**Miracles**

**How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders!
His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and his dominion is from generation to generation.**

***(Daniel 4:3)***

**And it shall come to pass that when they blow the trumpets
and when you hear the sound of the trumpet,
then all the people shall shout with a great shout;
and the wall of the city shall fall down flat,
and the people shall go up every man straight before him.**

***(Joshua 6:5)***

**Remember that all the miraculous abilities you demonstrated can be naturally and automatically packaged, and preserved without the slightest impairment, for periods of 20 to 50 years or so, in an ultramicroscopic part of you, received by you at no cost and forwarded into the future at the same price, in a tiny segment of a gene in a chromosome in a solution so concentrated that a single teaspoon could contain all the instructions needed to build and operate the 6 billion people now on the planet. *(Eliot Porter, in Foreward to Summer Island)***

**To help trap monkeys on the Philippine island of Mindanao for polio research, John N. Hamlet employed the native Moros. When the time came for him to leave, he felt he should do something special for them. Hamlet tells how he thanked his helpers. They had never seen a plane on the ground and experienced only passing views of planes in flight, so I decided they might enjoy an airplane ride. I hired a pilot and plane. The Moros were unusually quiet as the plane took off and circled above their wooded mountain villages. They glanced out the windows a few times but remained nonchalant and silent. “It was some ride, wasn’t it?” I asked enthusiastically at the end of the trip. “Think about it! There you were in the skies, riding higher than the trees, higher than the mountains. You could look down and see everything on the earth. Wasn’t it wonderful?” The unsmiling, stoic leader of the little tribe looked me in the face. Finally he mumbled a few words. “Bugs do it,” he said. *(With W. Horace Carter, in Land That I Love)***

**During the Renaissance and later in the Industrial Revolution the idea of the miracle was almost completely blotted out in the increase in materialism and the consequent decline in spiritual perception and demonstration. *(Emmet Fox, in Diagrams for Living)***

**There’s no use having a universe, a cosmology, if you don’t have witnesses. We are the witnesses to the miracle. We are put here by creation, by God. We’re here to be the audience to the magnificent. It’s our job to celebrate. *(Ray Bradbury)***

**Every day you're alive and someone loves you is a miracle. *(Rita Mae Brown, in Cat's Eyewitness)***

**When comedian George Burns was asked about his title role in the film Oh, God, the 82-year-old star explained that “it wasn’t hard to play God. At my age, everything I do is a miracle.” *(Neal Travis, in New York Post)***

**North Denver native and politician Dennis Gallagher recalls that the firefighters at the old Fire Station No. 7, at West 36th Avenue and Tejon Street, used their wagon to take Mother Frances Cabrini, the first U.S. citizen to be canonized by the Vatican, and her nuns on picnics. “My dad,” Gallagher says, “and other old-time smoke eaters told me that whenever they were out with the nuns, north Denver was miraculously protected from any kind of blaze. *(Thomas J. Noel, in Denver Landmarks & Historic Districts)***

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**Where there is great love, there are always miracles. *(Willa Cather, in Death Comes for the Archbishop)***

**The miracles of the Church seem to me to rest not so much upon faces or voices or healing power coming suddenly near to us from afar off, but upon our perceptions being made finer, so that for a moment our eyes can see and our ears can hear what is there about us always. *(Willa Cather)***

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**A coincidence is a small miracle where God chose to remain anonymous. *(Heidi Quade)***

**A Colorado Springs mother and her newborn have made a complete recovery following their apparent deaths. Tracy Hermanstorfer was getting ready to deliver her son, Coltyn, on Christmas Eve when she went into cardiac arrest and stopped breathing. After failing to revive her, doctors removed the baby by Caesarian section, but he was limp, with the barest murmur of a heartbeat. Then, as the medical team slowly revived Coltyn, his mother also began to come around, after having had no heartbeat for four minutes. The doctors had no explanation for the double miracle. “I had everything in the world taken from me,” said Tracy’s husband, Mike, and “in an hour and a half I had everything given to me.” *(The Week magazine, January 15, 2010)***

**Dolly tells her little brother Billy: "Wow! Did you see that? Daddy turned on TV without usin' the remote!" *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circle comic strip)***

**By definition, a miracle is an event contrary to the laws of nature, worked by a super-human agency as a manifestation of its power. *(Ernest O. Hauser, in Reader’s Digest)***

