

Many times real prayer power comes to a group when death is imminent, until then the cares of the world cloud one's mind. The book of Judges speaks of this over and over. Israel turn from God and God sends an enemy to take away the objects that Israel had (the toys: wealth, freedom). Israel repented and sought God and God turned back the enemy. Soon as life stabilized the Israelites went back to sinning again and the whole process of invasion, repentance, repulsion, stabilization, sinning cycle repeated itself.

The Old Testament is rich in examples of prayers being answered: the 10 exodus plagues along with Moses at the Red Sea (Ex14:21-31). There's other salvation times like when Assyria came against Jerusalem and 185,000 woke up dead (2Kg19:35). Flash forward 3500 years to the present and many are asking the same question that Gideon asked: where are the miracles? (Judg6:13)

Do large scale miracles still happen post Jesus resurrection? Yes. Marco Polo lived from 1254 to 1324 and he traveled and lived in China and Persia. He wrote a book of his travels.



Marco Polo writes of one incident in which a Muslim Calif got hold of the Christian Scriptures speaking about moving mountain faith (Mt17:20) and tried to use that against the Christians saying that if not one of the 100,000+ Christians had the tiniest faith of a mustard seed to move a mountain then all the Christians would be killed in his kingdom in 10 days. The Christians in that area, when faced with imminent destruction, turned to God. God, however showed a certain Bishop who was worthy to offer a pray up to Him.

This person that was worthy "*led a life of great uprightness and chastity, and who fasted and kept from all sin, and went daily to church to hear Mass, and gave daily a portion of his gains to God.*"

Christianity was a way of life for this person not something on the side. Out of 100,000+ persons in the community only 1 man was living his life to the extent that God singled him out.

The story goes on that on the 10th day all the 100,000+ persons assembled, went to mass and went to the appointed spot for what many anticipated death by the hands of the Muslims. Along the way they carried the cross, sung and wept.

At the appointed time the person pray for God's will and God heard and moved the mountain and thus saved the Christians. The Calif believed in the power of Jesus and was baptized and became a Christian in accordance with Mark28:19

ASV Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit:

The full account of the story is below.



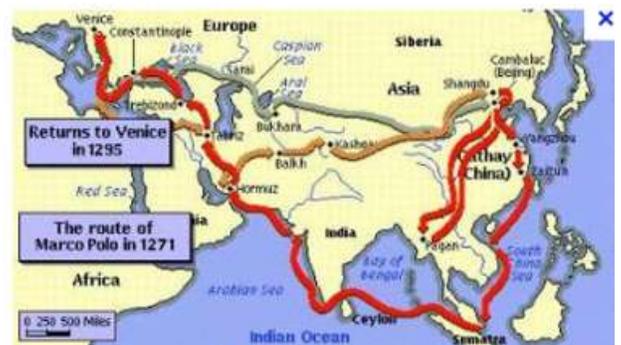
[The Travels of Marco Polo](#)
by [Marco Polo](#), translated by [Henry Yule](#)

Pasted from

http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Travels_of_Marco_Polo/Book_1/Chapter_7

How the Calif of Baudas Took Counsel to Slay All the Christians in His Land

I will tell you then this great marvel that occurred between Baudas and Mausul.



It was in the year of Christ^[1] ... that there was a Calif at Baudas who bore a great hatred to Christians, and was taken up day and night with the thought how he might either bring those that were in his kingdom over to his own faith, or might procure them all to be slain. And he used daily to take counsel about this with the devotees and priests of his faith,^[2] for they all bore the Christians like malice. And, indeed, it is a fact, that the whole body of Saracens throughout the world are always most malignantly disposed towards the whole body of Christians.

Now it happened that the Calif, with those shrewd priests of his, got hold of that passage in our Gospel which says, that if a Christian had faith as a grain of mustard seed, and should bid a mountain be removed, it would be removed.

