

APOLOGETICS

IN ONE LESSON

↑
almost

Ai1L.net

Lesson 21

Regarding Miracles

Key Takeaways (review)

1

Showing people that **they should want the Gospel to be true** is important

2

The Gospel helps us to **make sense** of this world

3

We have **desires that cannot be filled** with things in this world

IDEA IN BRIEF

- | | |
|-------|---|
| What? | Be able to show that miracles are not irrational |
| Why? | So that we can offer help others that find a belief in miracles difficult |
| How? | By showing that arguments against miracles are often caused by presuppositions or different definitions |

1

What do you think is a good definition of a miracle?

One definition of a miracle

- 1 Brought about by the power of God
- 2 Temporary
- 3 Exception
- 4 To the ordinary course of nature
- 5 For the purpose of showing that God has acted in history

Miracles Timeline

60 years

Moses to
Joshua

About 500 years

60 years

Elisha and
Elijah

About 900 years

60-70 years

Jesus and
Apostles

2

What are some barriers that may cause people to struggle to accept miracles?

Effects of Prayer on Heart Patients¹

	Usual care 524 people	Prayer group 466 people	
MAHI-CCU score ² (lower is better)	7.13	6.35	11% improvement
Unweighted MAHI-CCU score ³ (lower is better)	3.00	2.70	10% improvement

¹ From table 4 in “A Randomized, Controlled Trial of the Effects of Remote, Intercessory Prayer on Outcomes in Patients Admitted to the Coronary Care Unit”

² Stands for “Mid America Heart Institute—Cardiac Care Unit ”

³ Unweighted means a simple count of the events per patient

3

To what degree does “extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence”



Mike Winger
@MikeWingerii



Two questions for those who say "extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence"

1- What exactly qualifies a claim as extraordinary?

2- What exactly qualifies evidence as extraordinary?

Please be as precise as possible. Thank you

11:58 PM · Apr 25, 2019 · Twitter for iPhone

<http://bit.ly/Ai1LExtraordinary>

Response 1

This Tweet was deleted by the Tweet author. [Learn more](#)



Mike Winger @MikeWingerii · Apr 26, 2019

I'm sure you feel you've shared something profound here but all I see is a dodge coupled with baseless mockery. Your twitter name is "facts please" so it seems odd that you would dodge a question about clear reasoning and retort with such bully tactics.



3



Response 2



The Eld @TheEld2 · Apr 26, 2019

Replying to [@MikeWingerii](#)

Extraordinary claim = a claim out of the ordinary

Extraordinary evidence = a significant preponderance of evidence that rises to the claim's level.

Bill says "I had breakfast this morning" = His word is good enough as evidence goes.

Bill says "I saw a ghost" = more needed



Response 3



Pinecreek (Doug) @P1neCreek · Apr 26, 2019

Replying to @MikeWingerii

Mike, do you agree that extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence? Don't you believe that a bodily resurrection is extraordinary and that the evidence for Jesus' resurrection is extraordinary? (all those manuscripts/independent sources/eye witness testimony)??



Mike Winger @MikeWingerii · Apr 26, 2019

I need a very clear definition of "extraordinary evidence" before I can say if I agree.



Response 4



Pinecreek (Doug) @P1neCreek · Apr 26, 2019

Replying to @MikeWingerii

Mike, watch this "apologist" struggle with this topic when @ReidN and I tried to explain it to him.



Bloviation, Evasiveness and Defensiveness of "som...
Please join Candi and me on July 30th, 12 noon PST,
3 pm EST on this channel for a livestream interview...
youtube.com



Mike Winger @MikeWingerii · Apr 26, 2019

Doug, can you answer my two questions? I'm trying to get responses from atheists/agnostics so that I don't misrepresent them but most people are dodging the questions.



Response 5



Reid Nicewonder @ReidN · Apr 26, 2019

Replying to [@MikeWingerii](#)

I own a car.

I own a Ferrari.

I own a DeLorean that can actually travel through time.

Are all three equally likely to be true? Do all three require the same amount of evidence to be demonstrated?



4

1

9



Mike Winger @MikeWingerii · Apr 26, 2019

Can I please have answers to my questions rather than analogies?

Response 6



ALieNNation @bryu1337 · Apr 26, 2019



Replying to @MikeWingerii

Matt already demonstrated this answer with the lottery analogy. I suggest you consider his response to that again and see his 2 recent videos on the subject, one of which was a partial review of your debate



Mike Winger @MikeWingerii · Apr 26, 2019



I'm looking for answers to my questions rather than analogies. Thank you.



Response 7



Ramon Castillo @CastillorNYC · Apr 26, 2019

Replying to [@MikeWingerii](#)

I don't know Mike, I am pretty sure if someone told you they were dead for one week and came back to life, that will count as "extraordinary" to you, will it not? At some point apologetics/believers need to be intellectually honest with themselves...



Mike Winger @MikeWingerii · Apr 26, 2019

Hi Ramon, I'd really be interested in hearing your clearest answers to those two questions.



Extraordinary evidence 1

A Bible found on the moon along with pictures from 2,000 years ago. Also, along with the Bible, a list of predictions over the next few days/weeks after discovery to demonstrate authenticity.

Extraordinary evidence 2

Contemporary writings of Jesus' life, death, resurrection. Originals protected.

Even better...12 angels appear to 12 prophets in 12 parts of the world (12 languages) at the same time with the same message...not proof...but way better than anything we have now

Extraordinary evidence 3

The resurrection would be an extraordinary explanation (conclusion significantly unlike what we normally observe) arrived @ by discovery of extraordinary evidence. Such evidence would include, e.g., contemporaneous video recording by an alien species reliably transmitted to us.

Extraordinary evidence 4

How about a signed 1st century testimony from Pilate? How about a VHS, Betamax, IPOD, IPAD, IPHONE recording of the resurrection that can be carbon dated? Too unreasonable?

4

What are some considerations and thought that may be useful for defending miracles?

Key Takeaways

1

Make sure you know how others **define “miracle”**

2

Focus on **Jesus’ resurrection:** it is the miracle that we have the strongest evidence for

3

Recognize that **presuppositions and worldviews** are likely the main cause of resistance to a belief in miracles