

# A Relic

A weekly devotional message for the family

## A Relic

A relic is a: 1) surviving memorial of something past, 2) a surviving trace of something, 3) remaining parts or fragments.

The gospels are fragments of records about the life of Christ. “And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen” (John 21:25). The Acts of the Apostles is remaining records of the ministry of the apostles: fragments of their actions, preaching, prayers, and the miracles that they saw.

Let us look into their actions, preaching, and into their prayers to see and understand why they saw so many miracles.

### From the beginning, the first church was united and praying.

“These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren” (Acts 1:14).

“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. (2) And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. (3) And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. (4) And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (Acts 2:1-4).

“And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers...(44) And all that believed were together, and had all things common...(46) And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart” (Acts 2:42, 44, 46).

Unity is powerful when we are united in the will of God. When we are united in God's will and united together in prayer, then this brings the presence of God for miracles. As we do things God's way, then He is pleased and present.

## Preaching

The apostles were preaching the message that Jesus gave to them. The message is important if we want to see the power of God with us. “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. (43) And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles” (Acts 2:42-43).

### Their message was:

#### Repentance from dead works

“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19).

To receive a miracle from God, we need to get our hearts and lives right with Him. “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land” ( II Chronicles 7:14).

#### Baptism for the remission of sins

“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (Acts 2:38).

### **Jesus is the name for salvation**

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

### **The baptism of the Holy Ghost / The Holy Ghost is the Comforter**

“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you” (John 14:26). This is the rest that God promised. “For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. (12) To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear” (Isaiah 28:11-12). The baptism of the Holy Ghost is God’s promise to us. “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (39) For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call” (Acts 2:38-39).

### **The miracles**

#### **The miracles were a result of the unity, praying and preaching of the first church.**

“And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. (43) And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. (44) And all that believed were together, and had all things common; (45) And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. (46) And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, (47) Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved” (Acts 2:42-47).

“And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. (32) And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. (33) And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all” (Acts 4:31-33).

As we read the Acts of the Apostles, we see a relic of their actions, preaching and their prayers. We also see some of the miracles that they saw. If we want to see these miracles today, let us do what they did, preach the way they preached, and pray the way they prayed. Let us pray to the God of the apostles.