

WORKING MIRACLES.

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To employ means that are contrary to the commandments of God in order to get rid of a disease that can be removed by conformity to the commandments of God, is plainly disloyalty to the commandments of God. p. 1, Para. 1, [WORKING].

To resort to a miracle that is wrought by a power that is contrary to the commandments of God, in order to obtain relief from a disease that can be removed only by a miracle is conformity with the commandments of God, is plainly disloyalty to God. p. 1, Para. 2, [WORKING].

To employ means that are contrary to the commandments of God, and that bring the individual under a power from which nothing but a miracle of the power and grace of God can deliver him, in order to be rid of disease even by a miracle, is plainly disloyalty to God. p. 1, Para. 3, [WORKING].

These propositions are worthy of most serious consideration: they are not only the truth, but they are the truth for these times: for it is certain that diseases are multiplying upon the earth, and will multiply more and more as time goes on. And as diseases multiply, so the offered remedies and means of removing them will multiply. And as we have stated before in these columns, this is one of the chief things employed by Satan in getting power over the people in his war against the church of God. p. 1, Para. 4, [WORKING].

There are today presented to the public many means of healing. Besides the dreadful drug medications, there are pretended faith healings, magnetic healings, hypnotism, Christian science healings, etc., etc. And there is not one of them that does not definitely draw away from the commandments of God: there are none that speak "according to this word." p. 1, Para. 5, [WORKING].

There are thousands of persons today who have diseases, and who so long to get rid of them that they will willingly apply anything that gives them the promise of doing away with the disease, without asking any questions as to any

consequences. The only question with them is. How can I get rid of this, and in the quickest way? There are thousands of persons who are diseased--persons who have brought disease upon themselves, by their wrong methods of living: and who will adopt, and give themselves to anything that will relieve them of the suffering, rather than to set about a rational, conscientious course to correct their manner of living, so that the disease may go. Those persons need not expect anything else than that they will fall under the deceptive power of the enemy, who by curing, or apparently curing, their bodies, gets a hold upon both soul and body that nothing but the power of God himself can break. Then why not have God to deliver them at the first? -- Simply because the way of the Lord is not the thing of supreme importance with them. p. 1, Para. 6, [WORKING].

And when you do go to God to be healed of disease, please do not ask nor expect him to take away the disease while you continue the cause of the disease. Bear in mind forever that disease does not come without cause. Diseases have their causes: every one of them has its cause. And the Lord has given you in outline -- yes, more than outline, in detail -- the causes of disease. Seek for the cause, and conscientiously correct that, and God will invariably cooperate with you. p. 1, Para. 7, [WORKING].

The Lord has told you plainly, and in detail, the causes of disease. He has put all this easily within your reach. Now if you have those diseases because of those causes, and then you will not take that Word and study what the cause of your disease is, and how to put away the cause so that the disease may go utterly, then how can you have the face to ask the Lord to cure you? Is it fair? p. 2, Para. 1, [WORKING].

When you put away the cause, the disease is certain to go. That is settled. Then when the Lord has given in great detail the causes of disease, and this is all easily within your reach, is it fair for you to refuse or to neglect to study these causes of disease, and then ask the Lord to put away the disease by a miracle? And if you neglect this knowledge of God, can it be either fair or safe for you to resort to some other "healing power," and by that means bring yourself so under the power of Satan that a miracle of God is the only thing that can deliver you? p. 2, Para. 2, [WORKING].

To ask the Lord to heal you of disease while you are continuing the cause, is only to ask the Lord to set himself against himself and work contrary to his own eternal laws and established principles: and all for your sake. For if a person is not willing to put away the cause of the disease, -- yea, if a person is not willing to seek diligently and study faithfully to find out the cause, that he may honestly and decidedly put it away, -- then it is plain that his own pleasure, and not the glory of God, is his chief aim in asking the Lord to heal him. And it is plain that in asking the Lord to do so, he does it, not for the Lord's sake, but for his own sake. p. 2, Para. 3, [WORKING].