**There is no order of difficulty in miracles. One is not “harder” or “bigger” than another. They are all the same. *(A Course in Miracles)***

**Sixty-three days after the devastating earthquake in Pakistan, a survivor has been rescued from the rubble. Naqsha Bibi, a 45-year-old Kashmiri woman, was buried alive in the Kamsar refugee camp just north of Muzaffarabad on October 8; residents of the camp found her this week as they were digging in search of missing bodies. Bibi is receiving fluids and her condition is improving, although she weighs less than 60 pounds. “Medical science will hardly accept it,” said Dr. Abdul Hamid, one of the attending physicians, “but you know miracles do happen in this world.” *(The Week magazine, January 6, 2006)***

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**Einstein once expressed the relationship between the mysterious and the miraculous, saying: “The beauty of it is that we have to content ourselves with the recognition of the miracle, beyond which there is no legitimate way out.” *(Dr. Larry Dossey, in The Healing Provess)***

**There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle. *(Albert Einstein)***

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**Drabble: “It never fails. Every time I wash my car, it rains!” Wife: “Oh, well. You’ve only washed it twice in the last five years!” Drabble: “It’s still pretty amazing!” *(Kevin Fagan, in Drabble comic strip)***

**Don’t expect miracles – they always prefer to come as a surprise. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Doctor says to patient after the operation: “It’s a medical miracle you pulled through. An expensive miracle, I might add.” *(Engleman cartoon, in The American Legion magazine)***

**THE MIRACLE IS THIS: Under cloudless skies at the driest time of Botswana's year, when rain is both a fading memory and a distant promise, a flood comes to the Okavango Delta. Generated by rainfall 500 miles and two countries away in the highlands of Angola, the flood wave snakes down the Okavango River and spreads across the delta, swelling its lagoons and channels and spilling outward to inundate its floodplains. In a land withered by drought, this gift of water is like unction, and all nature responds to it. The miracle happens in slow motion, for this part of southern Africa is so flat that the floodwaters take three months to reach the delta and four more to traverse its 150-mile length. Yet by the time its force is spent, the flood has increased the Okawango's wetland area by two or three times, creating an oasis up to half the size of Lake Erie at the edge of the Kalahari Desert. *(Kennedy Warne, in National Geographic magazine)***

**When something good happens it’s a miracle, and you should wonder what God is saving up for you later. *(Marshall Brickman, Academy-Award winning screenwriter)***

**God and St. Peter are playing a round of golf. On the first hole God drives into the water. The waters part and God chips onto the green. On the second hole God takes a tremendous whack and the ball lands ten feet from the pin. An earthquake causes part of the green to rise and the ball rolls into the cup. On the third hole God lands in a sand trap. He creates life: single-cell organisms develop into fish, then amphibians. They evolve into reptiles, birds and furry little mammals. One of the mammals runs into the trap, grabs God’s ball in its mouth, scurries over and drops it in the hole. St. Peter looks at God and says, “You gonna play golf, or you gonna fool around?” *(P. J. O’Rourke, in Age and Guile Beat Youth, Innocence, and a Bad Haircut)***

**Did you hear about the woman who found a rattlesnake on her porch under the morning paper? She beat the snake to death with the paper. Truly amazing! Not that she could kill the snake, but that the paper was on her front porch in the first place. *(Jay Trackman, in One to One)***

**Miracles, you see, open our minds. They burst the limits of our closely defined little world. Miracles invite us to see with wide eyes. Miracles whisper to us: “Hope is always an option.” Don’t rule out grace. There are more possibilities here than you have yet dreamed. Stay awake and be aware. Behold the wonder of what is. *(Paul L. Holte, in Unity magazine)***

**After a big thunderstorm last summer, we found one of our horses dead, presumably killed by lightning. For insurance purposes, we had to have this confirmed by a veterinarian. The vet’s phone was answered by his exuberant young assistant. I told her that we had a dead horse and that we would like the vet to come out to see it. After a long silence, she said in a subdued voice, “Well, the doctor is good. But he’s not that good.” *(David Shapiro, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Two old friends, Quinn, a Christian, and Sophie, a Jew, are having lunch when Sophie says to her friend, “Don’t take this personally, but how can you honestly believe that Jesus walked on water, turned water into wine, or made the infirm walk?” “Well, look at it this way,” says Quinn. “Maybe there were rocks beneath the water’s surface, and he crossed over them. Or maybe there was a little wine in the water, and that’s what someone tasted. As for healing the sick, maybe they just needed his guidance. But who are you to question my beliefs? What about Moses parting the Red Sea?” Sophie nods thoughtfully. “Wasn’t that something?” *(Patti Browne, in Reader’s Digest)***

