

The God of Power

Acts 19:11-20

God does the extraordinary! (v. 11-12)

Even Luke notes how unusual these miracles are!

Not _____ ...

Not _____, so we should not expect or demand similar ...

Not _____ or promoted by Paul ...

Clearly attributable to God, who can _____!

Fake (or demonic) "exorcists" (magicians) saw what was happening and wanted in on it! (v. 13-14)

A culture that embraced 'magic' and the occult ...

Deceived people deceiving people ...

But they encounter an evil that's _____ and beyond their ability to "control". This evil spirit _____ them as _____. (v. 15-16)

The demon answers them: "*Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?*"

I can _____ in the _____ world, but there is no faking it in the _____ world.

Do I want a Jesus I can _____ or a Jesus who _____ and _____?

Do the demons of hell know my name?

Am I threat to the kingdom of darkness?

Does Satan have to "gameplan" for me?

The miracles and this encounter were **God-ordained** and **purposeful**. (v. 17-20)

To _____ God's _____ in salvation

To _____ the Apostle Paul as God's messenger and the _____ as God's message

To _____ the emptiness and _____ of godless "spirituality"

To _____ the _____ of the enemy

To _____ the name and person of _____

To _____ and _____ believers who truly _____

To _____ and _____ the life-giving, delivering, healing power of the _____ of God

Epilogue – A few questions (and answers) for us today

Does God still _____?

Are demons _____?

Should we be _____?

How should we _____ in light of the evil around us?

Calvary's Resource Center is Now Open

Open House | Today immediately following worship inside the ROC

Looking for solid resources for discipleship and Christian living? Look no further than the Calvary Resource Center. New resources and merchandise are added weekly so be sure to stop by often.

The Resource Center will be open Sunday mornings and by appointment. Make an appointment at calendly.com/calvaryresourcecenter/browse.

Calvary Preschool Needs You

We are growing in Preschool and we have a few volunteer opportunities.

- 2 teachers (serving every other month) during Life Group
- 2 teachers for Wednesday evening
- Life Group Substitute Teachers

To volunteer or to get more information, contact Joyce Alexander in the church office or email joyce@calvarydothan.com.

Prayer and Praise Service | October 16

The staff is seeking stories of answered prayer to highlight in our upcoming Prayer and Praise Service. If you have an answered prayer you would like to share with the congregation, please call the church office or email justin@calvarydothan.com.

Women's Bible Study

Join us for *God of Freedom* - a ten-week Bible study on Exodus 19-40 by Jen Wilkin. There are two time options available: Sundays, beginning September 11, at 4:30pm in the Kids Worship Room, and Tuesdays, beginning September 13, at 9am in the Kids Worship Room. Cost is \$25 and includes the book and access to stream the video talks by Jen Wilkin. Register online at calvarydothan.com. Childcare is available on Sundays only by registration.

Women's Coffee and Connect

Location Change: Now in the ROC

Join us Sunday, September 18, at 3pm for Women's Coffee and Connect. We will enjoy food and fellowship as we discuss the topic of generosity and how it impacts our actions and lives as women of God.

Prayers of the Righteous

Wednesday, September 21 | 6pm | Dothan Civic Center

The Prayers of the Righteous is a city-wide prayer gathering for Christians all over Dothan to meet together to pray. Calvary will not have our regular Midweek service this night but encourages everyone to attend this prayer service.

Senior Adult Mid-Month Service & Lunch

Thursday, September 22 | 11am | Sanctuary

Zach Daniels will be preaching the service. Lunch will be served in the Fellowship Center immediately following the service.

Fall Family Day

CornDodgers Farm | October 9 | 3pm | \$10 per person

Load up the family and let's meet up at CornDodgers Farm for a fun-filled time of fellowship. Concessions will be open for you to purchase. Check out their webpage for all activities and food options, <https://corn Dodgers farm.com>.

Facilitators Needed for DivorceCare and GriefShare

DivorceCare is a 13-week, video-based support group program that helps those going through a divorce to find counsel to manage the emotional turmoil and gain practical tools for decision making.

calvarydothan.com/divorcecare

GriefShare is a 13-week, video based support group program that helps those who are grieving to face challenges and move toward rebuilding your life.

calvarydothan.com/griefshare

If you would like to help with either of these ministries, please contact the church office.

The following includes excerpts from *The Miraculous Gifts and the Question of Cessationism* by Thomas Schreiner, Professor of New Testament Interpretation at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/miraculous-gifts-question-cessationism/>):

The miraculous gifts of the Spirit, including apostleship, prophecy, tongues, healing, and miracles served the purpose of validating the message about Jesus during the early days of the church, but now that the apostolic foundation is laid and the canon of scriptural revelation is complete, the miraculous gifts do not characterize the normal and expected operation of the church body today.

How does that summary align with what we see in Acts and the ministry of Paul?

