

The God Who Made Iron Float Is Still Doing Miracles Today

Shortly after Elijah was whisked off to heaven in a fiery chariot, a group of young prophets asked his successor, Elisha, to accompany them to build a new living quarters. While one of the men was cutting down a tree, the blade of his axe fell in the water and sank into the murky depths of the Jordan River.

The construction project came to an abrupt halt. This was before the days of flashlights and sonar devices. The prophets couldn't stop by Home Depot for a new axe. These guys were in trouble.

Knowing that his friends couldn't replace this costly tool they had borrowed, the young prophet turned to his mentor Elisha for help. Second Kings 6:6 (NASB) says: "Then the man of God said, 'Where did it fall?' And when he showed him the place, he cut off a stick and threw *it* in there, and made the iron float."

I love how the King James Version expresses it: "And the iron did swim." The heavy iron blade floated to the surface—defying the laws of physics and proving that nothing is impossible with God. Elisha's deep faith saved the day.

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This obscure Bible story not only reminds us that God has power over the natural world, but it also shows how desperately we need the power of His Holy Spirit. The prophets never would have finished their building if it hadn't been for a miracle.

Yet in so many churches today, miracles are rare, and no one expects them. Some Christians even teach that God has stopped doing miracles. Cessationism, as it is called, has become a popular doctrine in some denominations. It proposes that after the biblical canon was set, miracles ceased, and now all we need is God's Word to reach the world for Jesus.

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