

SHOULD CHRISTIANS SPEAK IN TONGUES?

1 CORINTHIANS 13:8-10



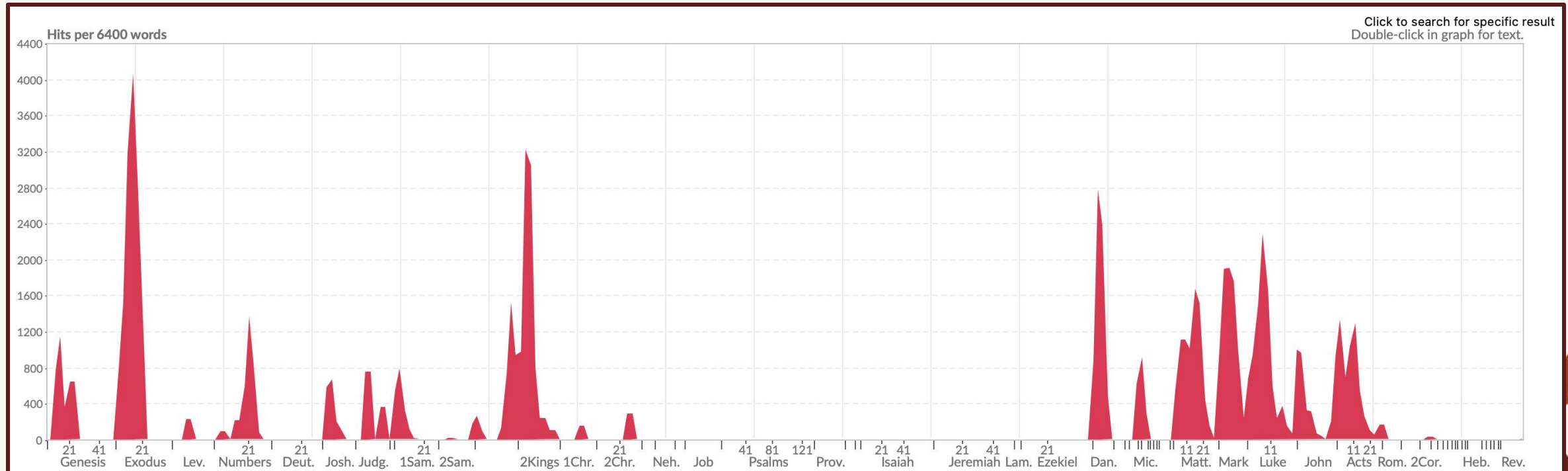
miracle *noun* **1.a.** marvelous event not ascribable to human power or the operation of any natural force and therefore attributed to supernatural, esp. divine, agency; esp. an act (e.g., of healing) demonstrating control over nature and serving as evidence that the agent is either divine or divinely favored

Oxford English Dictionary



Uncommon and Infrequent

- Miracles are never everyday events, and long periods of time elapsed between recorded occurrences in Scripture.



Uncommon and Infrequent

- Miracles are never everyday events, and long periods of time elapsed between recorded occurrences in Scripture.
- God at times empowered people to perform wonders (Exod 4:28–31; 1 Kgs 17:1; Mark 3:13–15; Acts 2:17–18).
- The early Christians possessed various miraculous spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12:4–11, 27–28).
 - Not everyone had the same power (vv. 29–31a).
 - At least some Pentecostals contend that the gift of tongues is for every believer.



Revealing and Confirming

- The divine act of revelation is supernatural, and when God speaks through prophets, the knowledge and communication is miraculous (1 Cor 2:10–13; 2 Pet 1:20–21; Eph 3:3–5).
- Subsequent miracles confirmed the inspired message (John 20:30–31; Heb 2:1–4; Mark 16:14–20; cf. 1 Cor 14:1–26).
- The gifts of the Holy Spirit were intentional but temporary.
 - Scripture predicted the cessation of prophecy, tongue-speaking, and knowledge (1 Cor 13:8–12; Acts 8:4–24).
 - **CAUTION:** God can still work wonders (Jas 5:16–18).



A Limited Phenomenon

- God restricted the use of miraculous spiritual gifts.
 - Miracle-workers were not to act out of order (1 Cor 14:27–40; cf. 11:2–16; 12:12–26; 13:1–13).
 - Miracle-workers were not to forget the purpose of the power.
- The miraculous gifts are no longer active since they have accomplished their goal.
- We believe in Christ because of the accomplished signs, and we help Pentecostals/charismatics by asking questions and bringing them to Scripture.



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