**A miracle is a violation of the laws of nature; and as a firm and unalterable experience has established these laws, there is here a direct and full proof against the existence of any miracle. *(David Hume, Scottish philosopher)***

**A father and his small son were out duck hunting. Dad bragged how good a shot he was. Then a lone duck flew over, the father took careful aim, and fired. The duck kept right on flying. The father was not upset. He turned to the boy and said, “Son, you have just witnessed a miracle. There flies a dead duck.” *(Treasury of Clean Sport Jokes)***

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**If it’s free, it’s advice; it you pay for it, it’s counseling; if you can use either one, it’s a miracle. *(Jack Adams, in Belleville, Wis., Recorder)***

**Concerning a golf shot: "If it goes to the right, it’s a slice. If it goes to the left, it’s a hook. If it goes straight, it’s a miracle." *(Bob Thaves, in Frank & Ernest comic strip)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*In Sunday School, the minister was trying to illustrate the word “miracle.” “Boys and girls,” he said, “suppose I stood on the roof of a 10-story building and fell off. Then all of a sudden, a whirlwind swept me up and brought me safely to the ground. Now what word would you use to describe that?” After a long silence, a boy raised his hand and said, “Luck.” “True, true,” the minister replied. “It could be luck -- but that’s not the word I wanted. I’ll repeat the story.” After he finished, he asked, “Think now -- what word would describe the situation?” “Accident!” an eager girl cried out. “No, no,” the exasperated minister said. “Listen carefully for the third time.” They did and then he said, “What word could account for my safely reaching the ground?” The class shouted in unison, “Practice!” *(The Lion)***

**The incredible happens just often enough to make life either disturbing or delightful. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**When the children of Israel went to take Jericho, God told them to walk around the city for seven days. Now this plan probably was not so much to frighten the people of Jericho as it was to make sure there was no vestige of self-reliance left in the Israelites. Can’t you see them dragging back to camp after the fifth or sixth day of marching? They were probably physically shot, and the city walls looked bigger every day they marched around them. Even those who’d come up with an alternate plan of attack in case God’s shouting plan didn’t work must have thrown it out by now. They were most likely either too tired to try it, or too aware of the difficulties to think it would work. The choice came down to God working, or a disastrous defeat. And that was the necessary prerequisite for God to do a great miracle. *(Russ Johnston)***

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**In human consciousness, man is involved in all sorts of limitations: sin, disease, privation. And in this consciousness, all the things that Jesus did were absolutely miraculous! Looking as a “lowly worm of the dust” would see, just imagine turning water into wine; feeding five thousand hungry people with a few loaves and fishes; healing people lame and blind since birth. *(Eric Butterworth, in Discover the Power Within You, p. 24)***

**These miraculous actions account for a large portion of the Scriptures. We read of seventeen healings, three raisings from the dead, six exorcisms, and six victories over the forces of nature. Mark’s Gospel devotes nearly one-third of its entire text to Jesus’ miracles. *(Ernest O. Hauser, in Reader’s Digest)***

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**When we do the best we can, we never know what miracle may be wrought. *(Helen Keller)***

**How can a person be a miracle, and not know it? Maybe that’s part of the miracle. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**There are only three types of people: those who make things happen, those who watch things happen and those who say, “What happened?” *(Ann Landers, News America Syndicate)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**By the power of his thought Elijah penetrated the atoms and precipitated an abundance of rain. By the same law he increased the widow’s oil and meal. This was not a miracle -- that is, it was not a divine intervention supplanting natural law -- but the exploitation of a law not ordinarily understood. Jesus used the same dynamic power of thought to break the bonds of the atoms composing the few loaves and fishes of a little lad’s lunch -- and five thousand people were fed. *(Charles Fillmore, in The Atom-Smashing Power of Mind, p. 10)***

