



The
Witness
and the
Works

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These Signs Will Accompany Those Who Believe

God has prepared us for the works of the Lord. He has both worked these works in us and has given us these works as a sign or a witness to the world. Before ascending to the right hand of the Father, Yeshua (Jesus) commissioned His disciples.

And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned. These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

MARK 16:15-18

This is an elementary Scripture about our believing in the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior. The statement is simple and matter of fact that these signs will follow those who believe and are baptized. The Lord did not say these signs will accompany some who believe. He did not say these signs will accompany most who believe. He said these signs will accompany all who believe. They are for everyone who believes in His name. Read what He said believers will do in His name: “They will cast out demons.” That is where we start. “They will speak with new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” In the Greek, the phrase “they will recover” is not in the sense of taking years to recover from an illness. It is more in the sense of the person being blessed taking hold of health and wellness.



True Works Are Filled with God's Love

We cannot be a mighty people to walk in the end-time if we are incapable of working the works of God. It is a necessity, especially with the things that are coming. One of the things we will see in the end-time is the lying signs and wonders. We know that when the enemy comes, he will be coming with false works and false wonders and false healings. How will you know the difference? Do not let that scare you. You will always know the difference. The difference is that whenever Yeshua does something it has love as its foundation. It is coming out of love. When satan does something it is without love because he is incapable of love. It will be a miracle, but it will be like fingernails on a blackboard as it happens because it will be devoid of God's love.

One problem many people face is that they have walked with God for a long time and have never seen a healing miracle take place. But that is not a reason to think you cannot move in one. The disciples saw a lot of miracles. Yet when the Lord came down from the Mount of Transfiguration, they were unable to cast the demon out of a boy because of the littleness of their faith (Mark 9:14-27). The boy had suffered with convulsions since his childhood. So he may have been in his twenties for all we know. Obviously, the young man could not just go off and live on his own. So his father was still caring for him. I love this father because he is the one who initiated the healing, and he is the one who brought his son to Yeshua after years and years of watching his son have seizures and convulsions. There are stories of people with severe epilepsy where it can happen ten or twenty times a day. Imagine this father watching that

happen to his son ten times a day for ten years and still having so much faith in Yeshua that he took the boy to Him. That must have been difficult because the boy was probably having attacks all along the way. The convulsions probably even increased because satan knew what was going to happen. So the father brought the boy to the Lord and asked for help. Yeshua responded, "All things are possible to him who believes" (Mark 9:23). Immediately the father cried out, "I do believe, Lord; help my unbelief." There can be so much faith, but there is just that little shroud of unbelief that comes in. You know the Lord can do it. You believe in miracles, and now it is time to accomplish it. But you realize in your heart there is still a little question of unbelief.



Whatever He Says to You, Do It

However, a lot of unbelief is based on self. It is based on the embarrassment of not wanting to put yourself out there or not really trusting God. You might ask, "If I step out on the water, is the Lord really going to hold me up? If I go for this, is He going to come through?" You fear what people will think about you or how you will look if you try to do something, and it does not work. But in the eyes of the Lord, in the mind of God, you tried. You moved in faith and that is a huge deal. It does not matter how we look. If the Lord shows you to do something, then do it. That was the first thing Mary tried to teach people about working with Yeshua (John 2:5). It will not happen because you show up. It will happen because God shows up. You show up with faith, and then He shows up and does the doing. It is always by virtue of His presence. Smith Wigglesworth used to say, "I just move and expect Him to be there by the time I get there." He knew that nothing happens unless God is there. What is your faith in? Your faith is

in God. Your faith is not in declaring, “I can perform a miracle.” It is faith in God. And that is exactly what the Scripture says is supposed to happen; it is “faith toward God” (1 Thessalonians 1:8). When the Lord shows up, nothing is impossible.

You must learn to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit speaking to you and then do it. As you do that, the relationship with the Lord will develop in a deeper and deeper way. Many times people have quieted that voice and quenched the Holy Spirit because they thought, “Oh, that’s just a voice in my head. That wasn’t the Lord.” Why? “Because He was asking me to do something that would embarrass me if it didn’t work.” When the Lord speaks to you, do it. When you read about some of the miracle situations like the epileptic boy, you realize that these were longtime issues. But do not let that bother you. Do not say, “Well, I’ve tried this before. I’ve heard this before.” You have not heard it before like this. This is a new day; it is a new level.



