

SUPERNATURAL CHURCH

INTRO

The kind of church Jesus builds is a supernatural church. He intended every member to be anointed with supernatural power and to preach the Gospel with signs following Isaiah 8:18; Mark 16:20; Acts 1:8. The church and Christianity is more than a mere religion of words. It is a supernatural life with a supernatural walk with a supernatural God. Our God is a God who reveals and manifests Himself.

In John 14: 8 and 9, when Jesus was asked by one of His disciples to "show us the Father," His reply was "...he that hath seen me hath seen the Father...."

We have available to us four eyewitness accounts in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John of what they saw. Notice what the Spirit inspired them to record:

Healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease Matthew 4:23, 24; and as many as touched Him were made whole Mark 6:53-56; He laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them Luke 4:37-40; and a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His miracles which He did on them that were diseased John 6:2.

All through the Gospels you can see Him being moved by compassion and doing good, healing all that were oppressed of the devil; and you never see Him putting sickness on anyone. The Gospel has not been fully preached until it has been preached with mighty signs and wonders.

I. Jesus and Signs and Wonders.

- A. Jesus' ministry from start to finish was one of supernatural signs and wonders.
 - 1. Signs - (Greek) A sign, mark, indication, token (like God's autograph/approval).
 - 2. Wonders - (Greek) Something strange, causing the beholder to marvel.
- B. Without the supernatural, miracles, signs, and wonders—all we have is but a religion of words, a going through the motions, and a form of godliness that denies the power thereof.
- C. The world needs to see a living God.
 - 1. Shortly after Jesus demonstrated power over death—John the Baptist sent two of his disciples to ask Jesus: "...Art thou he that should come? Or look we for another?" Jesus' reply was not by giving: a set of logical proofs; a group of theological tenets of faith; or a doctrinal discourse. He validated His ministry from a perspective of demonstration of the Spirit and power Luke 7:10-23.
 - 2. Jesus intended and planned that His disciples continue to do what He did and even greater works John 14:12.
 - 3. Jesus intended that the Gospel be spread by others like He did with the same approval of signs and wonders Acts 2:22.
 - 4. Paul's understanding of the Gospel with signs and wonders attributed to his success especially in Rome, Corinth, and Thessalonica Romans 15:18-20; 1 Corinthians 2:4, 5; 4:20; 1 Thessalonians 1:5.

II. The Church Is to Be Anointed with Supernatural Power.

- A. Oil poured on pillar—a picture of the church—we are the church. The whole vision of Jacob's ladder centers around the house of God. The house of God was the gate of Heaven and an awesome place Genesis 28:18.
- B. Oil poured on the tabernacle and all its vessels Exodus 30:22-29—we are the tabernacle 2 Corinthians 6:16; Ephesians 2:19-22; Revelation 21:3—we are the vessel 2 Timothy 2:20, 21; 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 4; 2 Corinthians 4:7.
- C. The priests were anointed with holy anointing oil Exodus 28:41; 29:7—we are the priests 1 Peter 2:5, 9; Revelation 1:5.

- D. The anointing breaks the yoke Isaiah 10:27. We are Christians. Christ means the anointed. We are the anointed ones as Christ's Body in the earth. God anointed Him Acts 10:38.
- E. The Church is to operate by the anointing of the Spirit and be His glorious Church 2 Chronicles 5:11-14; Zechariah 4; Revelation 1:12, 13, 20.

III. Supernatural Signs and Wonders with Church Growth.

- Notice the kind of church we see in Acts: Supernatural—existing or occurring outside the normal experience or knowledge of man, caused by other than the known facts; what is miraculous; beyond nature; divine.
- A. Acts 2:1-39 Supernatural outpouring Acts 2:41 3,000 souls
+ Peter's message
- B. Acts 2:43 Signs and wonders Acts 2:47 Lord added
- C. Acts 3:7, 8 Healing of lame man Acts 4:1-4 5,000 more
+ Peter's message
- D. Acts 5:12 Signs and wonders Acts 5:14 Multitudes of Believers added
- E. Acts 8:6 Gospel preached, Acts 8:12 Believers at Samaria
healing, deliverance
- F. Acts 9:1-18 Paul had a supernatural experience he never forgot and testified of it in Acts 22, 26
- G. Acts 9:32-35 Peter heals Aeneas' Acts 9:35 Conversion of whole
paralysis towns of Lydda and Saron
- H. Acts 9:36-42 Peter ministers to Dorcas Acts 9:42 Many believed at Joppa
- I. Acts 10:34-43 Peter preaches Acts 10:44 Holy Spirit outpouring on
48 Gentiles
- J. Acts 11:20, 21 Preaching and the hand of Acts 11:21 Great number believe
the Lord
- K. Acts 19:10, 11 Special miracles—lit. All the churches addressed
"powerful deeds, not in the book of Revelation
the ordinary" started close to this time of
the two years Paul was in
the region of Ephesus.

