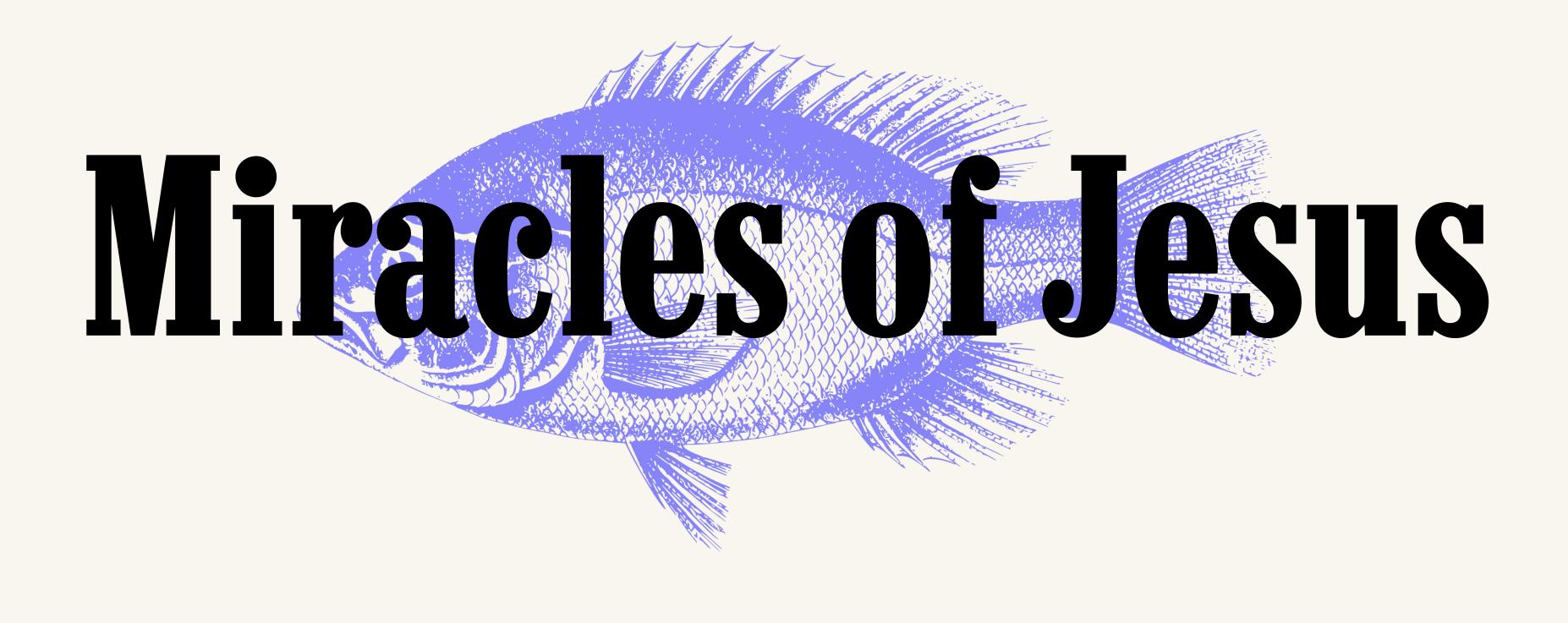
WELCOME TO WHOLEHEART fellowship

If you had two more hours in the day, how would you use it?