And such indeed is the truth. But when they had got hold of this text they were delighted, for it seemed to them the very thing whereby either to force all the Christians to change their faith, or to bring destruction upon them all. The Calif therefore called together all the Christians in his territories, who were extremely numerous. And when they had come before him, he showed them the Gospel, and made them read the text which I have mentioned. And when they had read it he asked them if that was the truth? The Christians answered that it assuredly was so. "Well," said the Calif, "since you say that it is the truth, I will give you a choice. Among such a number of you there must needs surely be this small amount of faith; so you must either move that mountain there,"--and he pointed to a mountain in the neighbourhood--"or you shall die an ill death; unless you choose to eschew death by all becoming Saracens and adopting our Holy Law. To this end I give you a respite of ten days; if the thing be not done by that time, ye shall die or become Saracens." And when he had said this he dismissed them, to consider what was to be done in this strait wherein they were.

How the Christians Were in Great Dismay Because of What the Calif Had Said

The Christians on hearing what the Calif had said were in great dismay, but they lifted all their hopes to God, their Creator, that He would help them in this their strait. All the wisest of the Christians took counsel together, and among them were a number of bishops and priests, but they had no resource except to turn to Him from whom all good things do come, beseeching Him to protect them from the cruel hands of the Calif.

So they were all gathered together in prayer, both men and women, for eight days and eight nights. And whilst they were thus engaged in prayer it was revealed in a vision by a Holy Angel of Heaven to a certain Bishop who was a very good Christian, that he should desire a certain Christian Cobler,^[1] who had but one eye, to pray to God; and that God in His goodness would grant such prayer because of the Cobler's holy life.

Now I must tell you what manner of man this Cobler was. He was one who led a life of great uprightness and chastity, and who fasted and kept from all sin, and went daily to church to hear Mass, and gave daily a portion of his gains to God. And the way how he came to have but one eye was this. It happened one day that a certain woman came to him to have a pair of shoes made, and she showed him her foot that he might take her measure. Now she had a very beautiful foot and leg; and the Cobler in taking her measure was conscious of sinful thoughts. And he had often heard it said in the Holy Evangel, that if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out and cast it from thee, rather than sin. So, as soon as the woman had departed, he took the awl that he used in stitching, and drove it into his eye and destroyed it. And this is the way he came to lose his eye. So you can judge what a holy, just, and righteous man he was.

Pasted from <http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Travels_of_Marco_Polo/Book_1/Chapter_8>

How the One-Eyed Cobler Was Desired to Pray for the Christians

Now when this vision had visited the Bishop several times, he related the whole matter to the Christians, and they agreed with one consent to call the Cobler before them. And when he had come they told him it was their wish that he should pray, and that God had promised to accomplish the matter by his means. On hearing their request he made many excuses, declaring that he was not at all so good a man as they represented. But they persisted in their request with so much sweetness, that at last he said he would not tarry, but do what they desired.

Pasted from <http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Travels_of_Marco_Polo/Book_1/Chapter_9>

How the Prayer of the One-Eyed Cobler Caused the Mountain to Move

And when the appointed day was come, all the Christians got up early, men and women, small and great, more than 100,000 persons, and went to church, and heard the Holy Mass. And after Mass had been sung, they all went forth together in a great procession to the plain in front of the mountain, carrying the precious cross before them, loudly singing and greatly weeping as they went. And when they arrived at the spot, there they found the Caliph with all his Saracen host armed to slay them if they would not change their faith; for the Saracens believed not in the least that God would grant such favour to the Christians. These latter stood indeed in great fear and doubt, but nevertheless they rested their hope on their God Jesus Christ.

So the Cobler received the Bishop's benison, and then threw himself on his knees before the Holy Cross, and stretched out his hands towards Heaven, and made this prayer: "Blessed LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, I pray Thee by Thy goodness that Thou wilt grant this grace unto Thy people, insomuch that they perish not, nor Thy faith be cast down, nor abused nor flouted. Not that I am in the least worthy to prefer such request unto Thee; but for Thy great power and mercy I beseech Thee to hear this prayer from me Thy servant full of sin."

