

Becoming a Miracle Worker 2

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Our Mind: A Major Hindrance to Miracles

Man as a Composite Being

- Body Soul and Spirit
- Controlling part:
 - Physical man
 - Intellectual (mental) man
 - Spiritual man –
 - Can be a Miracle Worker
- Sources of knowledge are different (Epistemology)
 - For the Christian, the source of knowledge is (Jn.16:13)
 - School of the Holy Spirit = Bible + Holy Spirit + Your Spirit + Life
 - Knowledge without application is an artifact of our mind
 - A TEST FOR KNOWLEDGE = IT WORKS

Need to Reason

- Ruled by our Intellect
 - The map is not the territory
- Science has no final answers
 - New discoveries never end
- Formulas
 - Always a reduction of reality

Theology Limits God –

- Theology has its function, but also its limitations
 - You are not going to “KNOW” God through theology (fr. Savoir)
- PUTTING GOD IN A BOX
 - Making the Bible fit our understanding and logic
 - Remaining open to expanded understanding of the Bible – LIVING WORD
 - Understanding is not a mind thing, but an experiential, heart thing
 - As soon as we express it in words, it becomes limited
 - Spiritual things are not perceived by analysis - 1Cor.2:9-14-16
 - V.10 = revealed by His Spirit
 - V.11 = spirit of man knows (ido = lit. see, is aware)
 - V.12 = RECEIVE = took hold; CANNOT KNOW = (ginosko) know absolutely, experience as in marriage – *not logica, fr. Connaitre*; DISCERNED = (anakreeno) judged
 - V.13 = words (logos) that man teaches
 - V.14, 15 = judges = same Gk. word as discerned
 - V.16 = KNOWS = ginoko, Mind = (nous) understanding in thoughts, feelings and will
 - Analysis cannot deal with life and organism
 - When you dissect a frog, you find out about dead frogs and then assume that what you got is valid for living frogs
- *In general, Theologians are not miracle workers*
- *The Bottom Line*
 - Jn.8:31-32 – If you “stay, dwell” in my WORD (logos), you shall know (ginoko = know absolutely, experientially) the truth and the truth shall make you free
 - WHAT WORKS

Ritualism

- Form of godliness but lacking the power

- **Experiencing revelation of truth and union with God through ceremonies, external practices and ritualism (including sacramental Christianity)**
 - Always more things to do, never reaching the goal
 - Formulas and rituals do not meet the real need. They simply serve to pacify the mind that has not yet experienced the reality

Questions to Consider

1. How can we test what we think is truth?
2. Why must you be a spiritual person to be a miracle worker?
3. How does the realization that “the map is not the territory” help us to enter the realm of the miraculous?
4. What kind of problems do we encounter in discerning spiritual things?
5. How can we apply to our lives Jn.8:31-32?