

Doing Greater Works Than Jesus Did

Perhaps one of the most astonishing statements in the Bible is the one when Jesus said that if we believed, we would do greater works than he did (John 14:12). How can we do greater works than raising the dead, opening the blind eyes, feeding hungry crowds, and coming out of one's own grave? Weren't the following works greater than the ones Jesus did?

▶ 1 ◀

Under Moses' ministry, God fed several million people for forty years. Jesus fed only a few thousand only one meal. Which is greater?

▶ 2 ◀

Elijah also fed a widow through a miraculously replenishing jar of oil. Again, all of her needs were supplied for a long time, not just one meal as in the case of Jesus.

▶ 3 ◀

Through Moses' ministry, God healed the whole nation—several million people—and the whole nation stayed healed for 40 years! On several occasions, Jesus healed whole crowds—perhaps a few thousand, and he told them not to sin again or a worse disease might come on them. Probably some of them sinned, and some worse disease came on them. Who did the greater works?

▶ 4 ◀

Luke 7:36-38 tells about an ill-reputed woman who had such love for Jesus that she washed his feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. She also tenderly and lovingly kissed Jesus' feet. John 13 tells us that on the last night before Jesus died, he washed his disciples' feet. He used water instead of tears, and dried them with a towel instead of his hair. Apparently he did not kiss his disciples' feet. Who (outwardly) displayed the greater love, Jesus or the ill-reputed woman?

▶ 5 ◀

Jesus taught us that if we have faith and do not doubt in our hearts, we could move mountains by our faith. Can anyone top that? Consider this teaching by Apostle Paul: In 1st Corinthians 13:2, Paul wrote: "Though I have complete faith and can move mountains, if I don't have love, it doesn't do me any good."

We have seen men use faith to move mountains (mountainous problems), but it was all a waste of time because they were not motivated by godly love. Bigger mountains arose in their place. Didn't Paul bring out a deeper insight into the true nature of mountain-moving faith than Jesus? (The only reason that Paul was able to bring out greater truths is because he was writing to people who had already received God's spirit. Jesus spoke only to people who had not yet received God's spirit.)

▶ 6 ◀

Jesus died, was resurrected, and ascended to heaven. However, in the Old Testament, Enoch and Elijah were counted worthy to ascend into heaven without having to suffer death, a privilege that even Jesus did not have!

▶ 7 ◀

When Jesus was arrested, he faithfully endured his suffering for less than 24 hours. Many (especially under the Communists) have endured the most horrible tortures, some even for many years.

Let's believe and do the greater works!