

# The Miracles of Jesus Part 17

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C. Elijah Bronner: Every day, live with intensity, live on purpose. Live with meaning and passion. Every day is a gift.

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And now for 7832, The Miracles of Jesus, Part 17.

C. Elijah Bronner: Thank you for joining Brothers of the Word, because brother, you need the word.

We welcome all of you joining us by television and those of you joining us online at brothersoftheword.com or Facebook live, welcome to today's service. Always a wonderful delight and joy to have you to tune in and join us.

We would like to share just a little humor. One day, three men were trekking through a jungle when they came across a violent raging river. They had no idea how to cross. So, the first man decided to pray and he prayed and said, "Please God, give me the strength to cross this river." Immediately, he grew enormous muscles in his arms and legs and he managed to swim across the river in a couple of hours nearly drowning twice. The second man saw this and he prayed, "Please God, give me the strength and the tools to cross the river." A boat appeared from nowhere and he battled across the river in only hour nearly capsizing twice and the third man saw this and prayed, "Please God, give me the strength, the tools, and the intelligence to cross this river."

Immediately, he turned into a woman, she looked at the map, walked up stream a hundred yards and crossed over the bridge to the other side. The women like that one. The women like that. Normally, I'm badgering the women but I thought I would do one of you a favor.

Well, we want to look at a scripture over in the Gospel of Luke. The Gospel of Luke Chapter 7 and we're still in a series entitled "The Miracles of Jesus" and we've been walking through various miracles throughout the scriptures just taking a look at them and I've been enjoying them to be up close and personal with the Lord,

Jesus Christ and just being there on the scene with him throughout these miracles, and these life-changing miracles, they speak volumes not only were they miraculous in that day but they speak volumes to us today. They say some things to us today and I don't think the ones that were written were written haphazardly, but I believe they were there for our admonition.

The bible actually says that if everything Jesus did had been recorded, all the books in the world wouldn't be able to contain it. So, he actually packed a lot of ministry in his three and a half years and so there were only selected miracles that were recorded in the four gospels and we've been looking at some.

The one we're looking at today is Luke Chapter 7, Luke Chapter 7 and we will begin reading at Verse 11 through 17. Luke 7:11-17 and beginning with verse 11, it reads, "And it came to pass the day after that he went into a city called, 'Maine', and many of his disciples went with him and much people. Now, when he was come nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out the only son of his mother and she was a widow. Much people of the city were with her. And when the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said unto her, 'weep not', and he came and touched the beer on the coffin and they that bare hand stood still. And he said, 'young man, I say unto thee, arise', and he that was dead sat up and began to speak.

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And he delivered him to his mother. And there came a great fear on all and they glorified God saying that a great prophet has risen among us and that God has visited his people. And this rumor of him went forth throughout all Judea and throughout all the region round about." So, we're talking about the miracles of Jesus, this is actually Part 17, The Miracles of Jesus Part 17 and this is an interesting miracle here. This happened in the City of Maine. Maine was a small city and it was a very small city and so, they were taking this young man who had died.

They were taking him out of the city because according to the Jews custom, they didn't bury you in the city, they had burial places a great distance from the city. So, that's why they were taking him out of the city and Jesus met him at the gates there. But I want you to notice something in this, really kind of jumped out at me in Verse 11, the very first verse, notice what it says.

There it says, “and it came to pass the day after”, everybody, say, “the day after”. The day after. Now, what he’s referring to, he had just performed a miracle the day before.

And so, this is the day after, and so this is the next day and he’s doing another miracle. Now, that spoke volumes to me. They let me know that miracles happen every day. Miracles happen every day. You have to look for everyday miracles. Look for everyday miracles. Sometimes they are not sensational wonderful things that are just really out there. Sometimes, just simple miracles you know, having enough gas to get home, that’s a miracle. You know, that’s a miracle. When you’re low on gas, just little things.

