

**John 6: Miracles and Bread**  
**04-03-16 PM**

There are seven miracles performed by Jesus (and one by God the Father) discussed in the Gospel of John. In John 20:30-31 we are told: *And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.*

The seven miracles teach us two things: That Jesus is the Christ (*The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when that One comes, He will declare all things to us."* - John 4:25), and that Jesus is the Son of God, which is to say, God in the Flesh (*Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.* - John 5:18). We might break down the seven miracles into these two categories:

<b>Jesus is the Christ (the Savior / Messiah)</b>	<b>Jesus is the Son of God (God in the Flesh)</b>
Healing a sick son Isaiah 53:4	Water to wine – Power of creation (John 2:11, 1:14)
Healing a lame man Isaiah 35:6	Walking on water – Power over nature (Matthew 14:33)
Feeding 5,000 Isaiah 33:16	Raising Lazarus – Power of life (John 11:27)
Healing a blind man Isaiah 35:5	

If we consider these miracles with the passages associated with them, we see that four of the miracles were prophetically identified with the Messiah. Consider that when John the Baptist sent his messengers to Jesus in Matthew 11, Jesus responded with these miracles and these OT prophecies as proof He was the Christ. When we read about the 5000 fed, they declared Him “the Prophet”, an identification with the Messiah.

Alternatively, when we consider the other three miracles, we see divine attributes manifested. Power over creation (we are told this was a manifestation of His (divine) glory), power over nature (when He performed this work the disciples called Him the Son of God), and raising Lazarus we are told was to demonstrate He was life itself.

There is a particularly powerful point found in the miracle of the bread. Consider the prophecy of bread in Isaiah 55:1. There we are told that the Messiah would feed us with abundance. In a world where hunger was every day, this miracle must have left a considerable imprint. We are told that this was a test of the Apostles Faith (Jesus performed this work particularly for them); we also see that this would lead into the sermon on the bread of life. Third, it was a demonstration of Jesus’ compassion for the people. Finally, it was a teaching to the people about their faith. We are promised both a daily bread in seeking the kingdom (Matthew 6:31-33) and a total sustaining of our spiritual bodies by the word, the bread of life.

John said ONLY SEVEN miracles would prove Christ. Four prove His identity as Christ, three prove His identity as God. You need NOTHING MORE to believe that He is the Christ, the Son of God. Therefore, you must choose what you will believe.