IV. Conditions for Supernatural Manifestations of the Holy Spirit.

- God desires that every man be born of His Spirit, every Christian be baptized in the Spirit, and every Spirit-baptized Christian to manifest the Spirit. God does things supernaturally and miraculously in the earth by the Holy Spirit manifesting spiritual gifts. Manifesting means to make something visible, clear, known, and revealed, to come into sight, to uncover, to lay bare. In 1 Corinthians 12:7, it says the manifestations of the Spirit are given to every man to profit withal. To walk in these there are conditions or things God expects of us.
- A. Gain knowledge of what they are and how they operate 1 Corinthians 12:1.
 1. Ignorant - Without knowledge; misinformed; without teaching.
 2. Ignorance can exist as to what they are; studying their definitions can help us. Ignorance can exist as to how they operate; study how they flowed through people in the Bible and people in the Body of Christ who have experience.
- B. Desire them zealously and enthusiastically 1 Corinthians 12:31; 14:1.
 1. Verse 31, Covet; verse 1, Desire - To strive for; to be eager; to be zealous; to be enthusiastically desirous for.
 2. They do not manifest by accident, apathy, or indifference but because our desire yearns for them.
 3. This also applies to the Church corporately desiring them. In 1 Corinthians 12:1—brethren Paul was instructing the whole Church to not be ignorant, to every man to

covet them and desire them, and then the Spirit would distribute them to one the word of knowledge ... to another the gifts of healings.

- C. Pray that God would grant them and stay built up in prayer yourself Acts 4:29, 30; Jude 20. They channeled and expressed their desire for them in prayer. Notice the supernatural and prayer.
1. Prayer and the outpouring of the Spirit Acts 2:1-4.
 2. United prayer and signs and wonders Acts 4:29, 30.
 3. Prayer and supernatural visions to Paul and Ananias Acts 9:10-17.
 4. Prayer and supernatural direction to Peter and Cornelius Acts 10:1-3; 9-16.
 5. Prayer and supernatural deliverance Acts 12:5-10.
 6. Prayer and supernatural leading Acts 13:1-4.
 7. Prayer and supernatural shaking Acts 16:25.
- D. Worship God as a life style 2 Chronicles 16:9; John 4:23, 24; Revelation 19:1-10.
1. All the gifts flow from where true worship is—in Spirit.
 2. God shows Himself strong to those whose hearts are perfect toward Him, and worship centers our hearts in love, devotion, affection, and total abandonment to Him.
- E. Develop a sensitivity and consciousness of the Holy Spirit within you
1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:16; 2 Corinthians 6:19.
1. All the vessels in the Bible that tell us our body is His temple were written the same group that He wrote to about the manifestations.
 2. The third Person of the Trinity is in us and He is susceptible to personal treatment.
 - a. He can be lied to Acts 5:3.
 - b. He can be resisted Acts 7:51.
 - c. He can be blasphemed Matthew 12:31.
 - d. He can be quenched 1 Thessalonians 5:15.
 - e. He can be grieved Ephesians 4:30.
 - f. He can be despised Hebrews 10:29.
- F. Especially covet/desire to prophesy 1 Corinthians 14:1.
1. The word "rather" in chapter 14 verses 1 and 6 does not mean "instead of," it means "and more" or "yet more" or "beyond that."
 2. Prophecy is singled out of the gifts for various reasons.
 - a. It is God's way to supernaturally lift a service.
 - b. If we learn to recognize where those words come from, the other gifts flow from the same place.
 - c. Thinking about being used in this in a gathering, knowing God may use you in this would affect how you prepare yourself before and during service.
- G. Be committed to meeting others' needs, building others up, focusing outward in vision
1 Corinthians 14:12.
1. We have to want them and want them for the right reasons. Our desire has to be to build up and benefit others.
 2. The gifts are given because a particular need exists, and God wills to meet it supernaturally by revealing something (revelation gifts), doing something (power gifts), saying something (vocal gifts).
 3. The last days' Church that will have the supernatural manifestations is the servant church—outward bound in the midst of needy humanity. The majority of the gifts of the Spirit through the Church in Acts happened outside the Temple. The Commission is outward bound Mark 16:15, and the power to fulfill it is outward bound Acts 1:8.