



## BIBLE TALK

**Mike King**

Question: Could you please explain the Bible verse: Mark 16:17?

Answer: Verse 18 must be included in our discussion as a part of the context for it lends help in explaining the verse.

These people did not have the Bible in its complete form as we do today. How must they then understand and convince others of the truths of God?

Paul explained in I Cor. 13:10 that we now *“know in part . . . but when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.”* Paul explains that *“that which is in part shall be done away.”* James explains that *“that which is perfect”* was the *“law of liberty”* or the New Testament, for it is perfect, unlike the Law of Moses which was faulty (Heb. 8). The difficulty was then the changing from one covenant to another and replacing Moses with Christ as mediator. The signs were to serve as authority for and to give credibility to the spokesmen for this new covenant, the New Testament. The signs were used so the unbelievers might believe and have life in Christ (Jn. 20:30-31). They were not to last forever but they too were to pass away (1 Cor. 13:8). Our faith today comes from the Word of God and not from signs, for we walk by faith and not by sight (Rom. 10:17; 2 Cor. 5:7).

Now, how does this pertain to the question? These signs were performed and did establish truth for the present, but also the Lord fulfilled His promise *“I am with you always, even unto the end of the world”* (Mt. 28:20). He confirmed the word which they preached by the signs which He allowed to be performed (Mk. 16:20). Signs served as proof that they were apostles of God and their message was from Him and not them. The power of God that leads men to belief and salvation today is His inspired and completed Word which is able to provide man with his every spiritual need (2 Tim. 3:16). Faith today comes from the word of God, not seeing a miracle” (Rom. 10:17).

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