



Henry Vanderbush

HOW TO RECEIVE YOUR MIRACLE FROM GOD

I want to begin this article by asking you a serious question. How many of you could use a miracle right now? Well, I have great news for you. Our God is still in the miracle-working business. In fact, in Malachi 3:6 He says, "For I am the Lord, I change not." Yes, He is the same yesterday, today and forever. There is not one thing you will face today or in the future that you and God cannot handle. That is why if you have received Him as your Lord and Saviour, you are a winner, for you have the Winner living in you, so why don't you start acting like one?

I was a Christian for years before I really learned how to receive a miracle from God. My denomination taught me that I should live a holy life, but when it came to faith and living in total victory, we heard very little about that. But oh, thank God for the day I received the baptism in the Holy Spirit and my life changed. I started acting like the Bible was really true. What a joy when I realized that the Author of this old Book actually lived in me and the supernatural power of God through the Holy Spirit could work in and through my life. God's Word became a new Book to me and I realized it was powerfully anointed so that the Bible, through faith, became a giant elevator that

lifted me above all the things that used to defeat me. I was thrilled when I first discovered that the devil was nothing but a liar and a defeated foe, and I could have victory over him in every area of my life.

But you say, “Henry, what’s wrong? Why aren’t we seeing miracles happen today like we heard about in days gone by, and like they had in the New Testament?” Well, let me tell you what I believe is the main reason. You see, I have found in my Christian life, if I want God to do something for me, I am going to have to give Him something to work with. In fact, that is the only reason you have what you have from God today. You gave Him something to work with. In other words, if you want to walk on the water, you have to get out of the boat. The disciple, Peter, was the only one who walked on the water. Do you know why? He was the only one who got out of the boat.

Oh, how many Christians there are who experience very few supernatural miracles. First of all, they never expect them, and secondly, they are not willing to get out of their comfort zone, or in other words – get out of the boat. You see, ordinary Christian living won’t bring miracles. Ordinary church-going won’t do it. Ordinary Bible reading won’t do it. You are going to have to be different from the ordinary Christian. When I was broke most of the time, sick, and defeated, my denomination liked me. But

when I got baptized in the holy Spirit and became excited about Jesus, and the Bible became a brand new Book and I began to preach this great new experience, they threw me out.

Have you ever stopped to realize, it was not the sinners who gave Jesus the most trouble. He loved to be with them, but it was the church. He didn't fit into their mold. They couldn't put what He did in the bulletin, and the organized church of that day ended up crucifying Him. It hasn't changed a bit today.

Take a look at all the miracles that happened in the book of Acts. They had very little means of travel and communication, and yet they got the gospel to the known world. All they had was the Holy Ghost, and people got saved by the thousands. Today, we have everything but the Holy Ghost, and we can't get the gospel across the street. Never have we had more to work with than we do now, and yet we are seeing so little done.

I love to read about the day of Pentecost in the second chapter of Acts when Jesus went up, the Holy Ghost came down, and the church went out. What a day that was when they came out of that upper room. I believe the reason Peter preached that first sermon was because he might have been the first one out of the room. It was just a simple message filled with scripture, yet such conviction fell that when the altar call

was given, three thousand ran to the altar crying, “What shall we do?” Today, we have three thousand preachers preaching three thousand sermons, and very few are under conviction or even want to know what to do. Why? Well, for one thing, we have traded the upper room for the supper room. We know a lot about fellowship, but very little about conviction. The old saying is – if you want to find out how popular your church is, come on Sunday morning. If you want to find out how popular the preacher is, come to church on Sunday night, if, in fact, you even have a Sunday night service. And if you want to find out how popular the Lord is in your church, come on prayer meeting night, if in fact, you even have a prayer meeting anymore.

I’ll never forget when I started out in evangelistic work, I held meetings for primarily older pastors, and back there they would pray two and three hours a day. They would say, “Pray, Henry, pray. Don’t let your preaching length be longer than your praying length or you’re in trouble.” I’m glad I’m as old as I am. Let me tell you something, folks. We can’t accomplish anything without prayer.

If you want miracles in your life, you must first of all, fall in love with Jesus and put Him first in your life. He is the miracle-worker. Does not James 4:8 declare, “Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.” Matthew 6:33 says, “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall

be added unto you.” If you will seek Him first and his ways, miracles will begin to happen in your life.

Make up your mind today you are going to get out of this old religious boat. Say, “I am going to step out in faith and do something different. Yes, today I’m going to do everything I can to please Jesus.” Make up your mind you are going to be the best Christian you can possibly be until living for Jesus will become a joy, and joy is contagious; let’s start an epidemic!

I was born and raised on a farm, and how I thank the Lord for that. In fact, the first man God ever made was a farmer, and He named him Adam, meaning ‘red earth’. Many of Jesus’ illustrations were taken from the farm. Jesus said in John 15:1, “I am the true vine, and my Father is the farmer (husbandman).”

But I’ll never forget, we didn’t have a pasture large enough for all our cattle, and I would have to herd them along the roadside. But I had a little Gideon New Testament, and that went with me wherever I went. I would sit along the roadside while the cattle were grazing and read my little Bible, and that little Bible changed my entire life. I never

realized until years later what an impact it was making on my life.

