

Miracles

Each of us is a part of that Universal Consciousness which we call God. We were created from God's spiritual DNA, metaphorically speaking. A single strand of human physical DNA contains enough information to recreate an entire and complete human being. Spiritual DNA works the same way. In the man, Jesus, the fullness of God dwelt in bodily form (Colossians 2:9). The "Spirit of Christ" or "Christ's Consciousness" was fully God. The spiritual DNA of Jesus contained 100% of the information necessary to recreate God's divine attributes and gave Jesus literally unlimited capacity for performing miracles.

Although Jesus had the divine capacity to perform any miracle at any time, he was limited in what he could actually do by three factors. (1) He needed to be consciously aware of his abilities and believe that he could perform the miracles. (2) The miracles had to be within the scope of God's overall plans and purposes. (3) If the miracles were for the benefit of others, the faith of the recipient needed to be factored in, as well. For example, Jesus could have easily have avoided the agony of the Cross, but chose to endure it for our sakes, and He couldn't heal many people in His own home town, due to their lack of faith.

Here's how we fit into the picture. In the same way that God indwelt the body of Jesus, God also inhabits our human bodies. The Consciousness of Christ is very similar to the Consciousness that enlivens each of us, although our personalities or egos are not identical to those of Christ in every respect. We are all unique and different. But our spiritual DNA contains 100% of the information that was in Christ's Consciousness. For this reason, if we have enough faith we will be able to do even greater works than Jesus. (see John 14:12)

Although the stories about the miracles performed by Christ and the Apostles may have been embellished over time, and may not all have occurred exactly as recorded in the Bible, there is little doubt that many miracles did take place, especially with respect to Jesus' post-resurrection appearances and the many healings performed by Jesus during His earthly ministry, and later on by the Apostles during the establishment of the early Church.

I believe in miracles not because of what the Bible says, but because they are still occurring today.

Modern science supports the idea that the material world at its most fundamental level is actually comprised of immaterial waves of energy that may be influenced by our thoughts. The only thing that is real about the world we live in is our perception of it. How we perceive the external reality of our lives strongly influences the shape that it takes. For example, if I am sick and at the same time believe that I am being healed, then there is strong likelihood that I will get well. That is called the placebo effect, and this phenomenon has been extensively researched and proven to be true. Another example of the power of perception to influence our external reality is the effect of guided imagery. If we imagine something to be true and continually focus our thoughts on a desired outcome, the probability of achieving that outcome is greatly enhanced. For example, it has been demonstrated that if you continually practice in your mind shooting free throws with a basketball, your accuracy will greatly increase over time in similar degree to what would happen if you had actually physically practiced with a real basketball. The scientific literature is full of studies demonstrating the power of our minds to alter physical reality.

The ability that we all have within us to shape our individual external realities through the power of our thought projections is a two-edged sword. This power may be used for both good and evil. Because I believe that God is omnipotent and at the same time loving, I believe that nothing is permitted to happen that does not in some way support a good final result. In other words, at some level, evil does serve a good purpose in the long run. Sooner or later, we will all find our way back to God and enter the Kingdom, metaphorically speaking. Our bad decisions and mistakes along the way help us to learn

valuable life lessons and develop our Christian character. The quicker we learn, the sooner we enter the Kingdom. There is no easy way. We are kept in darkness with regard to the true nature of reality in order that we may stumble along the way and learn lessons that can only be learned in the crucible of true life experience. It is possible to “game the system,” so to speak through prayer and visualization and achieve our wants and desires the easy way, thereby avoiding much of the heartache and distress that is part of this learning process. When we do this, however, we run the risk of prolonging the process. Sooner or later the lessons need to be learned through negative human experience.

If we are going to “game the system,” we need to be doing it for the benefit of others, rather than ourselves. Yes, God wants us to be happy and experience the abundant life, but true spiritual abundance has nothing at all to do with money, possessions, comfort, and ease. Instead, it comes when we take the opposite course and sacrifice money, possessions, comfort and ease for the benefit of others. True *Agape* love is sacrificial in nature and can only be expressed in that context.

So, when praying for your next miracle and visualizing what you want your external reality to look like, my advice to you is that you focus on the benefits to others. Ironically, this is the best way to achieve true and lasting happiness (ie. blessedness) for yourself.