Somebody brings us something to eat. You’ll be surprised that the number of miracles that happen every day, you don’t realize the number of accidents, you avoid it because God delayed you five minutes going somewhere and if you hadn’t been five minutes early, you would have been in accident. We don’t realize all the little miracles that happen every day but I am convinced just simply by just opening line that there are everyday miracles and we should look for miracles every day.

Jesus was doing good every day. He was doing good. The bible says that he went about doing good and healing those oppressed of the devil. He was anointed by God, by the Holy Spirit and so he was going about doing good. So, every day, Jesus was going about doing good. So, every day held special things. We’re in store every day because he went about doing good every day. And so, miracles happen every day. Every day is a gift from God. Every day is a gift from God. Don’t waste it. Once this day is gone, you can never retrieve it.

This is a gift. Today is a gift. Today is a gift. Sometimes, we rush through the day and sometimes we were just so hurried, we forget that this is a gift. This day is special. This day is special. This is a gift. Each of our days are gifts. And so, when you’re negative or grumpy or irritable or discouraged or fearful or worried or vengeful or selfish, you just wasted the day. You wasted the day. You wasted the day. This day is a gift. That’s why it’s called the present. It’s a gift. It’s a gift. It’s a gift. Every morning, ask yourself, will I be happy today or unhappy today?

That's a decision you make every morning when you wake up. Will I be happy today or will I be unhappy today? That's your choice. It's a decision. You set the tone at the beginning of your day. One lady prayed this prayer. She said, "Dear God, so far today, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped and I haven't lost my temper, I haven't been grumpy, nasty or selfish and I'm really glad of that but in a few minutes God, I'm going to get out of bed and from then on, I'm probably going to need a lot more help, thanks. Amen." Every day, you have a decision to set the course of your day.

So, you ask yourself some questions. Ask yourself this question. What good shall I do today? What good shall I do today? Remember, Jesus went about doing good. That's what he did. I read a quote that said something to this effect. I don't have it verbatim but it said something to this effect, "The purpose of life is not to win, the purpose of life is to make a difference." When you get to the end of your life, you won't look back recounting all the people you beat, you'll look back and what will have significance to you will be on the people you helped. All the people whose lives you made a difference in.

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People whose lives you made a difference in, people who lives you changed, you touch in some special way. Those will be the significant moments of life, so ask you yourself every morning, what good shall I do today? Think of we may today a master piece. Think of every morning you decided to make the day a master piece doing good, being a blessing, encouraging others, lifting others up. Jesus said that you are salt and light in the earth. You're salt and light in the earth. So, we are to bring to God's flavor every day. We share the flavor of God. We season the earth with God's flavor every day. We add God's flavor to existence every day.

So, every day live with intention. Live on purpose. Live with meaning and passion. Every day is a gift. William Ward said, he said, "There are three enemies of personal peace, three enemies of personal piece. Regret of yesterday's mistakes, anxiety over tomorrow's problems and ingratitude for today's blessing." Those are the three enemies of personal peace, regret, anxiety and ingratitude for today's blessings.

And so, we have this day, this day is awesome. This day is special. This day will never happen again. How will you use this day? How will you use this day? I like this particular peace or pros that an author by the name of Gregory Luzant(ph) wrote and it's entitled, "The best day of my life, the best day of my life".

Today when I woke, I suddenly realize that this is the best day of life ever. There were times when I wondered if I would make it to today, but I did and because I did, I'm going to celebrate. Today, I'm going to celebrate what an unbelievable life I have had so far, the accomplishments, the many blessings and yes even the hardships because they have served to make me stronger. I will go through this day with my head held high and a happy heart. I will marvel at God's seemingly simple gifts, the morning dew, the sun, the clouds, the trees, the flowers, the birds. Today, none of these miraculous creations will escape my notice.