**Now, the laws of nature do not change, for one of the attributes of God is unchanging principle. Sometimes it seems as if the miracle violates law, as with Jesus walking on the water. We call such things miracles because we cannot explain them by any of the known laws. There is a great deal of psychic phenomena that cannot be explained because we do not yet know the laws governing such things. But in the sense of breaking the laws of nature, there are no miracles. *(Emmet Fox, in Diagrams for Living)***

**The laws of nature are subject to the laws of God, who guides and controls the whole universe. God spares and preserves those who trust in him, and who work with his laws and not against them. *(George M. Lamsa, in Old Testament Light, p. 118)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Good week for: Miracles, after police came to arrest a wheel-chair-bound Los Angeles woman on charges that she had filed several bogus personal-injury lawsuits. The woman, Laura Lee Medley, 35, jumped out of her chair and tried to run down the street. *(The Week magazine, May 26, 2006)***

**Dad: “So now you have a canopy bed.” Zoe: “And Mom sewed it all out of old sheets! She makes wishes come true!” Dad: “You’re a regular miracle worker.” Mom: “Some people think so.” Dad: “So can that thing stitch together a BMW for me?” Mom: “Sorry. One miracle per day is my limit.” *(Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)***

**After all, I don’t see why I am always asking for private, individual, selfish miracles when every year there are miracles like white dogwood. *(Anne Morrow Lindbergh, in Bring Me A Unicorn)***

**Each year 50,000 sick people visit the shrine at Lourdes, France. And 3,000,000 healthy folks visit the place annually, also. Despite what you hear, only sixty-three miraculous cures have been certified by the Church since Marie Bernarde Soubirous (St. Bernadette) first saw visions of the Virgin in the grotto in 1858. *(Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 21)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Heart: “But, but the sign outside of your magic shop, it says: ‘Miracles Performed.’” Store manager: “OK, small boy, you want miracle? Want to levitate a ball? I sell you this! Want to make penny disappear? I sell you that! You see? Miracles! I sell them, yes? Now show me miracle and buy something!” Heart: “Can you make a penny multiply?” *(Mark Tatulli, in Heart Of The City comic strip)***

**Heart: “Hey, Mom, Look! I found my long-lost magic wand!” Mom: “Magic wand? I’d say it’s more like a miraculous wand!” Heart: “Really? Why?” Mom: “Because it’s a miracle you found anything in that pigsty you call a bedroom.” Heart: “Oh, funny.” *(Mark Tatulli, in Heart of the City comic strip)***

**A magician was working on a cruise ship in the Caribbean. The audience would be different each week, so the magician felt comfortable performing the same trick over and over again. There was only one problem. The captain’s parrot saw the shows each week and began to understand how the magician did every trick. Once the parrot understood, the squawking started in the middle of the show: “Look, it’s not the same hat.” “Look, the flowers are under the table.” “Hey, why are all the cards the ace of spades?” The magician was furious but couldn’t do anything; it was, after all, the captain’s parrot. One day the ship had an accident and sank. As the magician clung to a piece of wood in the middle of the ocean, the parrot flew over and perched next to the magician’s hand. They stared at each other with hate, but did not utter a word. This went on for days. “OK, I give up,” the parrot said after a week. “Where’s the boat?” *(Rodney & Cathy’s Joke List)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Mary had a little lamb – and the doctor fainted. *(Dorothy Galyean, in Quips and Quotes and Cleaned up Jokes)***

**Twenty-four of the Master’s thirty-three recorded miracles were instances of restoration of the sick. *(A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity, p. 73)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**You are not mature until you expect the unexpected. *(Quoted in Chicago Tribune)***

**Man: “April and Elizabeth have never been so happy together. They’re not bickering or fighting! Maybe they’ve matured past that, El. Maybe they’re becoming two loving sisters! Miracles can happen!” *(Lynn Johnson, in For Better or For Worse comic strip)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**What does the miracle mean? It means that having called upon God, things will be different from what they would have been had we not done so. It means that no matter what the difficulty, the power of God can overcome it. It means that no matter what the mistake, it can be undone and wiped out. *(Emmet Fox, in Diagrams for Living, p. 88)***

