



STRENGTH

IN

WEAKNESS

A SERIES IN 2 CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 12:11

I have been a fool! You forced me to it,



2 Corinthians 12:11

I have been a fool! You forced me to it,
for I ought to have been commended by you.



2 Corinthians 12:11

I have been a fool! You forced me to it,
for I ought to have been commended by you.
For I was not at all inferior to these super-apostles,



2 Corinthians 12:11

I have been a fool! You forced me to it,
for I ought to have been commended by you.
For I was not at all inferior to these super-apostles,
even though I am nothing.



FINAL WORDS ON PAUL'S APOSTOLIC AUTHORITY

2CORINTHIANS 12:11-19



1. Signs



1. Signs

The signs of a true apostle
were performed among you with utmost patience,
with signs and wonders and mighty works.



1. Signs

The **signs** of a true apostle
were performed among you with utmost patience,
with signs and wonders and mighty works.



2 Corinthians 3:2

You yourselves are our letter of recommendation...



2 Corinthians 6:4–7

... we commend ourselves in every way:
by **great endurance**, in afflictions, hardships, calamities,
beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors...



2 Corinthians 6:4–7

... we commend ourselves in every way:

by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities,
beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors...

by **purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit,
genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God...**



2 Corinthians 11:23

Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—
I am talking like a madman—
with far greater labors, far more imprisonments,
with countless beatings, and often near death...



1. Signs

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Acts 13- Blinding of Elymas the sorcerer



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Acts 14- Healing of the Cripple



- Acts 13- Blinding of Elymas the sorcerer
- Acts 14- Healing of the Cripple
- Acts 16- Casting out evil spirit



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- Acts 28- No harm from snake attack
Healing of Publius & others



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The signs of a true apostle
were performed among you with utmost patience,
with **signs and wonders and mighty works.**



FAQ on miracles



1. Can all Christians perform miracles?



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No.



1. Can all Christians perform miracles?

No.

1 Corinthians 12:7–10 “To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and ... **to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy...**”



2. Do miracles save?



2. Do miracles save?

No.



2. Do miracles save?

No.

John 12:37 Though he had done so many signs before them,
they still did not believe in him,



2. Do miracles save?

Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the **gospel**, for it is the power of God
for salvation to everyone who believes...



3. What's the purpose of miracles?



3. What's the purpose of miracles?

Hebrews 2:3–4

... attested to us by those who heard, while God also **bore witness** by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.



3. What's the purpose of miracles?

The signs of a true apostle
were performed among you with utmost patience,
with signs and wonders and mighty works. v12



3. What's the purpose of miracles?

To draw attention to & to authenticate
God's servant/s



4. Do we still have miracles today?



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The bible does not rule out the possibility of miracles today.



4. Do we still have miracles today?

The bible does not rule out the possibility of miracles today.

But we have to ask:

1. Is the claim real?



- Video- Bill Johnson

- Video- lady



Show Me

The Toes



This is a picture of the original Facebook post that started the frenzy around the "3 New Toes" miracle at James River Church. This website and its associated social media accounts exist to ask for proof that this miracle did, in fact, occur.

4. Do we still have miracles today?

1. Is the claim real?



4. Do we still have miracles today?

1. Is the claim real?

2. Is it truly miraculous?



- Acts 13- Blinding of Elymas the sorcerer
- Acts 14- Healing of the Cripple
- Acts 16- Casting out evil spirit
- Acts 19- Casting out demons + healing the sick
- Acts 20- Resurrection of Eutychus
- Acts 28- No harm from snake attack
Healing of Publius & others



4. Do we still have miracles today?



4. Do we still have miracles today?

It's possible.



4. Do we still have miracles today?

It's possible.
But do not **crave** nor **cringe**.



4. Do we still have miracles today?

It's possible.

But do not **crave** nor **cringe**.

Consider.



5. Are miracles the key to ministry?



5. Are miracles the key to ministry?

1 Corinthians 2:2

For I decided to know nothing among you
except Jesus Christ and him crucified.



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1. Signs

The **signs** of a true apostle
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1. Signs

2. Sacrifice



- Mowing the lawn -- \$2.00
- Drying the dishes -- \$1.00
- Raking leaves ----- \$3.00
- Cleaning garage --- \$4.00
- Total ----- \$10.00 owed

- Ironing clothes --- nothing
- Mending socks --- nothing
- Cooking meals --- nothing
- Bandaging cuts -- nothing
- Baking cookies -- nothing

Love, Mother

2 Corinthians 12:13

For in what were you less favored than the rest
of the churches, except that I myself did not burden you?
Forgive me this wrong!



2 Corinthians 12:14

Here for the third time I am ready to come to you. And I will not be a burden, for I seek not what is yours but you.



2 Corinthians 12:14

Here for the third time I am ready to come to you. And I will not be a burden, for I seek not what is yours but you. For children are not obligated to save up for their parents, but parents for their children.



2 Corinthians 12:14

Here for the third time I am ready to come to you. And **I will not be a burden**, for I seek not what is yours but you. For children are not obligated to save up for their parents, but **parents for their children.**



2 Corinthians 12:15

I will most gladly spend and be spent for your souls.



2 Corinthians 12:15

I will most gladly spend and be spent for your souls.
If I love you more, am I to be loved less?



2 Corinthians 12:16

But granting that I myself did not burden you,
I was crafty, you say, and got the better of you by deceit.



2 Corinthians 12:17

Did I take advantage of you
through any of those whom I sent to you?



2 Corinthians 12:18

I urged Titus to go, and sent the brother with him.

Did Titus take advantage of you?

Did we not act in the same spirit?

Did we not take the same steps?



1. Signs

2. Sacrifice



2 Corinthians 2:4

For I wrote to you out of much affliction and anguish of heart
and with many tears, not to cause you pain
but to let you know the **abundant love that I have for you.**



2 Corinthians 4:5

For what we proclaim is not ourselves,
but Jesus Christ as Lord,
with **ourselves as your servants** for Jesus' sake.



2 Corinthians 6:11–13

\We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians;
our heart is wide open...

In return (I speak **as to children**) widen your hearts also.



2 Corinthians 7:2

Make room in your hearts for us.

We have **wronged no one,**
we have **corrupted no one,**
we have **taken advantage of no one.**



1. Signs

2. Sacrifice



- 1. Signs**
- 2. Sacrifice**
- 3. Single-mindedness**



2 Corinthians 12:19

Have you been thinking all along
that we have been defending ourselves to you?



2 Corinthians 12:19

Have you been thinking all along
that we have been defending ourselves to you?

It is in the sight of God that we have been speaking in Christ,
and all for your upbuilding, beloved.



2 Corinthians 10:8

For even if I boast a little too much of our authority,
which the Lord gave for **building you up**
and not for destroying you, I will not be ashamed.



2 Corinthians 12:19

Have you been thinking all along
that we have been defending ourselves to you?

It is in the sight of God that we have been speaking in Christ,
and all for your upbuilding, beloved.



Mission of Gospel Light

Leading Generations
into a Life-changing Relationship
with Jesus Christ