Firstly, the unique and powerful signs and wonders we read about were for a *specific time* (before the New Testament canon was known) and a *specific purpose* (to validate Paul and the other Apostles' legitimacy, authority, and Gospel message). Schreiner adds,

"I am not denying that God in his sovereignty may choose to grant such signs and wonders in cutting-edge missionary ventures today (nor is the argument that God never does miracles today), but such a state of affairs is out of the ordinary. It was vital in the first generation that Christ's ministry and the apostolic word was verified and confirmed." (Schreiner)

Today we evaluate the legitimacy and accuracy of any pastor or teacher through the settled Words of God in Scripture, not by their ability to perform 'signs and wonders'. As Schreiner rightly states,

"The church is "built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets" (Eph. 2:20). The foundation for the church has been laid once-for-all, and thus there are no longer prophets and apostles functioning as authoritative messengers. As the epistle of Jude (v. 3) says, "the faith ... was delivered to the saints once for all." We read in the epistle to the Hebrews that "in these last days ... God has spoken to us by his Son" (Heb. 1:2). The final and definitive word has been declared, and thus there is no need for apostles and prophets and tongues, nor do we need signs, wonders, and miracles to accredit the message." (Schreiner)

Secondly, what we see in Acts is *descriptive*, rather than *prescriptive*. We are nowhere instructed or expected to seek divine healing through the handkerchiefs or aprons of modern-day would-be apostles. It is clear from the text that God is the agent of healing, and his purpose is to establish a beachhead for the Gospel in a place and with a people that were new to it. The practice was not commended, much less commanded in any other scriptures.

Thirdly, while signs and wonders, tongues and prophecy are not normative for today, spiritual warfare is as real today as it was in the earliest days of the Church. Just because we don't see the same manifestations or activities, does not at all mean that demonic activity, influence, and even possession is not real. We have an active enemy with a vast army bent on our destruction.

But as we'll see in today's text, the power of God is incomparable and unlimited. Far superior to 'magicians' and 'magic', easily able to defeat the powers of Satan and hell, and more than sufficient to transform every true believer is the power of God in Christ!

- Pastor Paul

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT:

My Decision Today:

I trusted Jesus as Savior.

I'd like to join Calvary Baptist Church.

I believe God is calling me into ministry/mission.

Please have a pastor or elder contact me.

If you would like to speak with someone about one of the items noted above, please visit the Next Steps Kiosk before you leave today.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Pastors & Prayer Team Only

Churchwide

Connect Card

September 11, 2022

Please complete this tab, tear it off and drop it in an offering plate, or in the boxes by the exits.

- Please update my information
- Please contact me about membership

I am a:

- First Time Guest
- Attender
- Member

Name

Address

City

State/Zip

- Male
- Female

- Married
- Single

Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Spouse

Spouse's Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)

Children:

Name / Date of Birth

Please complete the additional information on the back of this tab, if applicable.

September 11, 2022



I'm New Here

To fill out a digital Connect Card or learn more about Calvary, please use your smartphone camera to scan the QR Code.

How to Become a Christian

Want more information about how to become a Christian? Go to calvarydothan.com/become-a-christian/.

If you would like to view a pdf of today's sermon notes, go to calvarydothan.com/podcast.

 calvarydothan.com

 [@calvarydothan](https://twitter.com/calvarydothan)

 [@calvarydothan](https://www.instagram.com/calvarydothan)

 [/calvarydothan](https://www.facebook.com/calvarydothan)



901 Montezuma Avenue
Dothan, AL 36303
Church Office 334.792.5159
Weekday 334.793.9898

FIRST TIME GUEST?

We're so glad you've joined us for worship today and would love to be able to share more with you about our church. Please fill out the Connect Card to the left and place it in one of the offering plates when they are passed. Be sure to stop by our Next Steps kiosk after the service for a gift from us!

THE PEOPLE CAME...

September 4
Life Groups: 335
10:00 Worship: 427
Hispanic Church: 131
Grace City Church (NY): 30

THE PEOPLE GAVE...

General Fund
Given September 4: \$44,397.45
Y-T-D Budget
Surplus (Deficit): (\$43,889.06)

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday, September 11:
Jgs 8, Acts 12, Jer 21, Mk 7
Monday, September 12:
Jgs 9, Acts 13, Jer 22, Mk 8
Tuesday, September 13:
Jgs 10:1-11:11, Acts 14, Jer 23, Mk 9
Wednesday, September 14:
Jgs 11:12-40, Acts 15, Jer 24, Mk 10
Thursday, September 15:
Jgs 12, Acts 16, Jer 25, Mk 11
Friday, September 16:
Jgs 13, Acts 17, Jer 26, Mk 12
Saturday, September 17:
Jgs 14, Acts 18, Jer 27, Mk 13

Midweek Schedule

6:00pm Midweek Worship, Sanctuary
Preschool, Birth-K5, Preschool Building
Children, Grades 1-5, Kids Worship Room
Students, Grades 6-12, Student Room
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

4 Ways to Give

- Give online by going to calvarydothan.com/give-online/.
- On Sundays, drop in the offering plate or in the collection boxes near the Fellowship Center exit doors.
- Mail to 901 Montezuma Avenue, Dothan, AL 36303
- Bring to the church office, M-F, 8am-12noon & 1-4:30pm