[**I remember the story of the couple who had a retarded ten-year-old boy. They had spent large sums of money on medicine and therapy, but the boy seemed to be making little progress. To add to their woes, the husband’s mother died, leaving an aged father who was unable to maintain himself independent of family support. So the couple added to their burden by taking the little boy’s grandfather into their home. The retarded boy and the grandfather became fast friends, sharing activities and spending many hours together. The boy began to make significant progress in his performance of skills that had previously been regarded as unattainable. His doctors were absolutely amazed at the change in the boy and could offer no standard medical explanation for it. They did, however, admire the therapy that had taken place as the result of an inseparable companionship between a retarded boy and his aged grandfather. *(Dr. Charles Dickson, in New Realities magazine)***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)

**It is quite natural that vain people should like mirrors, for when a girl confesses that she is admiring her hair-do in a mirror, she is using two words that are based on the same Latin word miror which means “admire.” So confessedly, mirrors are made for self-admiration. Our word miracle belongs to the same Latin family, as a miracle is an object of admiration and wonder. *(Wilfred Funk, in Word Origins, p. 85)***

**There are no unnatural or supernatural phenomena, only very large gaps in our knowledge of what is natural. We should strive to fill those gaps of ignorance. *(Edgar D. Mitchell, Apollo 14 Astronaut)***

**Dentist: “OK, now we’re just going to take a few pictures of your teeth. Bite down. And this is just a heavy blanket to protect you from the X-rays. Now I’m just going to step out of the room to click the camera.” Heart: “With all the miracles of modern medicine, why is going to the dentist like being in some cheap 1950s science fiction movie?” *(Mark Tatulli, in Heart Of The City comic strip)***

**Much of my life I have looked for God in the momentous, while he’s been waiting in the moment. *(Mike Yaconelli)***

**The fall of 1847 found the Mormons ready to reap substantial crops, until a swarm of crickets threatened all. The crops were saved by the arrival of flights of seagulls, who ate the crickets and gave the Mormons their “symbol of deliverance.” The beautiful Seagull monument at Salt Lake City pays tribute to the bird that saved the first Mormon crops. *(The World Almanac of the USA, p. 304)***

**We always should recall that it is mystery that paves the way for the miracle. If there are no unknowns, the miraculous has no home. *(Dr. Larry Dossey)***

**Miracles are natural. When they do not occur, something has gone wrong. *(A Course in Miracles)***

**If we believe that we need a miracle in order to attain our good – whether it be healing, prosperity, concern for another, whatever – if we feel that only a miracle can help, then we are automatically limiting the power of our prayer. In focusing too specifically, we are ignoring the fact that God’s desire for us is total good. No miracles are needed to bring that good to us. The very nature of God is wholeness, abundance, and love. As part of God’s creation, we are inheritors of all that. To tap into those attributes is natural, not miraculous. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafola, in The Quest, p. 118)***

**A miracle is never lost. It may touch many people you have not even met, and produce undreamed of changes in situations of which you are not aware. *(A Course In Miracles)***

**The miracle is the more we share, the more we have. *(Leonard Nimoy)***

**I believe in miracles. The way I see it, life isn't flat and thin and "realistic"; it's rich and full of mystery and surprise. I think miracles exist in part as gifts and in part as clues that there is something beyond the flat world we see. I also think they happen every day, from the baby's perfect shoulder in the sonogram to saints performing wonders. *(Peggy Noonan, in What I Saw at the Revolution)***

**Yesterday’s miracle was not enough -- I want a miracle today, and another coming tomorrow. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Heart: “Look, guys, it’s the last period and we’re getting crushed. Let’s just go the distance. Ready?” Mom: “Andrew and Donnie Spumanti! What are you boys doing? I told you to clean out the garage! Get moving!” Donnie: “Yes, Mom.” Heart: “Holy smokes! They just lost two of their hockey players! That means . . . forfeit! It’s an Olympic miracle!” *(Mark Tatulli, in Heart of the City comic strip)***

**Every miracle is produced by a realization of the omnipresence of God, by knowing there is no place where God is not. *(Emmet Fox, in Diagrams for Living, p. 93)***

**Open your eyes and heart to God’s miracles. Expect them, want them, and enjoy them when they occur. When, not if. *(Betsy Williams, in 101 Simple Secrets to Keep Your Faith)***

**If by miracle, we mean an event or a condition outside of universal laws, we are wrong, because there can never be anything outside of the cosmic laws that God set up. However, sometimes things happen which are so far beyond what we would expect, that we call them miracles. What miracles really are, then, are natural outworkings of the law. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafola, in The Quest, p. 118)***

