

**The crowds were astounded at His teaching,  
for He taught them as one having authority...!**

Within Matthew chapters 8-9 we find 9 or 10 miracle stories! Six that are listed in chapter 8:

1. 8:1-3 – Healing of the leper. “Lord, if You’re willing, You can heal me and make me clean.” Jesus, “I am willing.”
2. 8:5-7 – Healing the Roman officer’s servant. Officer: “Just say the word...” Jesus: “I haven’t seen faith like this in all Israel!”
3. 8:14-15 – Healing Peter’s mother-in-law of fever.
4. 8:16 – A general comment that Jesus “cast out the evil spirits with a simple command and He healed all the sick... fulfilling the word of the prophet Isaiah, ‘He took our sicknesses and removed our diseases.’” (Isaiah 53:4)
5. 8:26 – Miracle of calming the winds and the sea.
6. 8:29 – Healing the two demon-possessed men.

**KEY:** There is power from Jesus that overwhelms the natural forces and powers of the earth!

This storm breaks upon the vulnerable disciples that they have to ask, “What kind of man is this?”

The miracles of Jesus...

- 1) arouses an attraction in people!
- 2) leads people to faith!
- 3) leads to strengthening their faith!

Jesus: **Believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me. Or at least believe because of the works you have seen Me do.**

John 14:11

They were learning what it meant to depend on Him for whatever was needed!

**These things are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in His name.**

John 20:31

Look up J. Warner Wallace on YouTube

1. Circumstantial Evidence
2. Reliability of the Witnesses –  
Is the eyewitness testimony reliable for the events and people they wrote about?
3. Question the Motive –  
Nearly all motives involve money, relationships, or power.

It’s not reasonable to assume the disciples would have gone to their death if their preaching was based upon what they knew to be lies.

4. Corroborative Evidence –

Validating information from different sources.

5. Undesigned Coincidences –

Comparing Matthew 26:67-68 to Luke 22:63-64

*YOU too* will meet the Holy Spirit in this book of testimony! He can deliver you into a calm and peace that restores your soul.

**Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, (God) Himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil.** Hebrews 2:14

**Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through Him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can’t see – such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through Him and for Him.** Colossians 1:15-16

But this doesn’t mean that we won’t suffer or die, nor does it mean that we will not bear terrible trials. The disciples had to experience this storm and they had to experience many other storms. But Christ was with them, and He wants to be with you.

God uses the storms of life to teach us more and more trust in Him.

If there were no trials, there would be no need to trust Him.

The disciples failed to understand the cause of their fear: a measly, trivial faith.

How often does our lack of trust – and our sin – cause us to feel as though the Lord is unaware or out of reach?

**“Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me...”** Isaiah 46:9