And when he had ended this his prayer to God the Sovereign Father and Giver of all grace, and whilst the Calif and all the Saracens, and other people there, were looking on, **the mountain rose out of its place and moved to the spot which the Calif had pointed out!** And when the Calif and all his Saracens beheld, they stood amazed at the wonderful miracle that God had wrought for the Christians, insomuch that a great number of the Saracens became Christians. And even the Calif caused himself to be baptised in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, Amen, and became a Christian, but in secret. Howbeit, when he died they found a little cross hung round his neck; and therefore the Saracens would not bury him with the other Califs, but put him in a place apart. The Christians exulted greatly at this most holy miracle, and returned to their homes full of joy, giving thanks to their Creator for that which He had done.^[1]



And now you have heard in what wise took place this great miracle. And marvel not that the Saracens hate the Christians; for the accursed law that Mahomet gave them commands them to do all the mischief in their power to all other descriptions of people, and especially to Christians; to strip such of their goods, and do them all manner of evil, because they belong not to their law. See then what an evil law and what naughty commandments they have! But in such fashion the Saracens act, throughout the world.

Now I have told you something of Baudas. I could easily indeed have told you first of the affairs and the customs of the people there. But it would be too long a business, looking to the great and strange things that I have got to tell you, as you will find detailed in this Book.

So now I will tell you of the noble city of Tauris.

Pasted from <[http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The Travels of Marco Polo/Book 1/Chapter 10](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Travels_of_Marco_Polo/Book_1/Chapter_10)>

Some may say that the Marco Polo account was a folk story and an exaggeration. How about one which happened in World War I?



Almost 100 years ago, during World War I, the 91st Infantry Brigade of the U. S. Expeditionary Army was preparing to enter combat in Europe. Because their commander was a devout Christian, he assembled his men and gave each of them a little card on which was printed the 91st Psalm, the same number Psalm as their brigade. They agreed to recite that Psalm daily. After they had begun praying the Psalm, the 91st Brigade was engaged in three of the bloodiest battles of World War I — Chateau Thierry, Belle Wood and the Argonne. Other American units that fought in the same battles had up to 90 percent casualties, but the 91st Brigade did not suffer a single combat-related casualty.

Pasted from <<http://vfwpost2399.org/psalm91.aspx>>

Coincidence? The 91st Infantry Brigade not only believed in Jesus but they had faith enough to act on their belief by praying daily the 91st psalm. The 91st Palms:

RSV Psalms 91:1-16

- 1 HE WHO dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty,
- 2 will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."
- 3 For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence;
- 4 he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.
- 5 You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
- 6 nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.
- 7 A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand; but it will not come near you.
- 8 You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.
- 9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your habitation,
- 10 no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.

- 11 For he will give his angels charge of you to guard you in all your ways.
- 12 On their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.
- 13 You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.
- 14 Because he cleaves to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name.
- 15 When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will rescue him and honor him.
- 16 With long life I will satisfy him, and show him my salvation. A Psalm. A Song for the Sabbath.

There are events happening every day that are out of your control. When one is in rebellion with Jesus the event must cross a certain threshold before people begin to head to the churches (seek solace in Jesus). God considered only 1 person out of a population of over 100,000+ to be worthy enough to offer a prayer request. Those 100,000+ were probably no different than people living today. They were living their lives, trying to make ends meet but were not daily seeking God to the degree that God expected.

Same situation applies today. When the Twin Towers fell on 9/11 the people across the land (some of them) rushed into churches and rededicated themselves to Jesus. Once the situation stabilized (no more terrorism acts) then it seemed like the people rushed back out of the churches. In the time of calamity there will be no time for repenting and seeking God as the Apocrypha book Ecclesiasticus makes mentions of.

Ecclesiasticus (Sirach) 5:4-7 from

<http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/book.php?book=Ecclesiasticus&chapter=5&verse=>

⁴ Say not, **I have sinned, and what harm hath happened unto me?** for the Lord is longsuffering, he will in no wise let thee go.

⁵ Concerning propitiation, be not without fear to add sin unto sin:

⁶ And say not His mercy is great; he will be pacified for the multitude of my sins: for mercy and wrath come from him, and his indignation resteth upon sinners.