MIDTOWN BAPTIST TEMPLE



APRIL 21, 2024

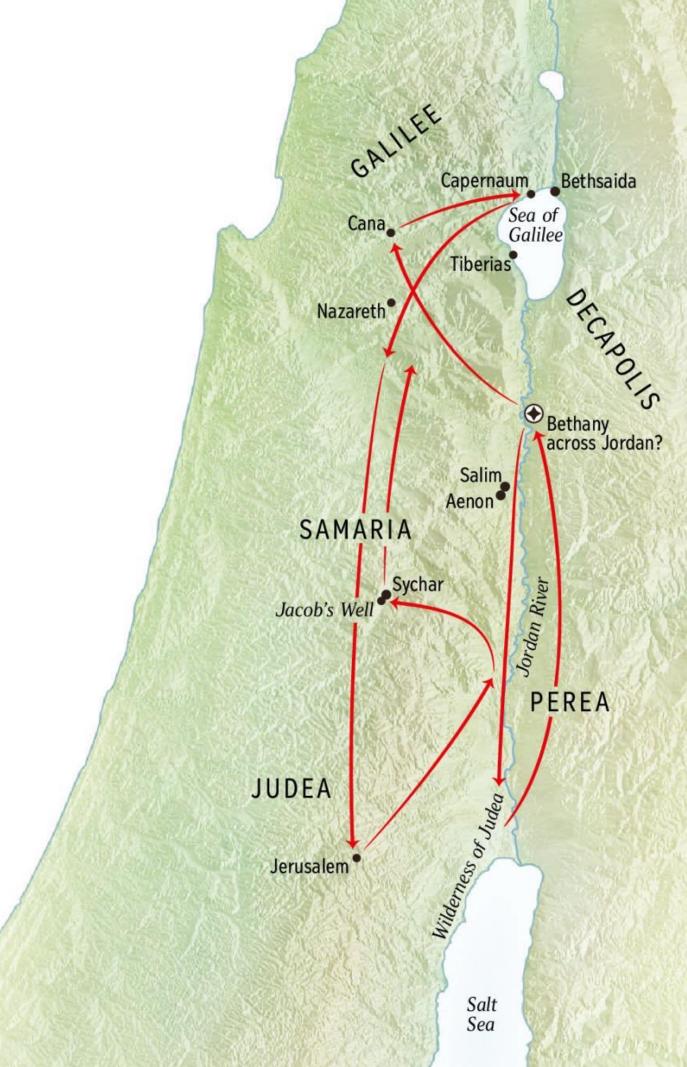
WHOLE HEART

Nobleman's Son



God's primary objective for every human is BELIEF that Jesus is the Christ, the Savior of the world.

From Samaria to Galilee John 4:39-54



John 4:39-42

³⁹ And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did. ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans were come unto him, they besought him that he would tarry with them: and he abode there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his own word; ⁴² And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

John 4:43-45

⁴³ Now after two days he departed thence, and went into Galilee. ⁴⁴ For Jesus himself testified, that a prophet hath no honour in his own country. ⁴⁵ Then when he was come into Galilee, the Galilaeans received him, having seen all the things that he did at Jerusalem at the feast: for they also went unto the feast.

John 4:46-49

⁴⁶ So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum. ⁴⁷ When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. ⁴⁸ Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe. ⁴⁹ The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die.

John 4:50-51

⁵⁰ Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. ⁵¹ And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth.

John 4:52-54

⁵² Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. ⁵³ So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house. ⁵⁴ This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judaea into Galilee.