Today, I will share my excitement for life with other people. I'll make someone smile. I'll go out of my way to perform an unexpected act of kindness for someone I don't even know. Today, I'll give a sincere compliment to someone who seems down. I'll tell a child how special he is and I'll tell someone I love just how deeply I care for them and how much they mean to me. Today, is the day I quit worrying about what I don't have and start being grateful for all the wonderful things that God has already given me. I'll remember that to worry is a just a waste of time because my faith in God and his divine plan ensures everything will be just fine. And tonight, before I go to bed, I'll go outside and raise my eyes to the heavens. I will stand in all at the beauty of the stars and moon and I will praise God for these magnificent treasures.

As the day end and I lay my head down on a pillow, I will thank the Almighty for the best day of my life and I will sleep the sleep of a contented child excited with expectation because I know tomorrow is going to be best day of my life ever. That's the way we should live every day. That's the way we should live every day. And so, that's what jumped out at me when I saw all in the first verse of this miracle that it says, that it came to passed the day after. He had just done a miracle. He had healed the centurion son the day before. Now, he is doing another miracle the very next day. Each day is special, each day is precious, each day is miraculous. Make each day a master piece. Make each day a master piece.

Now, we learn some things in this account. I want you to notice there's something -- there's what I would call the miracle of timing, the miracle of timing that takes place in this miracle, the miracle of timing.

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This funeral procession, they were headed out of the city and as they were headed out of the city, Jesus was headed into the city and they crossed. They crossed right at the perfect time, right at the perfect place. It was a miracle of divine timing. A miracle of perfect timing and I was just intrigued with the divine timing, the miracle of divine timing, divine appointments. That God will have you at the right place at the right time, meeting the right people and he will have the opportunity. Everything takes place right at the right time and so that's what happens here.

They crossed. Jesus crossed. Now, I want you to see this, Jesus had a crowd with him. He had his disciples and they were crowded people following Jesus and then there was a crowd that were a part of the funeral procession and they crossed path and as they crossed, it was divine appointment. Right at the moment. What if the funeral had been 30 minutes early, they would have missed a miracle. What if Jesus had it come 30 minutes later, he would have missed the opportunity to do a miracle, but I believe in the sovereign divinity, the divine plan of God, his divine timing. He had on the cross at the perfect time to cross.

One crowd of ministry and another crowd of mourning and they crossed and I believe God lets us know that there's always ministry, there's always ministry when you're down. There's always ministry when you're hurting. Right at your lowest point is where we need time was Jesus and I think this is what he's showing us when you're at your lowest point, this is where you need Jesus. This is where you need time with him because he'll encourage you when you're down and he'll bring light where there is darkness and he'll give you life. Where there is death, he'll give you joy when there is sorrow. It is at that moment where ministry crosses misery.

And so, divine appointment, divine timing, right place -- everybody says, "Right place, right time, right person, right

opportunity” man, that’s a divine appointment, that’s appointment, that’s a divine appointment.

Now, I want you to notice this widow, this woman, she had suffered sorrow upon sorrow if you look at verse 12, you’ll see sorrows that she was dealing with. Number one, she had already suffered lost because she lost her husband, she was a widow. So, she had already great loss especially in this time because you know man where so prominent in society. Women were regarded almost the second-class citizens and a lot of places during this time. And so, you lost your husband, you almost left destitute and so, she had already suffered a great loss and great sorrow with the loss of her husband, but number two, now she lost her son.

So, to lose a child has to be the heaviest pain for any parents who bears this. Probably, their most grievous pain there is to loss a child. And so, she had lost her husband now, she lost her son.

And number three, she lost her only son. It wasn’t as if she had three or four other children, this was it. She had lost not only a child that she loved that every mother loves a children, but she lost her only child. He was not only the loved son, but in this society, he would be caretaker. He would have to take care her mom and she had lost all hope. So, this was a sorrow upon sorrow upon sorrow upon sorrow and if you look at verse 13 when Jesus saw her, notice that man, this is one of the most divine pictures we get of God. He saw her. Nobody came to Jesus asking for help. No one sought him out. Jesus saw her and he had compassion. He saw what was happening and when he sees, he immediately knows. He knows everything about us. He knows everything about us.