⁷ **Make no tarrying to turn to the Lord, and put not off from day to day: for suddenly shall the wrath of the Lord come forth, and in thy security thou shalt be destroyed, and perish in the day of vengeance.**

Remember that in Noah's flood, Noah was found righteous long before the flood came and thus he was saved. The people outside the ark may or may not have repented but even if they did repent it was too late to have been saved since the ark's doors were shut 7 days prior to the commencement of the 40 days of raining (Gen7:4). Christianity was called the way in the new testament (Acts 9:2, 19:9, 19:23, 24:22, 24:14). The way is a way how you conduct your life each and every day.

Where are all the miracles since WW1? Don't worry, there will be events happening that will require mountain moving prayers, but will Jesus listen to yours? Now is the time to act like the one eyed cobbler and to:

- 1) live a life of uprightness and chastity,
- 2) fast (Is58:6-7)
- 3) keep from all sin,
- 4) search the scriptures daily,
- 5) tithe.
- 6) pray

No finer prayer can be constructed than the words that Jesus taught His disciples:

KJV Matthew 6:9-13

9 After this manner therefore pray ye: *Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.*

10 *Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.*

11 *Give us this day our daily bread.*

12 *And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

13 *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.*

The most important action that that one must do along with walking in the way is to realize like the Calif did and get baptized properly: totally immersed, for the right reason and with the correct name of God.

Regards,
David O'Malley

2012 Completed Bible studies

- 1/20/12 - Fukushima Daiichi (end times part 1)
- 2/12/12 - The Trinity: 1 in 3, 3 in 1 or ... 4 by 2 from 1? (part 1)
- 2/25/12 - The Trinity: 1 in 3, 3 in 1 or ... 4 by 2 from 1? (part 2)
- 3/04/12 - A time for war and a time for peace
- 3/12/12 - Christian Soldier: Equipping - part 1
- 3/26/12 - 2-2-2-2-2-2-2 Enigma of Passover
- 4/3/12 - The milk of the gospel
- 4/13/12 - Prayer power

Future O'Malley Family Bible studies

- Heaven's anguish, Hell's 3 day party
- Passover - pain and suffering of Jesus
- Christian Soldiers group maneuvers
- PEP: Persecution, Endurance & Preservation
- Understanding, knowledge and wisdom & Fear connection
- Fall of Jerusalem: departure of the King of Kings
- 5 stones for 5 giants: tearing the Baals down
- The Law - intro/controversy/importance
- The Law - distant, past, now, future
- Path to the end (end times part 2)
- Marks of the nations of Israel (end times part 3)
- Escape from Babylon (end times part 4)
- the message for the mixed multitude
- War scrolls fighting insights

Acknowledgments: Pastor Peters recounted the Marco Polo story in one of his messages very briefly but it was so interesting that I had to go look it up.

RSV Matthew 17:20 He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, **if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move;** and nothing will be impossible to you."

ASV Judges 6:13 And Gideon said unto him, Oh, my lord, **if Jehovah is with us, why then is all this befallen us? and where are all his wondrous works which our fathers told us of,** saying, Did not Jehovah bring us up from Egypt? but now Jehovah hath cast us off, and delivered us into the hand of Midian.

KJV 2 Kings 19:35 And it came to pass that night, that **the angel of the Lord went out, and smote** in the camp of the Assyrians **an hundred fourscore and five thousand;** and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they **were all dead corpses.**

KJV Exodus 14:21-31

21 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

22 And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

23 And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

24 And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the Lord looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians,

25 And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the Lord fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

26 And the Lord said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.

27 And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

28 And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, and all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them.

29 But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

30 Thus the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore.

31 And Israel saw that great work which the Lord did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord, and his servant Moses.

KJV Isaiah 58:6-7

6 **Is not this the fast that I have chosen?** to **loose the bands of wickedness,** to **undo the heavy burdens,** and to **let the oppressed go free,** and that ye **break every yoke?**

7 **Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry,** and that thou **bring the poor that are cast out to thy house?** when thou **seest the naked, that thou cover him;** and that thou **hide not thyself from thine own flesh?**

KJV Genesis 7:4 For **yet seven days,** and I will cause it **to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights;** and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.