

HOW CAN WE ANSWER THE BIBLE'S CRITICS?

C: MIRACLES

I. The Biblical TESTIMONY to MIRACLES

A. Examples of “WATERSHED” miracles

1. The CREATION
2. The FLOOD
3. The EXODUS
 - a. The PLAGUES upon EGYPT
 - b. The PARTING of the RED SEA
 - c. The PILLAR of CLOUD/FIRE
 - d. The provision of MANNA and WATER
3. The INCARNATION
 - a. The VIRGIN CONCEPTION
 - b. The ANNOUNCEMENT to the SHEPHERDS
 - c. The appearance of the STAR
4. The RESURRECTION

B. “SMALLER” scale miracles

1. JONAH and the “WHALE”

2. FEEDING the 5000
3. Multiple HEALINGS
4. The RESURRECTION of LAZARUS
5. The REGENERATION of a SOUL

II. The NATURE of Miracles

- A. Miracles are “supernatural manifestations of DIVINE POWER”
 1. They may REVEAL a divine MESSAGE
 2. They may CONFIRM a divine MESSENGER
- B. Miracles are inherently UNPROVABLE by SCIENTIFIC means
- C. Miracles are inherently IRREFUTABLE by SCIENTIFIC means

III. The Philosophical ROOT of the SKEPTICS

- A. Why they don't BELIEVE
 1. Assume ALL events must correspond to NORMAL human experience
 2. Since miracles are EXTRAORDINARY, they CANNOT occur
- B. How to RESPOND to their UNBELIEF
 1. Whether something happened 2000 years ago is a question for HISTORY not PHILOSOPHY
 2. Hume's argument is CIRCULAR
 3. If GOD exists, then miracles are POSSIBLE, even PROBABLE