

Miracle Stories in the New Testament

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Introduction and Classifications:

The miracle stories of the New Testament can be separated into several different categories, each of which is significantly different from the others. Within each category, however, most of the stories have certain formal similarities:

- **Individual Narratives** of Specific Miracles (and associated controversies):
 - **Exorcisms** (casting out demons and unclean spirits)
 - **Healing Miracles** (healing physical illnesses & impairments)
 - **Restoration Miracles** (raising the dead; restoring to life)
 - **Nature Miracles** (feeding multitudes, calming storms, etc.)
- **The Evangelists' Summaries** of Miracles and Related Actions:
 - **Summaries of Jesus' Ministry** (exorcisms, miracles, and related works)
 - **Summaries of Other's Works** (the disciples and/or other exorcists)
 - Consider what Jesus does, for whom, and/or why?
 - How do people react? some positively and some negatively!



Comparative Tables of the Gospel Miracle Stories

Exorcisms: Major Exorcisms and Stories involving Satan/Devil/Beelzubul/Demons in the Synoptic Gospels: (*Note: There are no exorcisms in the Gospel according to John*)

Pericope	Mark	Matthew	Luke
Jesus is tempted/tested in the desert by the Devil/Satan	1:12-13	4:1-11	4:1-13
Unclean Spirit/Demon in Synagogue at Capernaum	1:23-28	---	4:33-37
Jesus casts out a demon that made a man dumb (mute)	---	9:32-33 12:22-23	11:14
Beelzebul Controversy: What power does Jesus use?	3:22-30	9:34 12:24-30	11:15-23
Gerasene/Gadarene Demoniac possessed by "Legion"	5:1-20	8:28-34	8:26-39
Syro-Phoenician Woman's Daughter	7:24-30	15:21-28	---
Boy with an Epileptic Spirit	9:14-29	17:14-21	9:37-43a
Another Exorcist	9:38-41	10:42	9:49-50

Healings:

Pericope	Mark	Matthew	Luke	John
Healing Simon Peter's Mother-in-law	1:29-31	8:14-15	4:38-39	--
Cleansing a Leper	1:40-45	8:1-4	5:12-16	--
Healing a Centurion's Servant	--	8:5-13	7:1-10	--
Healing a Paralytic	2:1-12	9:1-8	5:17-26	[cf. 5:1-18]
Restoring a Man's Withered Hand	3:1-6	12:9-14	6:6-11	--
Healing a Woman's Hemorrhage	5:25-34	9:19-22	8:43-48	--
Restoring Sight to Two Blind Men	--	9:27-31	--	--
Healing a Syro-Phoenician Girl	7:24-30	15:21-28	--	--
Healing a Deaf Mute	7:31-37	--	--	--
Giving Sight to a Blind Man at Bethsaida	8:22-26	--	--	--
Restoring a Woman Crippled for Eighteen Years	--	--	13:10-17	--
Healing a Man with Dropsy	--	--	14:1-6	--
Cleansing Ten Men of Leprosy	--	--	17:11-19	--
Giving Sight to a Blind Man (or 2 Men) at Jericho	10:46-52	20:29-34	18:35-43	[cf. 9:1-41]
Healing a Royal Official's Son at Cana	--	--	--	4:46-54
Healing a Man at the Pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem	--	--	--	5:2-47
Giving Sight to a Man Blind since Birth	--	--	--	9:1-41
Healing a Slave's Severed Ear	[14:47]	[26:51-54]	22:49-51	[18:10]

Restoration Miracles:

Pericope	Mark	Matthew	Luke	John
Raising from the Dead a Widow's Son at Nain	--	--	7:11-17	--
Raising from the Dead the Daughter of Jairus	5:21-24,35-43	9:18-19,23-26	8:40-42,49-56	--
Raising Lazarus of Bethany from the Dead	--	--	--	11:1-44

Nature Miracles:

Pericope	Mark	Matthew	Luke	John
Catching Unusually Many Fish in the Sea of Galilee	--	--	5:1-11	[cf. 21:1]
Stilling a Storm on the Sea of Galilee	4:35-41	8:23-27	8:22-25	--
Feeding Five Thousand People	6:32-44	14:13-21	9:10b-17	6:1-15
Walking on the Water	6:45-52	14:22-33	--	6:16-21
Feeding Four Thousand People	8:1-10	15:32-39	--	--
Finding a Coin in the Mouth of a Fish	--	17:24-27	--	--
Cursing a Fig Tree near Bethany	11:12-14	21:18-19	--	--
Turning Water into Wine at a Wedding in Cana	--	--	--	2:1-11
Catching Numerous Fish at the Sea of Tiberias	--	--	[cf. 5:1]	21:1-14

Evangelists' Summaries of Jesus Ministry:

Pericope	Mark	Matthew	Luke	John
Jesus Proclaims a "Jubilee Year" (cf. Isa 61:1-2)	--	--	4:16-21	--
"Physician, Heal Yourself" Proverb	--	--	4:23	--
Many Healed/Exorcized One Evening	1:32-34	8:16-17	4:40-41	--
Brief Summary	1:39	4:23	[cf. 5:15]	--
Jesus Heals Many by the Sea of Galilee	3:10-12	4:24-25 [cf. 12:15-16]	6:17-19	--
Response to the Baptist's Question	--	11:2-6	7:18-23	--
The Beelzebul Controversy	3:22-30	12:24-29 [cf. 9:32-34]	11:15-22	[cf. 8:37-59]
Jesus Preaches and Heals	[cf. 6:6]	9:35	[cf. 8:1]	--
Healings at Gennesaret	6:53-56	14:34-36	--	[cf. 6:22-25]
Jesus Heals Many People	[cf. 7:31-37]	15:29-31	--	--
Jesus Heals the Blind and Lame in the Temple	--	21:14	--	--

Evangelists' Summaries of the Ministry of Jesus' Disciples and Others:

Pericope	Mark	Matthew	Luke	John
Jesus Chooses 12 Apostles to Preach and Heal	3:15	--	--	--
Jesus Sends the Twelve Out on Mission	6:7, 13	10:1, 8	9:1-2, 6	--
Why the Disciples Could Not Heal/Exorcize	9:18, 28	17:16, 19	9:40	--
Another Exorcist, not Jesus' Disciple	9:38-41	10:42	9:49-50	--
Jesus Sends 70 (or 72) More Disciples out on Mission	[cf. 16:17-18]	--	10:9, 17-20	--
False Prophets Will Show "Signs and Wonders"	13:21-22	24:24	--	--
Herod Hears of Jesus' Exorcisms and Healings	--	--	13:32	--
<i>Believers Will Perform "Signs"</i>	16:17-18	--	--	--