It is perfectly safe proposition that when a person has done all in his power to search out and put away the causes of his disease, and it should be found after all, that the cause is beyond all human effort to remove, then if the one sole aim of his healing is the glory of God and the keeping of the commandments of God, he may with perfect confidence and full assurance of faith ask the Lord to heal him. p. 2, Para. 4, [WORKING].

And in all your searching, please remember that sin is the first of all causes of disease; for if there had never been any sin, there never could have been any disease. Accordingly in the Bible, forgiveness of sin is connected with the healing of disease. "Bless the Lord, O my soul. . . who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases." "The prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." "That ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins (he saith unto the sick of the palsy). I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house." p. 2, Para. 5, [WORKING].

Therefore as sin is the first of all causes of disease, all plans or means of getting rid of disease utterly miss the mark if they do not take into consideration the getting rid of sin: and the getting rid of sin as the principal thing. p. 2, Para. 6, [WORKING].

For as sin is the very foundation of all the causes of disease, surely there can be complete deliverance from disease only in complete deliverance from sin. Therefore it is written of those who shall inhabit that glorious land.

"The inhabitant shall not say, I am sick;" and why? -- Because "the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity." Isa. 33:24 p. 2, Para. 7, [WORKING].

Again: as sin is the first of all the causes of disease, the getting rid of sin must be the chief thing in putting away the causes of disease. And as sin is the transgression of the law of God, -- the Ten Commandments, -- the putting away of sin as the chief of all things in putting away the causes of disease, inevitably brings every soul face to face with the keeping of the commandments as the chief of all things to be had in view in all efforts made to get rid of disease. Accordingly all efforts made to be rid of disease must be made conformity with the commandments of God. And loyalty to the commandments of God will utterly discountenance and repudiate everything -- miracles and all -- that is offered as a means of getting rid of disease, if in any way it draws away from the keeping of the commandments of God. p. 3, Para. 1, [WORKING].

"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.: Are not you one of those who keep them? p. 3, Para. 2, [WORKING].

When, in order to accomplish a certain object, a miracle must be performed, it is evident that the object to be accomplished is of more importance than the miracle. p. 3, Para. 3, [WORKING].

And when, in order to accomplish a certain object, a miracle has been performed, and the object has been accomplished, then that object accomplished is a greater miracle than the miracle itself. p. 3, Para. 4, [WORKING].

Now the Lord never wrought a miracle merely for a show: it was always with a definite purpose and would not have been wrought had it not been needed. If his object could have been attained without the miracle, it would have been so attained. But where his object could not be attained without the miracle as a means of attaining it, then plainly the thing attained was greater than the means by which it was attained. Then plainly also, the thing attained by means of a miracle is a greater miracle than is the miracle by which that thing is attained. p. 3, Para. 5, [WORKING].

The object of this writing is to impress upon every reader the vital truth that miracles are of no importance in themselves. the importance lies in the thing that is to be accomplished by the miracle. p. 3, Para. 6, [WORKING].

The object of all the miracles that the Lord ever wrought was to bring people to the keeping of the commandments of God. The purpose of miracles, in very principle, is to bring people to the keeping of the commandments of God. the gift of miracles is one of the gifts of the Spirit. And all the gifts of the Spirit are to bring men to charity, which is the love of God: and "this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments.: the object of the gift of all gifts, and the embodiment of all miracles, -- the object of the gift of Christ, -- is to bring men to the keeping of the commandments of God. p. 3, Para. 7, [WORKING].

Jesus did many miracles: and all in order that people might believe on him. And he said, "Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works sake." John 14:11. And when the record was made of the many things that Jesus did, it was all "written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye might have life through his name." John 20:31. And in Christ Jesus nothing avails "but faith which worketh by love." -- the love of God, -- and "this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments:" for "love is the fulfilling of the law." p. 3, Para. 8, [WORKING].

Therefore the greatest of all conceivable miracles is the bringing of human souls to the place where it can be said of them by the Lord, "Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." p. 4, Para. 1, [WORKING].

It has required miracles to make this possible to human souls. It requires miracles now to accomplish it in human souls. But the one important thing to be remembered always is that this thing accomplished is grater than all the miracles that are required to accomplish it. p. 4, Para. 2, [WORKING].