**A certain type of miracle occurs in parking lots all over the USA. A car pulls into a space marked for the handicapped. Then a person emerges from the car completely healed. *(Leslie & Bernice Flynn, in Humorous Incidents and Quips, p. 24)***

**The PC: Miraculous but boring: Where’s the sense of wonder? asked David Fearon. The story of personal computers is one of “amazing semiconductor and materials science,” astonishing leaps in processing power, and clever engineering that makes e-mailing and Web surfing quick and easy. But if you try to engage someone in a conversation about computing power, you’ll soon notice they’re wearing a glazed expression. You won’t hear any admiration for “all this massive investment, all this science involving some of the world’s finest minds.” That’s because “computer technology is assimilated into everyday life with such speed and regularity, we don’t even notice that we should be amazed.” We think nothing of firing up a browser, searching the Web for “fun games,” and moments later playing “a game running in a Flash plug-in, running in a tab, running in a browser, running in a window, running on a multi-windowed operating system.” Yet just a few years ago, that now-routine scenario was inconceivable. That’s computing for you. “It’s a humdrum, everyday sort of miracle, but a miracle nonetheless.” *(The Week magazine, April 9, 2010)***

**As a scientist, I expect statistical proof whenever possible to convince me of most things. But as I continue to mature, I’ve become more and more impressed by the frequency of statistically highly improbable events. In their very improbability, I begin to see the fingerprints of God. *(M. Scott Peck, in The Road Less Traveled & Beyond)***

**I play golf religiously: If I make a shot, it’s a miracle! *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**My three-year-old son, Levi, had been learning the pledge of allegiance at the nursery school he attended. One afternoon we went to the post office and, as we left the building, Levi noticed the American flag flying out front. He pointed to it and said, “Look -- there’s the United States of a miracle.” *(Cheria Simpson, in Reader’s Digest)***

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**In 1979, New York City was the site of a papal visit, and Mayor Edward Koch was at the airport to greet John Paul II. Later Koch related this story: We were having a tremendous rainstorm, but the minute the pope stepped off the plane, the sun came out. One of the cops standing next to me said to his partner, “Nowthat’s the kind of guy you want to have for a golf partner!” *(National Catholic News Service)***

**Everybody in the hospital was awaiting a visit from Pope John Paul II. A doctor with a handful of paperwork took a seat in a wheelchair and busied himself with his notes. The Pope swept in and blessed the doctor, who immediately stood up and walked forward. The devout in the Pope’s entourage crossed themselves and rolled their eyes heavenward. *(L. M. Boyd)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**The reason promises have conditions is that when God does a miracle, the Scriptures indicate that He usually chooses to start with something. He created man from the dust of the ground, a woman from a rib, wine from water, a meal for 5,000 from five loaves and two fish, and demolished Jericho’s walls by an army simply marching around them. *(Russ Johnston, in God Can Make It Happen)***

**Sainthood: “Proving” a miracle can be a lengthy process that only a diocese or religious order can afford. That’s why the catalog of saints is packed with popes and other church officials, while ordinary Catholics who live extraordinarily holy lives – with heroic dedication to others or to prayer and virtue – are often excluded from the club. “It costs money to have someone canonized. You have to collect information,” said the Rev. Thomas Reese, a senior fellow at Georgetown University. “And nobody’s going to do that for your mom.” *(The Week magazine, July 19, 2013)* Seventy-eight of the 265 popes have been made saints, including 52 of the first 54 popes. *(CNN.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, July 19, 2013)***

**Returning home from my job as a painter and decorator, I noticed a magnificent rainbow in the evening sky. Eager to show my young son something he had never seen before, I took him outside and held him up to have a look. “Wow!” he exclaimed. “How’d you do it, Dad?” *(R. Winstanley, in Reader’s Digest)***

**It’d be a miracle if you could find a road that’s never had a motor-vehicle accident on it, wouldn’t it? You can say that about SF185, the road that goes around Mackinac Island in Lake Huron. The island only has a fire wagon, ambulance and public utilities truck. Still a miracle? *(L. M. Boyd)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**Since Pope Benedict XIV published his work On the Beatification and Canonization of God’s Servants in 1738, the rule applies that each saint must be shown to have performed at least two miracles after his or her death. All those who are now on the waiting list of twelve hundred “near-saints” have a very much harder time of it than their predecessors. Things that were readily accepted as miracles before are performed today by every competent medical practitioner. It is no longer as easy to become a saint as it used to be. *(Erich von Daniken, in Miracles of the Gods, p. 130)***

