

Casting Out Devils

- I. Jesus gave the apostles power to cast out devils.
 1. **Mat 10:8** - Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.
- II. Jesus also gave the first-generation Christians power to cast out devils.
 1. **Mar 16:17** - And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
 2. **Mar 16:18** - 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.
- III. This power to cast out devils was a miraculous power along with its counterparts of speaking in tongues, immunity to deadly snake venom and other poisons, healing the sick by laying hands on them, and raising the dead.
 1. These miraculous gifts ceased within 40 years of the beginning of Christ's earthly ministry.
 2. This 40 year period of miracles was prophesied in the Old Testament.
 - A. **Mic 7:15** - According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I shew unto him marvelous things.
 - i. Marvelous things are miracles.
 - a. **Psa 78:12** - Marvellous things did he in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
 - b. **Psa 78:13** - He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap.
 - c. **Psa 78:14** - In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.
 - d. **Psa 78:15** - He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink as out of the great depths.
 - e. **Psa 78:16** - He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.
 - ii. According adj. - 1. Agreeing, corresponding to; matching.
 - iii. God gave Israel miracles in Egypt for 40 years (**Act 7:36**).
 - iv. **Mic 7:15** was prophesying of the days of the Messiah when God would pardon the iniquity of His people (**Mic 7:18-19**).
 - B. Putting it together, there was coming a time in the days of the Messiah when God would once again show unto Israel miracles for 40 years corresponding to and matching the season of miracles that they experienced in Egypt for 40 years.
 - C. Jesus began the miracles at the beginning of His earthly ministry in approximately 30AD (**Joh 2:11**).
 - D. Therefore, the season of miracles ceased at approximately 70AD.
 - E. The purpose for the miracles was to give the Jews a sign (**Joh 4:48**; **1Co 1:22**) and to confirm the word of God spoken by the apostles (**Mar 16:20**; **Heb 2:3-4**).
 - F. After 70AD the Jewish nation was destroyed and the New Testament of the word of God was very near completion.
 - G. Therefore, there was no more need for the sign gifts and they ceased.
 3. Casting out devils was one of the miraculous powers that ceased at 70AD along with speaking in tongues, prophesying, healing the sick, and raising the dead.
- IV. Therefore, no man has the power to cast out a devil today, but of course Jesus still can.