

# Bible Helps

## *Are the Miraculous Gifts for Today?*

### **1. There are four views on the miraculous gifts:**

- A. Full Continuationist: Nothing has changed from Pentecost. All the gifts are in operation along with the office of Apostle and Prophet.
- B. Partial Continuationist: Some things have changed since Pentecost. All the gifts are still in operation but the offices of Apostle and Prophet have ceased.
- C. Partial Cessationist: Some things have changed since Pentecost. Only the non-miraculous gifts are still in operation. The offices of Apostle and Prophet have ceased.
- D. Full Cessationist: A lot has changed since Pentecost. All of the spiritual gifts have ceased. The offices of Apostle and Prophet have also ceased.

### **2. The miraculous gifts are as follows:**

- A. Prophecy: Foretelling the future.
- B. Healing: Undoing some physical ailment.
- C. Tongues and the interpretation of tongues: Communicating truth in a foreign tongue unknown to the speaker and/or audience.
- D. Miracles: A general word used to describe what the NT calls “signs and wonders.”

### **3. The lists of spiritual gifts, miraculous and non-miraculous, can be found in the following New Testament passages:**

- A. Romans 12:6-8
- B. 1 Corinthians 12:8-10
- C. 1 Corinthians 12:28
- D. Ephesians 4:11

### **4. The following argument is made for the partial cessationist position on the miraculous gifts:**

- A. Premise 1: The New Testament makes it quite clear that the office of apostle is not a continuing office. The New Testament, while not as clear as in its stance on apostleship, also leads us to believe that the office of prophet is not a continuing office. See Ephesians 2:20.
- B. Premise 2: The New Testament regularly makes the point that “signs and wonders” were done through the apostles or those directly involved in apostolic ministry. There might be a few exceptions to this rule. See Acts 2:43, 2 Corinthians 12:12, Hebrews 2:2-4.
- C. Conclusion: Since the miraculous gifts were, in some measure, connected with the presence of apostles and prophets, the discontinuation of these two offices leads us to believe that the miraculous gifts have been discontinued as well.