And so, when he saw her, he knew here, he knew the situation. He understood the plight. He understood the sorrow. When he sees us, he knows us and I want you to see that what he saw with his eyes affected his heart. He saw her and then he had compassion. This was a miracle of mercy. This was a miracle of mercy. He was not asked no one sought his help. This was a miracle of mercy. This is when the mercy of God sees you. I want you know that God sees you. He sees you, he hears your cry. He sees your pain.

He sees your sorrow. He hears your cry. These are the eyes of mercy, the eyes of mercy. Jesus has concern for brokenness and whenever he senses brokenness, he releases his goodness. He releases his goodness.

Let me read some other scriptures to you. I just want to read some other cross-references. I want you to give just a feel for God's heart toward the broken heart. And listen to these Psalms 34:18, "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit". Psalms 147:3, "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds".

And so, this is something that comes purely from his goodness. This comes purely out of his goodness. This is the mercy of the Lord. This is his goodness that flows toward the broken heart. This is what happened when Jesus saw this widow when he saw this widow. Listen to this verse, Psalm 145 verse 8, "The Lord is gracious and full of compassionate, slow to anger and of great mercy. The Lord is good to all and his tender mercies are over all his words." Psalm 103 verse 8, "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, iniquitous in mercy."

And so, Jesus saw the need, he saw the need, he felt the need, then he feels the need. We first feel the need, F-E-E-L, feel the need then your, F-I-L-L, then you fill the need. He saw the need, he felt the need, then he filled the need. God has called us to extend kindness and mercy, to hurting people. It's part of the minister we're called to, as children of God. We are called to extend kindness and mercy to God's children.

Think about it, think if somebody expand their kindness and mercy to your child, he would mean the world to you. And so, when we extend kindness and mercy to people that are hurting in the world, they're God's children, it means the world to him when we look out for them. Did you know that it was because of compassion and love that God redeemed us? It was because he saw us the same as Jesus saw this widow from Maine, he saw us trapped in sin, doomed, and he showed kindness and love. He came down and died for us. Praise God. Praise God.

So, God calls us to a ministry of kindness, ministry of mercy to those who were hurting. I was reading something the other day from Joel Olsteen and he talked about his life. He said, his wife

was -- she was trying to call one of her good friends. And I can't remember her friends' names, we would just say Sally.

She was trying to call Sally and she called the number and a lady answered and the lady was crying. And she said, Victoria said, "Sally?" She said, "Yes. This was Sally." She was just sobbing. And then Victoria said, "Is this Sally Jones?" She said, "No. You have the wrong number, I'm a different Sally." But before she hangs up, she said, she could feel the Lord leading her to ministries of this woman. And she said, "Would you mind if I pray for you before I hang up?" And the woman just broke down in tears and she said, "My father just died." And she said, "I don't know what I'm going to do and what I'm going to make." She said, "I'm just nervous and I was about to give up all hope." And Victoria says, she encouraged her, she prayed with her, she shared, and it just uplifted her, and the woman said, "You are my angel."

Now, isn't it interesting that she called the wrong number but got the same name as her friend. God knows how to reach you. God sees us. He hears us. He reaches out for us. This is a divine appointment. And so, God wants to use us as ministers of mercy and kindness to hurting people in the world.

I'm going to stop right there. I didn't get the chance to finish this account, but I think we got enough out of it for today. But thank you so much for joining us today at Brothers of the Word. I want you to go to [brothersoftheword.com](http://brothersoftheword.com), you can listen to this message in its entirety. You can also listen to the entire series of Miracles of Jesus, absolutely free of charge. And you can email it to a friend. Thank you so much for joining us today at Brothers of the Word, because brother you need the word.

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