

*Recap of 4/18/21 message (Joe Ricchuiti – Acts 3:1-6):*

*1. In Acts 3, Luke begins to illustrate the activities of the early church as outlined in 2:42-47, especially 2:43, "...and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the Apostles."*

*2. What place did these wonders and miraculous signs hold in the early church?*

*-Jesus' miraculous works accredited Him as Messiah, God's Son.*

*-The works of the Apostles were of the same nature and character as Jesus'.*

*-These miraculous works were meant to identify the Apostles with Jesus and His ministry (Acts. 2:22; 14:3; 2 Corinthians 12:12).*

*-These wonders and miraculous were not meant to be normative for today. (see Hebrews 2:3,4) (see also Luke 16:30,31 where Jesus teaches the inadequacy of miracles and the superior effectiveness of the Word of God)*

*-The New Testament contains multiple warnings by Jesus and others about the danger of counterfeit miracles, signs, and wonders (Satan imitates the works of God). (Matthew 7:21-23; 24:24-25; 2 Thessalonians 2:9-11; Revelation 13:13; 16:14; 19:20).*

*-Pharaoh's magicians were able to mimic some of Moses' miraculous signs (Exodus 7:11,22)*

*-Following signs and wonders detaches us from the Word of God. The Word of God is our touchstone, a safeguard against Satanic tricks and misinformation. It is dangerous to follow extra-biblical revelation.*

*3. "Virtually everything the New Testament says about signs and wonders in the last days is a warning against false teachers who will use miracles to deceive...Remember, the only true test of whether a person or movement is from God is not signs and wonders, but teaching that conforms to God's Word. And the highest expression of God's power in the world today is not some spectacular and unusual sign or wonder, but the tranquil godliness of a Spirit-controlled life." (John MacArthur, Charismatic Chaos)*