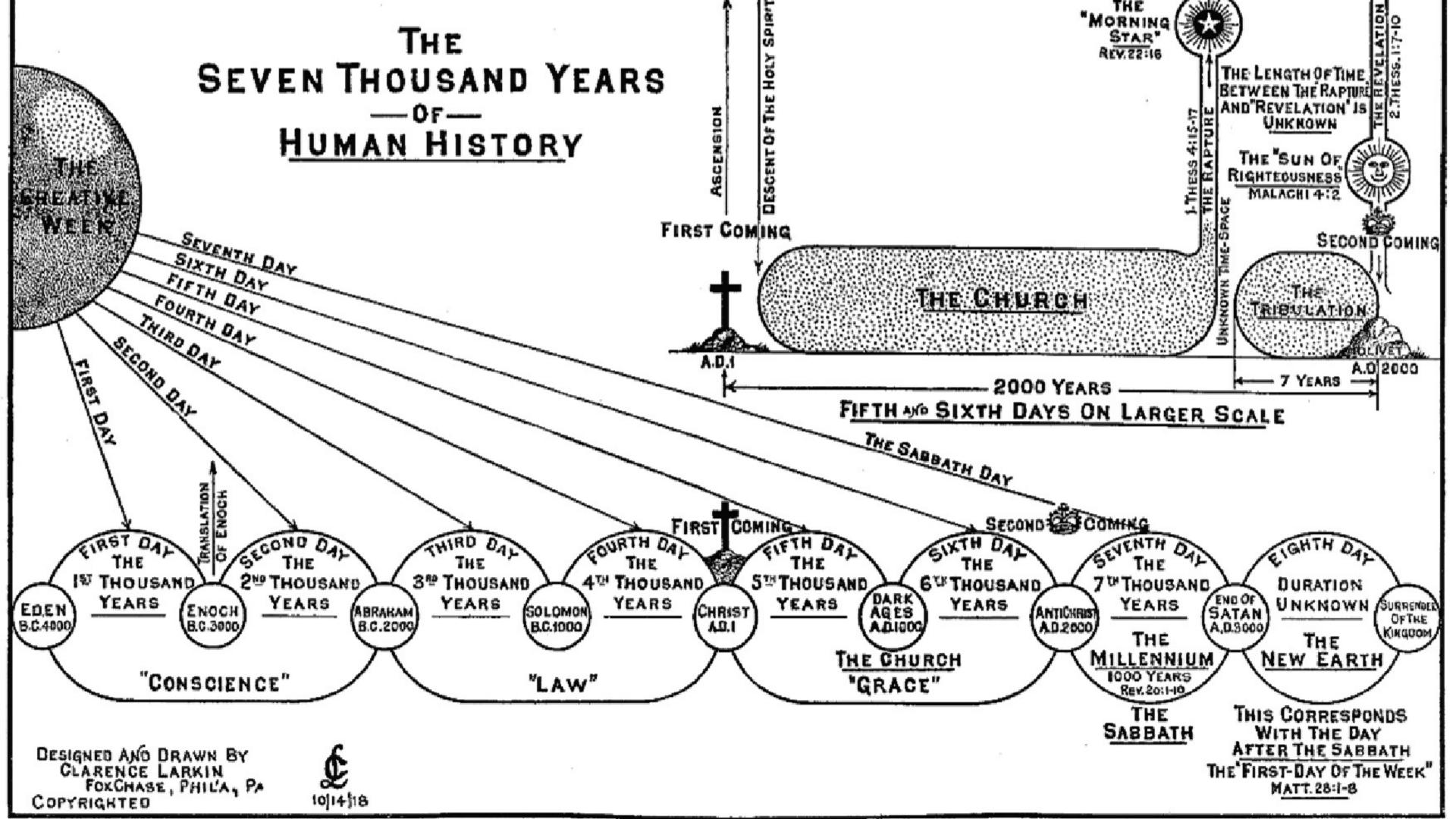
Mechanisms to generate belief

- Conviction of sin (v39)
- Testimony (v39)
- The Word of God (v41-42, 50)
- Miracles; signs and wonders (v45, 48; 2;23) •
- Crisis (v47)

John 2-4: A Prophetic Picture

- Jesus dying on the cross
- Church age
- Tribulation
- Jesus 2nd Coming





The Nobleman's Son John 4:46-54



Problem: Belief Ultimatum

"Signs and wonders"...

- Have <u>MULTIPLE PURPOSES</u>
- Can come from FALSE PROPHETS AND DREAMERS
- Don't produce <u>MATURE FAITH</u>
- Can DECEIVE AND SEDUCE the elect of God

Beware of requiring God to show you a sign as a PREREQUISITE for belief.



Beware of chasing signs and wonders for spiritual <u>MATURITY</u>.



Confidence in God. God's lordship. Prayer for pardon.

his righteousness unto a people that shall be born, that he hath done this.

PSALM 23

A Paalm of David. THE LORD is my shepherd; I shall

2 He maketh me to lie down in green 2 erem. pastures: he leadeth me beside the

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life : and I will dwell in the house of the LORD into a

for ever.

