

## TRUE SALVATION IS BUILT ON SIGNS

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*All of the world's great religions are based on historic and established beliefs. Not one of them offers any God powered evidence (observable miracles), of their claims. Not only is true salvation based on signs, most major events in God's creation and his plans for his people have been identified with signs and wonders ... it's God's way.*

*Let's look at all the world's beliefs and see what they have to offer.*

**A comparison of all the great religions and beliefs of the world.**

**Christianity** 31.54 %, Believe in one God, Christians believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God, sent to earth as a man and a messiah to save people from their sins. Jesus is seen as having replaced the law with grace.

**Islam** 23.2%, Believe in one God, Prophet Muhammad is God's final prophet, they must obey the will of Allah.

**Judaism** 0.2%, Believe in one God, The Ten Commandments play an important role in the teachings of Judaism.

**Hinduism** 15%, Hindus believe in reincarnation, with a constant cycle of being born, living and dying on the path to enlightenment. They believe in one supreme God who oversees multiple numbers of other Gods.

**Buddhism** 7.1%, Everyone is to seek enlightenment. Buddhism has five precepts to which followers are expected to adhere. These precepts dictate that Buddhists refrain from killing, stealing, lying, misusing sex, and using drugs or alcohol.

**Non-Religious** 23%, Mixture of mainly atheists and other religious groups.

*Sorting out the reality of Human beliefs.*

**Evidence based salvation v's blind faith religions.** True Christian church of the bible... the only church with historic claim of its founder **being raised from the dead** and offering prophesied signs and miracles as its basic tenet of faith. Every other religion is based on belief... blind faith historic, traditional and cultural records.

*God has always been a God of signs.*

**Creation is the first sign.** **GEN 1:14** And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for **signs**, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

*When God calls people, he produces signs... the list is obvious and repetitive through all bible heroes.*

**Signs to confirm his calling... Moses.** **EXO 4:9** And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two **signs**, neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood upon the dry land. **DEU 6:22** And the LORD shewed **signs and wonders**, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before our eyes: **23** And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he swore unto our fathers.

*No amount of signs was going to change Pharaoh... chose to be ignorant.*

*The Holy Spirit cannot but produce signs as it is the miracle working power of God... these signs are consistent and support the covenant.*

**Signs to confirm the presence of the Holy Spirit.** **EXO 13:21** And the LORD went before them by day in a **pillar of a cloud**, to lead them the way; and **by night in a pillar of fire**, to give them light; to go by day and night: **22** He **took not away** the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people (*neither have tongues, healings, etc., ceased*). Also, **EXO 40:38** For the cloud of the LORD was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

*Jesus also promised signs to all true believers... this is what separates true believers from everyone else... according to Jesus.*

**Signs will follow true believers...** **MAR 16:15** And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. **16** He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. **17** And **these signs** shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; **18** They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

*The New Testament church is built of the words of Jesus Christ and the observable powers of the Holy Spirit.*

**Signs can provoke hatred in false believers...** **LUK 20:20** And they watched him, and sent forth spies, which should feign themselves just men, that they might take hold of his words, that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor. **21** And they asked him, saying, Master, **we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly**, neither acceptest thou the person of any, **but teachest the way of God truly**: also, **MAT 12:13** Then saith he to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other. **14** Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him. *For many, their religious beliefs are fatally held in greater esteem than God's proof.*

*Paul also taught and expected that the real church would have miracles in all their meetings.*

**Signs**

**are expected & promoted** **1COR 14:22** Wherefore **tongues are for a sign**, not to them that believe, **but to them that believe not**: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.

*Paul... the true church would be built on miracles. **1COR 4:19** But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord will, and will know, not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power. **20** For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.*