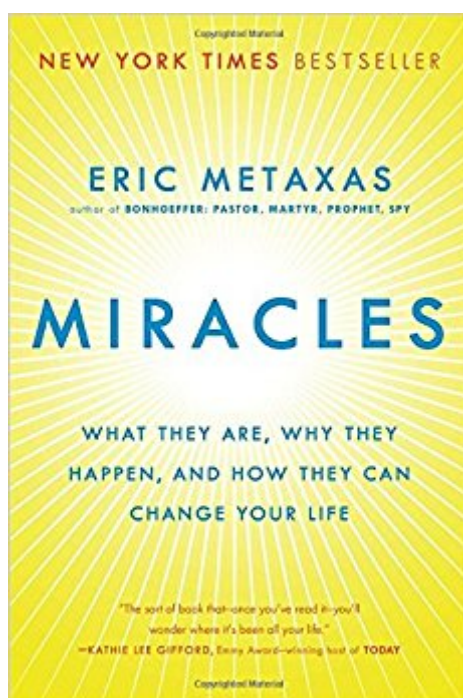


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# Miracles: What They Are, Why They Happen, And How They Can Change Your Life



## Synopsis

The #1 bestselling author of *Bonhoeffer's God* and the forthcoming *Martin Luther's God* explores miracles in an inspiring response to the "New Atheists." Not since C. S. Lewis in 1947 has an author of Eric Metaxas's stature undertaken a major exploration of the phenomenon of miracles. In this groundbreaking work, Metaxas examines the compatibility between faith and science and provides well-documented anecdotal evidence of actual miracles. With compelling—sometimes electrifying—evidence that there is something real to be reckoned with, Metaxas offers a timely, civil, and thoughtful answer to recent books by Richard Dawkins, Christopher Hitchens, and Sam Harris. Already a New York Times bestseller, *Miracles* will be welcomed by both believers and skeptics—who will find their minds opening to the possibilities.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Praise for Eric Metaxas and *Miracles* "[Metaxas] has taken a difficult and often controversial topic and presented it with clarity. Both erudite and intimate, Metaxas invites even the scoffer to wonder." — Kirkus Reviews "Miracles is the sort of book that -- once you've read it -- you'll wonder where it's been all your life." — Kathie Lee Gifford, Emmy-award-winning host, *The Today Show* "If you're a skeptic, read this book with an open mind and you might just discover that miracles are real. If you're already a believer, be ready to be inspired." — Kirsten Powers, columnist for *USA Today* and *The Daily*

Beast "Alluring." -- Library Journal "With this beautiful and moving and thoughtful new book, Eric Metaxas proves yet again to be a writer of the first order....Miracles is a cool rain of intelligent truth." -- Bret Lott, Best-selling author of Jewel; Non-fiction editor, Crazyhorse "Take the brilliant mind of Eric Metaxas, add the provocative topic of miracles, and get ready to change the way you see reality forever." -- Erwin Raphael McManus, Founder of MOSAIC and author, The Artisan Soul: Crafting Your Life into a Work of Art "Metaxas's Miracles mixes storytelling with logic and inspiring beauty with profound mystery. It's an intoxicating combination." -- Patricia Heaton, Emmy-award-winning actress, Everybody Loves Raymond and The Middle "In his inimitably entertaining way, Eric Metaxas shows us that it is okay to believe in a world in which God still speaks and shows up in the cosmos and the lives of people just like you. By opening this book, you'll embark upon a divine conspiracy. Are you ready?" -- Gregory Alan Thornbury, PhD, President, The King's College, New York City "As Metaxas himself says, feel free to gulp. Reading Miracles is one of those life altering experiences." -- Caroline Coleman, author of the novel Loving Soren "Metaxas provides a compass for our intellect and inspires our journeys with profound miracle stories -- with his attuned humor shining throughout." -- Makoto Fujimura, Artist and Founder, International Arts Movement (IAM) "Eric Metaxas is like C.S. Lewis but with jokes: intelligent, spiritually profound, and full of wit. In Miracles, Metaxas himself is a testament that genius and religious faith are not mutually exclusive." -- Susan E. Isaacs, author Angry Conversations with God: A Snarky but Authentic Spiritual Memoir "Read this book to confront your doubt. Read this book to face down your fear of the afterlife. Read this book to re-enchant your humanity." -- Owen Strachan, Author, Risky Gospel "As a secular reader, I come to such books with a certain resistance. Metaxas won me over instantly by meeting me where I live. His intellectual honesty, coupled with an open-hearted wonder at the sheer breadth of human experience, is irresistible." -- Christopher Noel, author, Impossible Visits "With wit and wisdom, Eric Metaxas will blow your mind with stories of phenomena beyond anything we might classify as merely natural. And he will bless your heart with what can happen in your life personally as you read stories of people (very smart people I might add) who "extra-ordinarily" encountered God's majestic purpose converging with their daily lives, stunning and humbling them forever. Are you next?" -- Emerson Eggerichs, author of 2007 ECPA Book of the Year, Love and Respect. "A dense, edgy and

