

CLAIMS BY SOME THAT SIGNS ACCOMPANY THE FULFILLING OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

1. Citation of Mark 16 as the basis of the Great Commission
2. Highlighting the focus of sign-miracles in Mark 16:9-20

THE LONGER ENDING OF THE GOSPEL OF MARK
(Mark 16:9-20)

1. Reference to the Eleven Mark 16:14
2. Similar words to Matthew 28:19-20

DIFFERENCES

1. The Eleven were sitting at a table Mark 16:14
2. The Lord Jesus appeared to them
 - a) To deal with a few matters
 - i) Their unbelief
 - ii) Their hardness of heart Mark 16:14
 - b) The disciples had difficulty in believing the Lord
 - i) They struggled with the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus
 - ii) They were rebuked for their unbelief

STRONG ADMONISHMENT

1. To go into all the world Mark 16:15
2. To preach the gospel to every creature Mark 16:15
3. Believing and being baptised Mark 16:16
4. Accompanying signs
 - a) Casting out of demons Mark 16:17
 - b) New tongues Mark 16:17
 - c) Taking up serpents Mark 16:18
 - d) Drinking poison safely Mark 16:18
 - e) Healing the sick Mark 16:18

LIMITATIONS TO BE NOTED

1. These words were specifically directed at the Eleven
2. Special empowering limited to the Apostles

SIGNS IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

1. Casting out demons

- a) Rare
- b) Paul casting out the spirit of divination at Philippi Acts 16:16-18
- c) The Seven sons of Sceva attempted this and failed miserably at Ephesus Acts 19:13-17

2. New tongues

- a) Recorded in Acts 2
 - i) The apostles
 - ii) The founding members of the Jerusalem Church
 - iii) Not the multitudes
- b) The abuse of the gift of Tongues addressed 1 Corinthians 12-14
 - i) Abuse was noted
 - ii) This was addressed forthrightly and firmly by the apostle Paul

3. Taking up serpents

- a) Paul was bitten by a snake at Malta Acts 28:3-6
- b) No other incident recorded in the Scriptures

4. Drinking poison safely No record at all

5. Healing the sick

- a) Associated with Peter Acts 5:15-16
- b) Associated with Paul Acts 19:11-12

DOCTRINE OF HEALING BY THE LORD JESUS

1. Admonishing of a leper not to tell people about being healed Mark 1:43-44
2. Admonishing of two blind men not to tell people about their being healed Matthew 9:29-30

THE MINISTRY OF THE LORD JESUS

1. What was the ministry of the Lord Jesus?

a) Teaching

b) Preaching

c) Healing

Matthew 4:23

2. What was the Main Focus of the Lord Jesus?

a) Preaching of the Kingdom of God being at hand

Matthew 4:17

b) Calling of people to follow Him

Matthew 4:19

c) Teaching vital doctrines

i) Faith

ii) Following Him

iii) Fulfilment of God's commandments

iv) Faithfulness in life and service