

"JESUS CHRIST - A MAN APPROVED OF GOD (<u>Acts 2:22</u>)" Miracle #27 –"LUNATIC DUMB SON FALLS INTO FIRE AND WATER" Matt 17:14-17,18-21; Mark 9:14-17,18-21,22-25,26-29; Luke 9:37-40,41-43

Unbelief, Christian train-wrecks

The key to understanding this miracle is about **unbelief**.

1. Israel's sin has always been **unbelief** as follows ...

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and **the sin which doth so easily beset us** (unbelief), and let us run with patience the race that is set before us," (<u>Hebrews 12:1</u>)

In Paul's book to the Hebrews the following words of 'believe', 'unbelief', 'tempted', 'harden', 'provocation', 'provoke' ... are mentioned **seventeen** times!

2. Now in this case it's also the father's unbelief

"Jesus said unto him, **If thou canst believe**, all things are possible to him that believeth. And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, **Lord, I believe**; **help thou mine unbelief**." (<u>Mark 9:23-24</u>)

Dear Reader, we are reminded of the Old Testament scripture ...

"Is anything too hard for the LORD" (Genesis 18:14)

3. Furthermore, it's also the **disciples unbelief** that only fasting and prayer can redress (<u>Matthew 17:21</u>). Indeed " ... Jesus said unto them, Because of your (disciples) **unbelief**: for verily I say unto you, If ye (disciples) have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this **mountain, Remove hence to yonder** place; and it shall remove; and <u>**nothing**</u> **<u>shall be impossible unto you</u>** (disciples)." (<u>Matthew 17:20</u>)

We are reminded that Christ further addresses the disciples and their unbelief.

"Afterward he appeared unto the **eleven** as they sat at meat, and **upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart**, because they **believed not** them which had seen him after he was risen. And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that **believeth** (the disciples) and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not (the disciples) shall be damned. And these **signs shall follow them that believe**;" (<u>Mark 16:14-17</u>)

4. The dispensational booby trap

With **no clue** about the dispensations, and **not** realising that Christ is **only** talking to his disciples, and **not** to us today, it's always a saddening disappointment to Pentecostals and Charismatics that they don't have enough faith to **move mountains** along with the following ... "And these **signs** shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they **cast out devils**; they shall **speak with new tongues**; They shall take up **serpents**; and if

they **drink any deadly thing**, it shall not hurt them; they shall **lay hands on the sick**, and they shall recover." (<u>Mark 16:17-18</u>)

Dear Reader, it's a sad fact but true, **Christian train-wrecks** are everywhere today, because they will **not** endure **sound doctrine** (<u>2Timothy 4:3</u>) ... and furthermore, will **not search** the scriptures (<u>John 5:39</u>) and **study** them (<u>2 Timothy 2:15</u>).

But back to the miracle ... as with all of us who waver from time to time ... a good prayer to pray is "**Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief**." (Mark 9:24)



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