Ministry Staff

Paul Thompson.....Senior Pastor
Charles Uptain.....Executive Pastor
Dan Tankersley.....Discipleship
Patrick Lima.....Worship
Tommy Perry.....Missions

STAFF ON CALL

Sunday, September 11:
Reagan Farris | 504-319-6986
Saturday, September 17:
Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791
Sunday, September 18:
Joyce Alexander | 334-798-4791

SERMON SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 14 | 6pm
Exodus 6: The Almighty God
Message by Paul Thompson

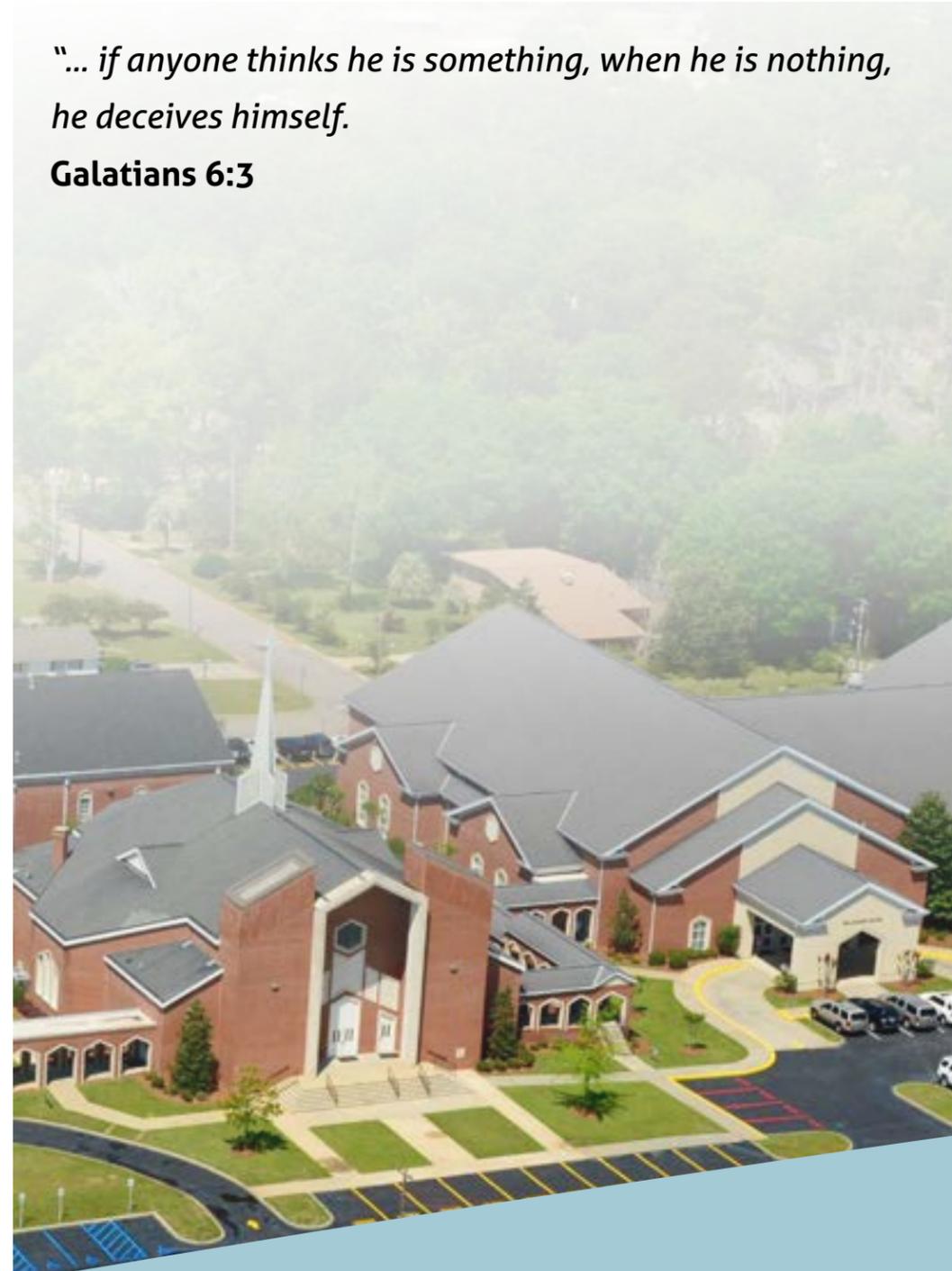
Sunday, September 18 | 10am
Acts: What/Who Is Your God?
Acts 19:21-41
Message by Don Mills

Wednesday, September 21 | 6pm
Community-Wide Prayer Service
The Prayers of the Righteous
Dothan Civic Center

Sunday, September 25 | 10am
Acts: The Life-Giving Gospel
Acts 20:1-12
Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:00am Call to Prayer, Sanctuary
8:30am Life Group
10:00am Worship, Fellowship Center
Kid's Worship, Grades 1-5, Chapel (except 1st Sunday)
11:00am Worship Broadcast on JoyFM 94.3/96.1 with a 1 wk delay.



"... if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

Galatians 6:3

