pointed to Jesus' power to satisfy our needs.***

**The next day after feeding the multitudes Jesus gave them the truth to which his sign had pointed:**

*Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall not hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. (John 6:35)*

***The healing of the blind man pointed to Jesus' power to illumine those in darkness.***

**Jesus enabled a man who had known only darkness to see the light for the first time. He explained the truth to which the sign pointed:**

*While I am in the world, I am the light of the world. (John 9:5)*

*And Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see; and that those who see may become blind." (John 9:39)*

***The raising of Lazarus pointed to Jesus' power to "give eternal life".***

**Jesus by the power of his word recalled Lazarus from the spirit world back into his decaying body. Jesus explained the truth to which this miracle pointed:**

*Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26)*

**Conclusion: By these remarkable claims Jesus proved without doubt that He was "the eternal God who made all things" and was "the Christ, the Son of God". But He did so much more! The miracles themselves are a "sign" pointing to all that He can do as God and Christ in saving our souls!**