Believe in God’s Ability to Touch You

Unbelief is a slap in God’s face because you are denying everything that is real about who He is and what He has done. That is not something to be condemned about because there is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1). It does mean, however, that we need to root out unbelief like never before! If you need a healing and a touch from the Lord, today is the day that you touch God in a different way. You can press through into His presence like the woman with the issue of blood and be healed (Luke 8:43-48). Many of the greatest

healings in the Bible were with people who had lived with their diseases and problems for a long, long time. Yet, no matter what they had gone through, they were still believing in God's ability to touch them and heal them. They still believed because they saw the promises of healing and release in the Scriptures. God had promised these things and they were looking for the promises to take place.

Lazarus was one of the Lord's real friends, and He loved his two sisters as well. When Yeshua heard that Lazarus was sick, He could have gone immediately and healed him, but He did not do that. He waited for Lazarus to die. When He finally got to the family's home, Martha said, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died" (John 11:21). He responded, "Your brother will rise again." Martha may have thought, "You just went beyond my faith. I know I have faith. I've gotten rid of all my unbelief surrounding Your healing people. But dead people? I'm still not quite there yet." So Yeshua was literally bringing His followers to another level of faith beyond the faith they had previously experienced. And the Lord is trying to bring us up into another level of faith that we must move in as well.

You are the mighty people who will lay hands on people and cast out devils and heal the sick. These things will follow those who believe, but you must do them. These works happen for a reason; they are given as signs to the unbelieving. The working of miracles or signs and wonders is part of our testimony. These works of Christ are part of you being a witness. The apostles were called witnesses and they moved in signs. You cannot separate the two. Some of you have not seen or moved in these things because you do not witness to people. Go out and heal people. When you heal the sick, you will have their attention. When you raise the dead, you will have people's attention. The original intent of the miracles was to be the testimony of Yeshua. I think right now a lot of you would be blown away with what happens through you if you just started talking to people about the Lord. Say, "I'm excited about something; the Lord healed me."





God's Love Will Minister to the World

Be led by the Spirit with real wisdom and He will tell you where to go. If you are excited and connected, He will tell you who to talk to. When you are excited and relating to the Lord, things are going to happen. We are His Body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all, and God is sending you out as Christ into the earth (Ephesians 1:23). God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him would have eternal life (John 3:16). See, Yeshua was sent in love into the world as an expression of love. When we talk about the sons of God coming forth and moving in the end-time, it is about this tidal wave of love through His people that will minister to the world. We are here to minister to the world.

Understand that healing was Yeshua's calling card. Think about that. While John the Baptist was in prison, he heard about the works of Christ (Matthew 11:2). I like "works of Christ" better than saying healings or miracles. It is the works of Christ. It is what He does because of who He is. When John asked, "Are You the Messiah," the Lord responded, "Go and report to John what you hear and see: the BLIND RECEIVE SIGHT and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up" (Matthew 11:4-5). Yeshua said, "Go and quote Isaiah 35 to John and tell him that I am the One."

Say to those with anxious heart,
“Take courage, fear not.
Behold, your God will come with vengeance;
The recompense of God will come,
But He will save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind will be opened
And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped.

Then the lame will leap like a deer,
And the tongue of the mute will shout for joy.
For waters will break forth in the wilderness
And streams in the Arabah.

ISAIAH 35:4-6

It is mentioned repeatedly in the Bible that when the Messiah appears the blind will see, the deaf will hear, and the lame will walk. When asked to prove who He was, Christ only had one thing to say. He went back to the prophecies about the Messiah and said, “Here I am. This is what I’m doing. This is what you are seeing. Are the blind seeing? Are the deaf hearing and the lame walking? Is the gospel being preached to the poor? I’m here in fulfillment of those Scriptures.” And that is what Yeshua is saying to all those who believe, “Now I’m sending you out with My calling card. It is what I told John: the blind are seeing; the deaf are hearing. All these things are taking place.” Why? Because that is the Messiah. That is the coming of the Messiah.