PSALM 24

A Psalm of David.

THE earth is the LORD's, and the 122

they that dwell therein. 2 For he hath founded it upon the 2 Ph 136 6 seas, and established it upon the

the LORD? or who shall stand in his

4 He that hath clean hands, and a 4 He. Hes. 4 He that hath clean name if the dup the dean of hands his soul unto vanity, nor sworn de-

his sour unto the product of the source of the local source of the

7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and or Jacob Jacob. Sē'-läh. be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; place h and the King of glory shall come in. and the King of glory shall come in the mercy upon me; for I am desolate 8 Who is this King of glory? The press 4119.112 and afflicted LORD strong and mighty, the LORD

mighty in battle. 9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting

PSALMS 23-25 31 They shall come, and shall declare 31 PL 3. 4 doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. Sē'-läh.

PSALM 25

A Praim of David. TNTO thee, O LORD, do I lift un U my soul.

2 O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause

4 Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.

s Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day 6 Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses: for they have been ever of old.

7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD. 8 Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.

o The meek will he guide in judgment : and the meek will he teach his way.

10 All the paths of the LORD are floods. 3 Who shall ascend into the hill of $\frac{3 P \approx 151-5}{P \approx 2.6}$ his covenant and his testimonic

Ps. 23, 3 11 II For thy name's sake, O LORD. pardon mine iniquity; for it is great. 12 What man is he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.

13 His soul shall dwell at ease; and

LORD; for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.

16 Turn thee unto me, and have

17 The troubles of my heart are enlarged: O bring thou me out of my distresses.

pain; and forgive all my sins 19 Consider mine enemies: are many; and they hate

let me not be ashamed; for) trust in thee.

serve me; for I wait on thee 22 Redeem Israel, O God, o his troubles.

UDGE me, O LORD; fo walked in mine integrit J trusted also in the LOR

2 Examine me, O LORD, me; try my reins and my l 3 For thy lovingkindness mine eyes: and I have wal truth.

neither will I go in with di 5 I have hated the congr evil doers; and will not wicked.

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cency: so will I compass O LORD:

of thanksgiving, and tel wondrous works.

of thy house, and the thine honour dwelleth. 9 Gather not my soul nor my life with bloody 10 In whose hands is r their right hand is full

integrity: redeem me, ciful unto me. 12 My foot standeth in a

An appeal to God's judgment. Faith sustained by God's power. PSALMS 26-28 and my foes, came upon me to p my flesh, they stumbled and cruel hatred. ough an host should encamp 20 O keep my soul, and deli ast me, my heart should encamp igh war should rise against me, his will I be confident. 21 Let integrity and upright he thing have I desired of the D, that will I seek after; that I dwell in the house of the LORD he days of my life, to behold the ity of the LORD, and to enquire PSALM 26 or in the time of trouble he shall A Praim of David. e me in his pavilion : in the secret his tabernacle shall he hide me; shall set me up upon a rock. fore I shall not slide. And now shall mine head be lifted above mine enemies round about : therefore will I offer in his tabercle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, will sing praises unto the LORD. Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my 4 I have not sat with vai oice: have mercy also upon me, and nswer me. When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; ny heart said unto thee, Thy face, ORD, will I seek. 9 Hide not thy face far from me; put 6 I will wash mine hand not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my 7 That I may publish wi salvation. to When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take 8 LORD, I have loved th me up. IT Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies. 12 Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as 11 But as for me, I will breathe out cruelty. 13 I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in 12 the land of the living. in the congregations w 14 Wait on the LORD: be of good LORD. 13 courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart : wait, I say, on the LORD. PSALM A Psalm of Da PSALM 28 THE LORD is my A Psalm of David. L salvation; whom : UNTO thee will I cry, O LORD my rock; be not silent to me: lest, LORD is the strength of my life; of Pa 35. 22. to me: Heb. whom shall I be afraid? if thou be silent to me, I become like 2 When the wicked, even mine ene- Ps. 143.7. them that go down into the pit.

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Let us pray