**Miracles are not contrary to nature, only contrary to what we know about nature. *(St. Augustine)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\**One cannot use electric light and the radio and at the same time believe in the world of spirits and miracles of the New Testament. *(Rudolf Bultmann)***

**Miracles are propitious accidents, the natural causes of which are too complicated to be readily understood. (*George Santayana)***

**First, the Divine Seed is presented to us from the Mind of God. It comes to us as a Divine Seed. This seed lies dormant within us until we recognize it and give life to it. As this seed (desire) begins to feel life, it puts forth a yearning to grow and bear fruit. All seeds need three things in order to mature. They need water, fertilizer, and sunshine. Only you, as the “light of its life”, can give these three things. You can give it water through giving it praise. You can give it fertilizer through giving it love. And you give it sunshine through the attitude of joy. These three things add up to the power which brings the Divine Seed to its blossom. This, my friend, is allowing God (or Spirit) to work through you to become the example that God would have you be. It is only in becoming healthy, happy and wealthy that we continuously experience the miracles that God has so richly provided for us. *(Rev. Anne Kunath)***

**Serendipity is looking in a haystack for a needle and discovering the farmer’s daughter. *(Quoted by Julius H. Comroe, Jr. in Retrospectroscope)***

**A man named Gustavo Gomes reportedly traveled through northern Brazil for nearly half a century in a ’48 Ford pickup caring for sick villagers. But since his death last summer, villagers claim they’ve been healed of every malady from toothaches to tuberculosis, just by sitting in the cab of the late “holy roller.” Villagers say Gomes’ spirit still lives in the truck, and their tales of dramatic deathbed healings have attracted people from hundreds of miles away. The Brazilian government is a bit more skeptical; it sent an investigator, who concluded, “It’s all in the power of suggestion.” So far, the Church has elected to stay out of the debate. *(Charisma, in Catholic Digest, 1997)***

**Why is it so hard for us to just be? Surely part of the difficulty is cultural. We all inherit a tradition of assertiveness and a go-get-’em approach to all of life’s problems. This rough-and-ready attitude is parodied around the world: the American cowboy attitude that praises action over reason and thoughtfulness. Could it be that this general approach to life stands in the way of miracles? *(Dr. Larry Dossey)***

**We are surrounded by miracles every day. “We see people looking for weeping statues,” Frankie Murray, a curate in County Longford, Ireland, pointed out to me. “They miss the every morning miracles -- like the sunrise and friendship.” *(Dan Wakefield, in Guideposts magazine)***

**Could a greater miracle take place than for us to look through each other's eyes for an instant? *(Henry David Thoreau)***

**St. Bernadette has said it many times – the water of the source is not miraculous. Only God, in whom we have faith and invoke in prayer, is the source of life and of savior. But water is the sign of this life. *(Most Reverend Jacques Perrier, Bishop of Tarbes-Lourdes)***

**A pastor goes to the building committee meeting, and the members say, “Pastor we have big troubles. The roof needs to be replaced, the foundation is cracked, and our people don’t have any money. What are we going to do?” “Well”, the pastor replies, “We can handle these problems the regular way, or the miraculous way.” “OK,” said the members, “what’s the regular way?” “Well, we get on our knees and pray to God. God sends an army of angels and they fix the roof, the foundation, and give our people generous hearts.” “That’s the regular way? Then what’s the miraculous way?” “That we come up with a plan to solve these problems ourselves. *(S.C.U.C.A. newsletter)***

**Marital Arts: At a family gathering, my cousin's husband and mine began teasing us about how we always get our way. "Honey," my cousin said to her husband, "when I get my way, that's a compromise." "What is it when I get my way?" he was quick to ask. "She replied, "That's a miracle!" *(Jolene Sandor, in Reader's Digest)***

**To me, every hour of the day and night is an unspeakably perfect miracle. *(Walt Whitman)***

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**All so-called miracle workers claim that they do not of themselves produce the marvelous results; that they are only the instruments of a superior entity. *(Charles Fillmore, in Atom-Smashing Power of Mind, p. 10)***

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