Everywhere you look in the Scriptures about the Messiah, you see these same works mentioned again and again. That is why it was so important that when Yeshua came, He did these things. That is why He said, “Do not stumble over me. Just look.” When they started to stone the Lord, He asked, “For which of these works are You stoning me?” (John 10:32). Because all those works testified of the Messiah. The world needs the calling card of Yeshua so that the glory of the Lord may be manifested. Every time there is a sign or a healing, you are manifesting His glory (John 2:11). God will be glorified in what He does through “the righteous acts of the saints” (Revelation 19:8). You may not need a healing, but you are going to be transformed from glory to glory into His image. Talk about a miracle! That is what is happening and that is what we want. People may come for the miracles but will stay for the transformation of their lives because there is a lot more in Christ after the miracles. You will see so many healings that at some point you will lose count. But first you must have something in your heart with the Lord that takes the lid off. There are so many ways we need Him to touch us today so that this works.

All Scripture references are from the New American Standard Bible 1995 (NASB1995).

For Further Study

Matthew 9:27-35. "... and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness."

Matthew 11:2-5. "... the BLIND RECEIVE SIGHT and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up."

Matthew 20:29-34. "Jesus touched their eyes; and immediately they regained their sight."

Mark 8:1-9. "I feel compassion for the people because they ... have nothing to eat."

Luke 4:16-19. "HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM ... RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND."

Luke 7:2-10. "I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such great faith."

John 5:2-17. "Jesus said to him, 'Get up, pick up your pallet and walk.'"

John 9:1-11. "But it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him."

John 11:1-45. "This sickness is not to end in death, but for the glory of God."

Exodus 4:11. "Or who makes him mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD?"

Psalms 119:18. "Open my eyes, that I may behold wonderful things from Your law."

Psalms 146:7-8. "The LORD sets the prisoners free. The LORD opens the eyes of the blind."

Isaiah 29:18-19. "The deaf will hear words of a book, and ... the eyes of the blind will see."

Isaiah 35:4-6. "The eyes of the blind will be opened and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped."

Isaiah 42:6-9. "I will appoint You ... to open blind eyes, to bring prisoners from the dungeon."

Isaiah 61:1-3. "... to proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners."

ABOUT GARY HARGRAVE



GARY HARGRAVE has a passion for leading people into spiritual maturity. Gary effectively ministers the life-changing truth of God's Word through Bible teaching and prophetic revelation that emphasizes the Lordship of Christ.

Gary embraces the teachings and insights of the Hebrew Scriptures as the essential foundation of God's Kingdom and the roots of Christian faith.

By cultivating spiritual maturity in Christians, Gary is deeply committed to teaching and inspiring unity in the Body of Christ and between Christians and the Jewish people.

Throughout decades of ministry, Gary has worked closely with leaders in the Jewish, Catholic and Protestant communities to build relationships based on commonality and understanding. He frequently leads study tours to Israel and the lands of the Bible.

Gary is the host of a weekly podcast entitled *Growing In God*, and is the founder of Shiloh University, an accredited online Bible college and seminary.

Gary and his family reside in Hawaii.

For other insightful resources by Gary Hargrave, including podcasts, books, articles, videos, and other educational materials, please visit: www.HargraveMinistries.org.

ABOUT HARGRAVE MINISTRIES

The calling of the Lord upon this ministry is to lead people into spiritual maturity by revealing biblical truth. **Our passion is to see the Kingdom of God manifest on earth** as the Body of Christ grows in unity, power and love.

Everything we do flows from the revelation of the Jewish roots of our Christian faith. It is our desire and privilege to bless the land and people of Israel. Our Israel outreach includes:

- **Feed the poor and break the cycle of poverty in Israel**
- **Support the orphans and widows of fallen Israeli soldiers**
- Provide physical and emotional care to **child victims of terrorism**
- **Build bridges between Christians and Jews with biblical study and research**
- Support archaeology and preservation of the **biblical City of David**
- Provide 24/7 **care for Holocaust survivors**
- **Help persecuted Jews around the world return to Israel and start new lives**
- Plant trees to **reforest Israel** and help create **"The Gospel Trail"** between Nazareth and Capernaum

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