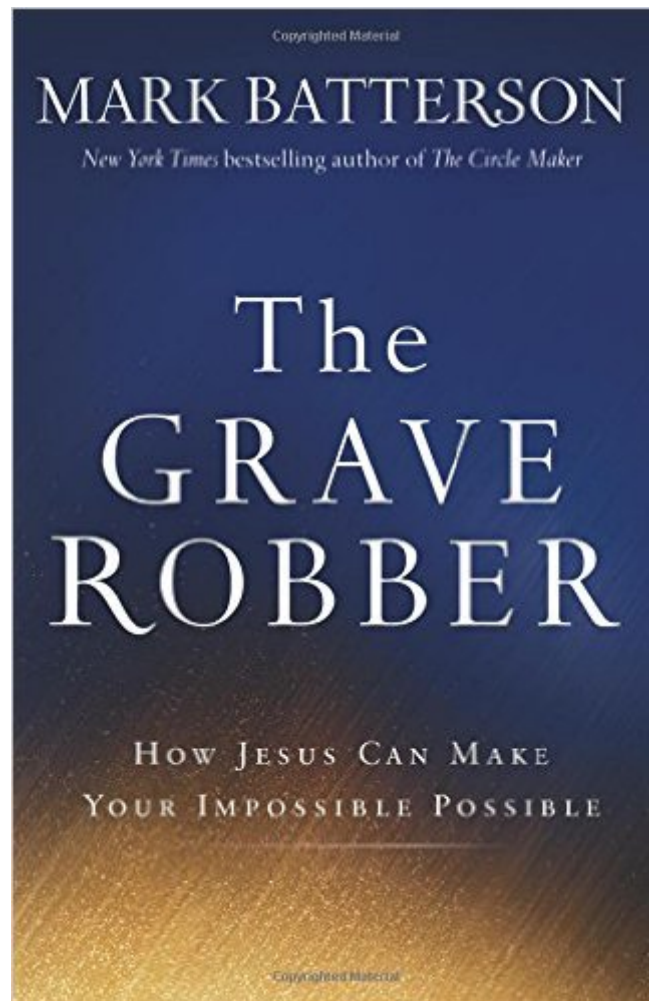


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The Grave Robber: How Jesus Can Make Your Impossible Possible



Synopsis

Do we believe that God still does miracles? Do we expect him to move in miraculous ways in our day-in, day-out lives? Maybe we'd like to see miracles, but it's hard to see past our problems. All that is about to change, like water into wine. "There are miracles all around us all the time," says Mark Batterson, "but you won't see them if you don't know how to look for them." Now the bestselling author of *The Circle Maker* reveals the incredible power of the seven miraculous signs of Jesus found in the Gospel of John. Batterson shows how they were not simply something Jesus did in the past, but something he wants to do now, in the present. He shares true stories of people today who are experiencing miracles in their lives. And he brings to light countless miracles, big and small, that we take for granted every day that point us toward the One who healed the sick, calmed the storm, and yes, even raised the dead. But this is more than a book about miracles. It's a book about the only One who can perform them. Batterson cautions readers, "Don't just seek miracles. Seek Jesus. And if you seek Jesus, miracles will find you." Nothing has changed since Jesus called Lazarus out of his tomb four days after his funeral. Our impossible situations still double as God's greatest opportunity to reveal his glory. No matter how big the problem is, God is bigger still. Anyone who longs to see God work in miraculous ways today will love Batterson's faith-building, life-giving message.

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Customer Reviews

The Grave Robber comes to us from one of my all time favorite authors and speakers. It's a book about the miraculous nature of Jesus and what that miraculous nature has to do with our daily

following of Him. The miraculous is a supernatural phenomenon that brings question to our minds and often leaves us with more challenges to ponder than answers to hang out hat on. Yet, the miraculous is what draws us to Jesus. Here was this carpenter's son from Galilee, a blue collar man's man turned Rabbi. A regular ordinary guy who ended up leading one of the greatest revolutions of all time that still continues on today in the hearts of men. Jesus, God incarnate, was a man of miracles. He healed the sick, gave the blind sight, made the lame walk, fed hungry bellies with a small lunch magnified beyond imagination, and brought the dead to life both physically and spiritually. Miracles surround Jesus. They were a major part of his ministry to people. They not only showed the kind generous nature of God, they also proclaimed his deity with displays of power. When speaking to all of those who were following him and those who would come to follow him, Jesus said, - "Whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing; and they will do even greater things than these." • (John 14:12) Greater things? When I read that, there is an inner working within me that begins to doubt. Patterson describes this as a "subliminal skepticism" •. This is when a miracle defies natural law (it must or it wouldn't be a miracle) and it takes me (the skeptic) some time to either diagnose the problem on my own to explain away the miracle, or to believe in the supernatural. It's interesting to me how few Christ followers, that I know, don't believe in the miraculous.

QUICK HIT " With an engaging style and familiar tone, Mark Batterson takes readers on a journey through the Seven Signs of Jesus' Divinity, as seen in the book of John. The book of John was written explicitly so that "you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" • (John 20:31). In his Gospel, John outlines seven different dimensions of Jesus' ministry, seven different miraculous signs that cumulatively give a reasonable defense of Jesus' Messiahship. In *The Grave Robber*, Mark Batterson takes a deeper look at those miracles and how they are still relevant for and happening to us today. The highlight of Batterson's writing is simply how well-researched and filled with supporting illustrations and anecdotes it is. No lie, it's a pastor's goldmine for relevant stories to go with a strong exegetical message. It's also thrilling to see that there are so many stories of what God is doing in the here and now. We often tend to think of the miraculous as something God did in the past, but to see his power in the present is a wonderful reminder that God is here and he cares today. At times, the book's highlight becomes its weakness. Batterson almost overdoes the anecdotes, shooting them out in rapid-fire fashion without properly weaving them into the overall narrative. You're left overwhelmed with stories that only loosely fit, creating, at times, a rather

disjointed book. Each sign covers about three chapters of material, usually about ten pages in length. Typically, Batterson spends one chapter with anecdotes, one with exegesis, and one with personal application. Though donâ™t let me fool you into thinking itâ™s quite so cut and dried as that.

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