

# Do Miracles Still Occur Today?

“Many people wonder why God does not perform more miracles, and use his power to save us from our problems. The answer to that question hangs on the Cross, refusing to call down the twelve legions of angels that He had at His beck and call. But the opposite question is seldom asked: why does God performs any miracles at all in our world? The question here is not why there are so few miracles but why there are so many. God enables man to work miracles for two reasons. Firstly, so that when a man does works that God alone can do, we may believe that what he says is from God, just as when a man is the bearer of letters sealed with the king’s ring it is to be believed that what they contain expresses the king’s will. Secondly, in order to make known God’s presence in a man by the grace of the Holy Spirit, so that when a man does the works of God we may believe that God dwells in Him by His grace.”-Peter Kreeft

Drawing on theologians such as Augustine and Aquinas, we can say that a miracle is a discernible, divine act in the world, outside, above, or beyond the natural order of things, that manifests some aspect of God’s power and love. (Granted, there may be some who would admit to the possibility of “miracles” without divine origin, but these would not be miracles by our definition.)

A miracle as a “divine act” means that God is its principal cause, even if he uses intermediaries such as prophets, apostles, or other saints as instrumental causes. From this we can see why miracles often confirm a revelation from God or the authority of a divine messenger. In fact, this is one of the main reasons God allows certain human beings to work miracles, according to Aquinas. Since miracles are acts of God, if something is genuinely miraculous, we know that God is acting for some purpose.

Miracles do still occur today, and one way is through the intercession of the saints. In fact, to become a saint, one needs to have two miracles attributed to them. The miracle is usually a healing. The healing has to be instantaneous, permanent, and complete while also being scientifically unexplainable. Miracles have to be first verified as scientifically unexplainable by a group of independent doctors, then the person is approved by a panel of theologians, and then the final approval lies with the pope. If this is the case, a person is declared a blessed, which is the next step to becoming a saint. We also know that many Eucharistic Miracles have occurred throughout the world. Miracles of healing take place today as well by the power and grace of God, through prayer. Miracles reveal God’s power, draw us closer to him, and are a sign of his love.