awe-inspiring report on the possibility of the impossible. — Dr. Markus Spieker, Reporter for German National Television and bestselling author of *Hollywood Cinema in Nazi Germany* — “Miracles” is a clarion call to any who, like Dante, have lost *la speranza dell’altezza*. The rich variety of testimonies sing a song of hope and should rekindle in us the glorious certainty that there is a loving God, who is always there willing to help us. — Dame Alice von Hildebrand, author, *Memoirs of a Happy Failure* and *The Privilege of Being a Woman* — “No Christian thinker today combines reason and wit, argument and imagination, to greater effect. — Joseph Loconte, Associate Professor of History at the King’s College, NYC and author, *God, Locke, and Liberty: The Struggle for Religious Freedom in the West*. — “Metaxas has done it again....he presents hope for the tone deaf who cannot hear the splendor of the music of the spheres, and he brings in sunlight for modern cave dwellers who have become accustomed to only shadows on the wall of our increasingly windowless world.” — Os Guinness, author *Long Journey Home* — “Miracles” is just what I needed to remind me to keep asking to see the miraculous. — Joy Eggerichs, Creator, *The Illumination Project*, and Founder of *Love and Respect Now*. — “The miracles in *Miracles* — and Eric’s own amazing miraculous experience — bring out the fact that the miraculous gift of eternal life that God provides can be experienced here on earth. — Luis Palau, *International Evangelist*

Eric Metaxas is a senior fellow and lecturer-at-large at The King’s College in New York City, where he lives with his wife and daughter.

THIS WAS GOING TO BE A THREE STAR REVIEW. I read the book and said to myself that it was just an okay book, but I kept having second and third thoughts about it. I do a tremendous amount of reading and very rarely does a book make me want to go back and read large sections and even whole chapters again and again. The title of the book says it all. MIRACLES There is one quote from the book that I keep going back to "If God made everything in the vast universe just as it is simply so that we could exist, we must begin to wonder why. What are we to him that he would do all of this? Why would he make it all so extravagantly, even so unreasonable perfect? If it was all done just for us, the question arises. Who are we?" Read the book to find out why. Eric Metals does a wonderful job of logically helping us think through the questions (Who are we? and Why does God care about us so much?) Thank you Eric for writing this awesome book. FIVE STARS

Some books deserve to be read once, a few must be read many times. Eric Metaxas new book, *Miracles*, is one of those that must be read and re-read. Metaxas combines great writing, penetrating analysis and moving stories to open the world of miracles to people who may not be familiar with them or may have serious doubts about them. Metaxas divides his book into two parts. The first part deals with the questions (1) What are miracles and (2) why do they happen? In this part Metaxas first gives a basic definition of miracles. He then deals with the issue of miracles and science. Here he discusses the miracle of life itself and the miracle that the universe even exists. He then tackles some tough questions about miracles. I personally found his answers very convincing and satisfying. Metaxas goes on to talk about biblical miracles. I thought this was one of the best chapters in the book. He does not give you typical Sunday school answers. Metaxas ends the first part by discussing the miracle of the resurrection of Jesus. Here he quotes the likes of John Donne and John Updike to make this a significant chapter. The second, and longer, part of the book are miracle stories from people Metaxas actually knows so that the miracles have some level of verification to them. The stories in the second part are moving and amazing. In this part Mr. Metaxas divides the miracle stories into different categories like: conversion miracles, healing miracles and angelic miracles. All the stories have a personal flavor and spiritual power that immediately grabs your attention. I highly recommend this book to everybody. If you are skeptical that miracles can happen, this is a good book to honestly investigate miracles. If you are a believer in miracles, the book can not only strengthen your belief but also inspire you.

Well I must say that Eric has a prodigious intellect and a humorous turn of phrase that often makes me laugh out loud. His book handles the subject of miracles very adeptly, stryking at the heart of the skeptic in all of us. I recommend this book to anyone who has faith but is conflicted by their reason. Or any one who has reason but is conflicted by their faith. Five stars for fun, faith, sobriety, joy, heartache & love.

Wow! I cannot believe I didn't get Paul this way before. Eric opened my eyes. Paul literally fell off his high horse and had an epiphany. This is the story of Jesus blinding him and saying, "Why do you persecute Me?" Oh, I always knew that story, That was the easy part of the story from the days of Sunday School as a young girl. But when Paul says that we would be the most pitied and pathetic of pagans, if Jesus's resurrection was not true, well I didn't get it the same way as I got it during the reading of this book. I read passages like this and just glaze over and don't really think about the

impact of the words. His explanation made me want to tell everyone about Paul and his. Maybe it's my need to start putting things together as I age that Eric's words suddenly made such an impression on me. I felt like I was knocked off of my high horse as well as Paul, because it just hit me out of the blue. I didn't expect to be shocked by anything in the book, and then I was. That was my awakening. I am so happy I read this book, and I have passed it around and bought additional copies for family and friends in the meantime. What a great Christmas gift this would be for those who have a difficult time believing in something they cannot see and didn't experience themselves. Those Doubting Thomases in our lives deserve to know that all of Jesus's disciples died horrible deaths because they knew Jesus and recognized his resurrection as a true miracle. It's their sacrifices that are proof positive of a living God who loved us so much that he gave his only son to save us all.

I had previously written a good review before I got to the second half and gave up. Now I rewrite my review. The first half on miracles is very good but reminds me of seminary. Having said that, where is the bibliography? A lot of these can be attributed to scholarly sources and should be as these theories were not made up by the author. Had I done this in grad school well I would have failed without crediting sources. The second half I just had to stop reading. The personal miracles of friends and own conversion etc. read to me as disorganized, uninteresting, and quite honestly not what I expected from a book on miracles. I guess because I studied under Dr. Habermas (I can name drop too as does Eric M in his book) the noteworthy scholar on the resurrection and miracles I expected more from this book. I put it away and I will not share this book. For it to be taken seriously, I would like to see a good bibliography and for the second-half of the book better organization to mean anything.

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