

Times Two pt2 – Miracles for the Dissatisfied

Dr. John Carmichael

[2Ki 2:19-22 NASB95] 19 Then the men of the city said to Elisha, "Behold now, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees; but the water is bad and the land is unfruitful." 20 He said, "Bring me a new jar, and put salt in it." So they brought [it] to him. 21 He went out to the spring of water and threw salt in it and said, "Thus says the LORD, 'I have purified these waters; there shall not be from there death or unfruitfulness any longer.'" 22 So the waters have been purified to this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke.

- God cares about every aspect of our lives. We accept far below what God has for us.

What are some things we find in this story that will help us experience miracles?

Here are three important principles of miracles, as seen in 2 Kings 2:19- 22.

I. You can't be ok with what is not ok.

- a. V. 19 – they were not ok with things not being ok.
- b. Dissatisfaction is good.
- c. Balance: [Phl 4:12-13 NASB95] 12 I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. 13 I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.
- d. [Mar 11:24 NASB95] 24 "Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be [granted] you.
- e. [Pro 16:26 NASB95] 26 A worker's appetite works for him, For his hunger urges him [on.]
- f. We are to be at peace (not anxious or bitter or resentful) while we press in for what God has for us.
- g. When it comes to getting a miracle, you have to want things to change.

II. You will do a prophetic act of obedience.

- a. V. 20-21 – salt in the water usually will make water worse and surely not naturally produce lasting change.
- b. New Bible Commentary – merely symbolic (prophetic). It was not the salt but the power of the Lord.
- c. K&D – The use of natural means does not remove the miracle.
- d. The tax was 2 days' wages. A fish is not enough. [Mat 17:24-27 NASB95] 24 When they came to Capernaum, those who collected the two-drachma [tax] came to Peter and said, "Does your teacher not pay the two-drachma [tax?]" 25 He said, "Yes." And when he came into the house, Jesus spoke to him first, saying, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth collect customs or poll-tax, from their sons or from strangers?" 26 When Peter said, "From strangers," Jesus said to him, "Then the sons are exempt. 27 "However, so that we do not offend them, go to the sea and throw in a hook, and take the first fish that comes up; and when you open its mouth, you will find a shekel. Take that and give it to them for you and Me."
- e. It was not the salt. It was the act of obedience done in faith.

III. You will stand on the word of the covenant.

- a. K&D – it was the power of the divine Word that made the water sound.
- b. Eerdmans – the miracle was based upon the divine promise.
- c. Moses – healing water - [Exo 15:23-26 NASB95] 23 When they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter; therefore it was named Marah. 24 So the people grumbled at Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?" 25 Then he cried

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out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree; and he threw [it] into the waters, and the waters became sweet. There He made for them a statute and regulation, and there He tested them. 26 And He said, "If you will give earnest heed to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in His sight, and give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for I, the LORD, am your healer."

d. [Heb 8:6 NASB95] 6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises.

- **“death or unfruitfulness any longer.” 22 So the waters have been purified to this day, according to the word of Elisha which he spoke.”**
- **God is making some lasting miracles in your life.**
- **God will cause a miracle to happen in places where we are not satisfied as we take prophetic steps of obedience based upon God’s promises.**