But thank God for the farm. The cows taught me how to read my Bible. I could not figure out how they could eat for a half a mile without raising their heads. I thought, when are they going to stop and chew that grass? No, all day long they would take it in, but in the evening, I would bring them home for milking. After milking them, we would put them out in the cowyard, and then I discovered an amazing truth. They would lay down and start chewing the cud. Now the word 'meditate' means 'to chew'. In other words, they would lay down and start meditating on what they ate all day. They would bring it up out of one stomach, chew it real good, swallow it, and it would go into another stomach. Many times, on a clear, still night they would meditate so loud we could hear it in the house. I wish I could put the sound on paper. You would never forget it.

Do you realize how many times the word 'meditate' is mentioned in the Bible? David said in Psalm 119:97, "O how love I thy law! It is my meditation all the day." Folks, it's high time that you stop for awhile and chew the cud. Nothing will help you to grow in your Christian life like meditating on God's word. And when you meditate on it, it becomes a part of your life until it begins to work in your life every day. And that is what happened

to me as a boy until I couldn't do a thing without including my wonderful Lord.

Could I give you an illustration from my boyhood days? We didn't have a pasture on our farm, so my dad rented one from a neighbor. Every night it was my job to go get the cows so we could milk them. Then we would keep them in the barnyard all night until they were milked the next morning, and then I would take them back to the pasture. There was a creek running the full length of that pasture, and it was sort of down in a valley. One night I went to get the cows and the creek had flooded. The cows were on the other side and I knew I could not cross that raging stream, so I just got down and prayed, for I had learned that God cares about me and answers prayer. I learned that out of my little Gideon Bible. So when I got done praying, I took off my shoes and stockings, and headed for the creek. I knew God would work a miracle, and I believe when God saw me coming He said to his angels, "Quick, we have to work a miracle. He believes so much in what I have promised, he is going to put it to work in his life." And folks, I actually watched the water go down in that raging stream.

Finally, my dog, Rex and I, walked across that creekbed and we got all the cows over so I could take them home. I sat down to put my shoes back on and suddenly my dog, Rex, saw a jackrabbit on the other side, and he was going to run across that

stream to chase it, and now it was back to a raging river. It swept him downstream until I thought I may never see him again, and I just sat there and wept because I had just experienced a mighty miracle from my wonderful Lord. Believe me, a boy never forgets that. And yes, my dog finally made it to land. But I also learned a lesson that I have carried for years. That miracle no doubt would never have taken place had I not taken my shoes and stockings off and headed for that stream. I never realized it then, but I gave God something to work with. Could it be that the reason you have not received your miracle is because you have never given God something to work with? Isaiah 55:11 declares, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

A number of years ago, we went to Kearney, Arizona, to hold a revival, and my back was in a lot of pain. I could hardly walk, and the minute I arrived, I laid down on our couch in our trailer. The pastor came in and said, "What is wrong with you?" I told him and he said, "Henry, that's no problem with God. Let's pray about it. (Well, yes, but no doubt my back will still hurt, because we have already prayed about it.) So Walt prayed for me and when he said, "Amen", he said, "Get up". Well, I didn't feel like it, but he took me by the arm and pulled me up and I fell on the floor. He said, "We have prayed, now get up." Well, I knew if I

didn't, he would probably kill me, so now I had to figure out which way I wanted to die. So I struggled to my feet.

He said, "Now we are going to walk to the church." The church would have to be on top of the hill. I said, "I can't." He said, "Get your shoes on; we are going to the church". And I'm here to tell you that half way up that hill God touched me and totally healed me and I have not experienced back pain like that since.

I could write a book on the miracle-working power of God. I remember when we were going to the Philippines, we went ahead and got all of our shots, and made all the necessary preparations before we had the money to go. A day or two before we left, the money was there. It was a miracle.

I remember flying from Tulsa, Oklahoma to Tampa, Florida with only enough money for a one-way ticket because we felt the Lord wanted us to go. We got to the Tampa airport and wondered what to do next. I don't have the space to tell you about that week. The entire week was a miracle, and it seemed everywhere we went, people were hungry for God. In restaurants folk would come to our table and say, "Can you pray for me". We attended a convention where the speaker got up on the platform and said, "Is Henry Vanderbush here? We want

him to come up and give his testimony”. What a week, and when it was time to go back to Tulsa, someone walked up to us and said that God awoke them in the night and said they were to give us a check. It paid for our return trip.

Jesus said in John 14:12, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”

If you get nothing else out of this article, please let this sink into your spirit and never forget it. **IF YOU WANT TO WALK ON WATER, YOU HAVE TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT.** If you need a healing today, could I suggest that you find some promises on healing, write them on three by five cards, and carry them with you. Every time the devil comes to tell you how sick you are, you just pull out those promises and let him read them and tell him how healed and blessed you are. Believe me, he won't stay around.

God is still working miracles day after day, and He will for you if you will just believe Him, and receive your miracle by faith in His Word.