

and when He intervenes supernaturally. (Repeated). Many people have the idea that a miracle has got to be something supernatural. -- something that could not happen from ~~any~~ ^{natural} causes and if it happens from natural causes it's not a miracle. That is ~~an~~ an idea planted on to the Scriptures. In the Scriptures the word that we translate "miracle" simply means "sign", and a "sign" may be a supernatural act, but it need not. It may be a natural thing that God causes providently to come at a certain time when we need the particular illustration, or the particular example, or the particular evidence. And no man knows the limits of those laws of nature which God has established, and therefore no man can infallibly say ^{what} what events are purely natural and what events represent a changing of the laws of nature in some way by God. God can change them at any time he chooses, but ordinarily He does not choose to do so.

So it is important to guard against misunderstanding on this point because we can easily be led into that which simply confuses people. Actually we cannot tell what surpasses the laws of nature and what does not. God uses the laws of nature for His purpose. He surpasses them or changes them when He chooses to do so, but not as a rule. But he does providentially and directly intervene in the affairs of the life of every Christian, and we can be aware of His constant presence as He wants us to do. He wants us constantly to realize this, and to be aware.

Now # 10. (# 9 was the matter of the lack of food.) # 10 is Smiting the Rock for Water, Ex. 17:1-7. This is a fourth situation regarding the ~~water~~ water. Smiting the rock for water. But we have a parallel to it in Num. 20 so we will discuss it when we get to that point. So we merely mention it here for completeness.

11. The Victory Over Amalek by God's Power Ex. ~~17~~ 17:8-16

12. The Beginning of Organization, x ch. 18. (I'd like to spend 10 min. on that today but we don't have 10 min./for that).