

# **Why did Jesus perform miracles?**

Power over everything, including death...

# Study Plan

- 1 Is the Bible Trustworthy?
- 2 Did God Really Create the World?
- 3 If God is good, why does suffering exist?
- 4 Why is evil so widespread and powerful?
- 5 Why is Israel so important?
- 6 Who is God?
- 7 What is the purpose of the Ten Commandments?
- 8 Why is there a snake on the medical symbol?
- 9 How do the Old and New Testaments fit together?
- 10 Why did Jesus perform miracles?
- 11 What did Jesus really say?
- 12 Is death the end (or the beginning)?

# Last Week: Christmas and Repentance

- **Isaiah 7:14; 9:6** – Immanuel = “God with us,” a child is born, a son is given; **Matthew 1:21-23** → Jesus = “Savior”
- The all-powerful Creator God humbled Himself and became one of His own creatures. Why?
- Like those who came to John the Baptist, everyone must:
  - Admit that we are guilty of breaking God’s law.
  - Turn from sin and self and turn toward God.
  - Prepare to receive the good news of Jesus.

# The Jealous Leaders

- Jesus came exactly as promised to Abraham – through the family line of David in Israel.
- **John 1:10-11** – but they did not receive Him. Why not?
- God gave the law to expose our sin and remind us we need a Savior (**Romans 3:19,20**).
- But the Jewish leaders used the law to show off their own self-righteousness.
- The Pharisees, Scribes, and Sadducees hated Jesus because He didn't follow their traditions.

# Jesus heals a needy man

## Mark 2 – Three kinds of people

- **Verses 1-4:** the man's friends bring him for healing
- **Verse 5:** Surprise – Jesus forgives his sins
- **Verses 6-7:** “only God can forgive sins!”
- **Verses 8-12**
  - Jesus is God and has authority to forgive sins
  - “We have never seen anything like this!”
  - “Miracles” **prove** that the **claims** of Jesus **are true**
  - Other “supernatural” actions...

# Power over nature

- Mark 4 – A furious storm
- **Verses 35-36**: a group of boats crossing the lake
- **Verses 37-38**: the fishermen are **afraid** of the storm **outside** of the boat
- **Verse 39**: Jesus speaks to the wind and waves
- **Verses 40-41**: the disciples are now **afraid** of the One **inside** the boat

# Power over demons

- Mark 5 – A man living among the dead
- **Verses 1-5:** a powerful man filled with demons
- **Verses 11-13:** Jesus sends the demons out of the man and into some pigs
- **Verses 14-15:** the people are now afraid of a power greater than the demons
- **Verses 16-17:** instead of receiving Jesus, the people ask Him to leave

# Power to rebuild a body

- **Luke 5** – A man with Leprosy
- **Verse 12:** “covered in leprosy” (destroyed nerves and decayed flesh)
- **Verse 13:** Jesus reaches out and touches him:
  - New flesh is created immediately
  - Nervous system is rebuilt
  - Life is restored (personally and community)
- **Verse 14:** as clear evidence of the truth, go and show himself to the priest (the one who judges lepers)



# Power to create matter

- **John 6** – Jesus and a hungry crowd
- **Verses 1-4** : People have come to watch Jesus
- **Verses 8-9** : a small boy with a small lunch
- **Verses 10-11** : the Creator of fish and bread
- **Verses 12-13** : data from leftovers
- **Verses 14-15** : a massive crowd of witnesses

# Power over death

- **John 11** – A dead, rotting man
- **Verses 38-40:** a worried sister instructs Jesus
- **Verses 41-44:** Jesus commands the dead man back to life
- **Verse 45-46:** some people believe while others reject Jesus
- **Verses 47-50:** the leaders cannot prove Jesus is a fraud, so they only have one other option

# The Power of Jesus

- Power to heal
- Power over nature
- Power over demons
- Power to rebuild a body
- Power to create matter
- Power over death
- Power to forgive sin

# But is it true...?

- Jesus had powerful enemies
  - Bad news – they didn't listen to Him
  - Good news – they tried to prove He was a fake, but were not able to do it
  - This “test” helps us know that Jesus' miracles are true
- Why did He do these things? What was His important message? (**John 20:30-31**)
- We need to see His works *AND* hear His words...