

Friday with Fred – April 21, 2017



**The seed of God stirred, shoved and sprouted.
The ground trembled and the rock of the tomb tumbled.
And the flower of Easter blossomed**
~ Max Lucado ~

We are one week post "Good Friday-Easter" and I imagine that for many if not most, life has resumed its normal and natural course. Now that is a tragedy. Easter and the resurrection are anything but normal. And it is certainly not natural - It is supernatural! It is a miracle and in fact it is THE Miracle. It is the basis of all our hope. (See I Cor. 15:1-6)

I am teaching a seminary course this semester on Apologetics and one of the topics is *the possibility, plausibility and probability of miracles*. Miracles are unlikely and rare in occurrence. They are the exception to the normal and natural law. The natural world is the world of regular, observable, and predictable events. Hence, a miracle by definition cannot be predicted by natural means. Natural law is understood as the usual, orderly, and general way that the world operates. It follows then that a miracle is an unusual, irregular, specific way in which God acts within the world.

It was physicist Sir George Stokes who said, "It may be that the event which we call a miracle was brought about not by the suspension of the laws in ordinary operation, but by the super-addition of something not ordinarily in operation." In other words, if a miracle occurs, it would not be a violation or contradiction of the ordinary laws of cause and effect, but a new effect produced by the introduction of a supernatural cause: God.

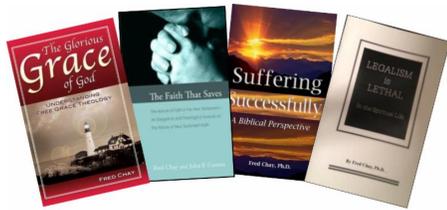
However, it must be admitted that many people conclude that given what we call miracles are irregular, unusual and unpredictable it is unwise to bet on that which is unlikely and infrequent. But that does not mean they cannot happen. If you play cards,

you know that to be dealt a royal flush is a highly unlikely likelihood. But it can happen and it does happen and the result is that you win. And so, it is with Easter and the resurrection. It can happen, it did happen, and we win!

Tomb thou shalt not hold Him longer
Death is strong, but life is stronger
Stronger than the dark with the light
Stronger than wrong with the right
Faith and hope triumphant say
Christ will rise on Easter day
~Philip Brooks~

Serving Him with you
Until He comes for us,
Fred

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