No miracle is worthy of any attention whatever if the purpose of it is not directly the keeping of the commandments of God. p. 4, Para. 3, [WORKING].

Miracles of the Lord's working are always directed definitely to this one object. Consequently the keeping of the commandments of God IS THE TEST OF ALL MIRACLES. p. 4, Para. 4, [WORKING].

And so it is written: "If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying. Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them; thou shalt not harken unto the word of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the Lord your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Ye shall walk after the Lord your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him." Deut. 13:1-4. p. 4, Para. 5, [WORKING].

Is it so, then, that with you it is a settled thing that the keeping of the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus is a miracle greater than all other miracles? If so, you will be in no danger of being deceived by the first astonishing thing that occurs to your sight. p. 4, Para. 6, [WORKING].

And it is high time that with every soul this question should be settled. p. 4, Para. 7, [WORKING].

We ask especially that the following passages of scripture be read so carefully and so frequently that they shall forever be in the mind of each one who reads:-- p. 4, Para. 8, [WORKING].

"then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there: believe it not. for there shall arise false Christ's, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." Matt. 24:23,24. p. 4, Para. 9, [WORKING].

"Whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved." 2 Thess. 2:9, 10. p. 4, Para. 10, [WORKING].

"And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come

down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by the sword, and did live." Rev. 13: 13, 14. p. 5, Para. 1, [WORKING].

"And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of the great day of God Almighty. Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame." Rev. 16: 13-15. p. 5, Para. 2, [WORKING].

"And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse [Faithful and True." "The Word of God"], and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone." Rev. 19: 19, 20. p. 5, Para. 3, [WORKING].

All these passages refer to the same period of time; that is, the time just preceding the coming of the Lord and reaching to the coming of the Lord. And that period of time is just now -- the time in which we live. p. 5, Para. 4, [WORKING].

The one thing especially marked in each and all of these passages is that in this time great signs and wonders -- miracles -- will be wrought expressly under the inspiration of Satan. p. 5, Para. 5, [WORKING].

One thing especially to be noted about these things is that they will be real miracles. These false Christ's and false prophets "shall show [not simply pretend to show, but "shall show"] great signs and wonders;" "those miracles which HE HAD POWER TO DO" -- not simply that he pretended to have power to do: "they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, " -- not simply pretending to work miracles; "the false prophet that wrought miracles," -- not

the false prophet that pretended to work miracles. p. 5, Para. 6, [WORKING].

Another thing to be noted is that while the miracles, and signs, and wonders are real, all else is false: they are "false Christ's," they are "false prophets," it is "the false prophet that wrought miracles." p. 5, Para. 7, [WORKING].

Accordingly the whole object of the miracles, signs, and wonders is to deceive, to seduce, and to lure to destruction. The signs and wonders that are shown are expressly "to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect." Mark 13:22. He deceived "them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do." the false prophet wrought miracles" with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image." It is Satan who works "with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness ; " and he works thus to draw into the worship of the beast and his image "them that dwell on the earth." p. 5, Para. 8, [WORKING].

It is "the spirits of devils " which work the miracles: and they do it to gather "the kings of the earth and of the whole world" "to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." p. 6, Para. 1, [WORKING].

And they do gather them to that battle, and in so doing they gather them to utter destruction. For "I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army." And the beast and the false prophet -- the image of the beast -- "these both were cast alive into a lake of the fire burning with brimstone." And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh. p. 6, Para. 2, [WORKING].

And all these things are carried on by Satan and his seducing spirits in his dragonic war against the remnant of the seed of the woman, "which keep the commandments of God, and have the Testimony of Jesus Christ." The Lord of heaven and earth lifts up a standard against Satan and all his power, all his signs, all his lying wonders, and all his miracles. And the standard beard the inscription, "Here is

the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." p. 6, Para. 3, [WORKING].

All of this demonstrates what we have said before, but which can not possibly be said to often that no miracle is worthy of any attention whatever if the purpose of it is not directly the keeping of the commandments of God; that the keeping of the commandments of God is greater than all miracles; and that consequently the keeping of the commandments of God is the test of all miracles. A.T.J. p. 6, Para. 4, [WORKING].