

NOTE: For exceptional Bible students, I have created links online to other material related to this chapter. Go to <http://LemmonsAid.WordPress.com> and type in the SEARCH BOX: Acts 3 Links

The Church—Acts 3

Healing of the Cripple at the Temple

I. Additional Scriptures/Notes...

3:7... TOOK HIM BY THE RIGHT HAND—“The apostle grasped the man by the right hand and pulled him up. Immediately (not eventually) the man’s feet and ankle-bones were made firm. The healed man leaped and walked around, and entered into the temple with the apostles. He praised God for this wonderful event. As a crowd observed the man, it began to dawn on them that this was the beggar who normally sat at the temple door. The people were filled with wonder and amazement ... that the man could walk. This is exactly the intended design of a miracle. The Jews will now be prepared to give their attention to the apostles’ teaching” [Wayne Jackson, *The Acts of the Apostles—From Jerusalem to Rome*, p. 34].

3:15... WE ARE WITNESSES—The proof of the resurrection is that these men had seen Jesus after His crucifixion ALIVE!!!

3:19... BE CONVERTED—“**And be converted** - This expression conveys an idea not at all to be found in the original. It conveys the idea of “passivity,” be “converted,” as if they were to yield to some foreign influence that they were now resisting. But the idea of being “passive” in this is not conveyed by the original word. The word means properly to “turn; to return to a path from which one has gone astray; and then to turn away from sins, or to forsake them.” It is a word used in a general sense to denote “the whole turning to God.” That the form of the word here ἐπιστρέψατε epistrepsate does not denote passivity may be clearly seen by referring to the following places where the same form of the word is used: [Mat 24:18](#); [Mar 13:16](#); [Luk 17:31](#); [1Th 1:9](#)” [Barnes’ Notes].

3:21... RESTITUTION—“**Of restitution (ἀποκαταστάσεως)** Only here in New Testament. The kindred verb, to restore, occurs [Mat 17:11](#); [Act 1:6](#), etc. As a technical medical term, it denotes complete restoration of health; the restoring to its place of a dislocated joint, etc.” [Vincent’s *Word Studies*].

3:22... LIKE UNTO ME—“Peter pressed his appeal by his presentation of Christ as the mighty Prophet like unto Moses. This quotation is from Deuteronomy 18:15ff, which emphasizes the typical qualities in the life of the great Lawgiver of Israel, Moses. This is an extensive area of study, because there were many likenesses between Moses and Christ. Both were sons of virgin princesses, Moses by adoption, Jesus by the virgin birth, etc., etc” [Coffman].

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: The Period of the Church.

III. Summary.

We begin to read about how the apostles went about their work of spreading the gospel to the lost. They were single-minded men. They went about doing good for the purpose of spreading the news about salvation through Jesus Christ. In this chapter they heal a lame man by the

authority of Jesus Christ. Having drawn a crowd as a result of this great miracle, Peter began to preach about Christ. He continues to draw to the attention of the Jews that when they asked for Jesus to be crucified they were fighting against God. They explained to the people how they might be forgiven of their sins. They referred the Jews to their own Scriptures as proof that they ought to hear Christ.

IV. Outline.

1. Healing of a lame man (Acts 3:1-9).
2. The people are amazed and gather at Solomon's Porch (Acts 3:10-11).
3. Peter seizes this opportunity to preach the gospel and glorify Christ (Acts 3:12-26).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ Samuel was a prophet.
02. _____ The lame man healed in this text had always been lame.
03. _____ Peter taught that since these Jews had acted through ignorance, they were excused.
04. _____ Peter did not touch the lame man before he was healed.
05. _____ The word SOUNDNESS, as used in this text, has to do with teaching the truth.

Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)

06. _____ How often was the lame man brought to the Beautiful Gate: (a) each Sabbath; (b) on the first day of the week; (c) daily.
07. _____ According to Peter, by what means would Jesus bless the Jews: (a) miracles of healing; (b) turning them from iniquity; (c) divers signs.
08. _____ According to Peter's sermon, what can happen to our sins because of Christ: (a) be rolled forward; (b) be remembered; (c) be blotted out.
09. _____ Does Peter directly accuse his Jewish audience of killing Christ: (a) YES; (b) NO.
10. _____ Do you find anything which Peter says which might indicate that these Jews were about ready to worship Peter and John: (a) YES; (b) NO.

Matching

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 11. _____ Patriarch mentioned twice in Acts 3 | A. Moses |
| 12. _____ Peter called Christ this... | B. Abraham |
| 13. _____ Said, HIM SHALL YE HEAR | C. Nazarene |
| 14. _____ An "hour of prayer" | D. First |
| 15. _____ Foretold of the days of Christ | E. Samuel |
| | F. Isaac |
| | G. Prince of Life |
| | H. Ninth |

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be found on next week's handout

ANSWERS to Acts 2... [01—True, Acts 2:40; 02—True, Acts 2:30; 03—True, Acts 2:29; 04—False, Acts 2:15; 05—True, Acts 2:1; Lev 23:15-16; 06—d, Acts 2:46; 07—b, Acts 2:36; 08—a, Acts 2:22; 09—a, Acts 2:15; 10—a, Acts 2:12; 11—multitude, confounded, speak, language, Acts 2:6; 12—this, is, that, Acts 2:16; 13—whosoever, name, Lord, saved, Acts 2:21; 14—right, hand, God, exalted, Acts 2:33; 15—fear, every, soul, wonders, apostles, Acts 2:43.]

VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried** (Acts 3:2). Though this was not the first miracle performed by the apostles (cf., 2:43), the circumstances of it gained maximum results.
 - 1) The SUBJECT of the miracle was well known to the people.
 - 2) The TIMING of the miracle would insure many God-fearing people would be present.
 - 3) The AMAZEMENT of the people provided Peter a great "door of opportunity" for preaching Christ.
 - 4) Though we have no such miraculous powers, we need to keep our own eyes open for opportunities to tell people about salvation through Jesus Christ.
2. **...expecting to receive something of them** (Acts 3:5). These words highlight the fact that this miracle was not at all dependent upon the faith of the subject. Many so called "faith healers" of our day claim that faith IS required of the one being healed (and they use this as an excuse for their failures—THEY JUST DIDN'T BELIEVE ENOUGH).
3. **...silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee...** (Acts 3:6). When confronted with physical needs, the apostles met the needs. They obviously had learned compassion from Jesus. However, the real purpose of the miracle is found in verses eleven and following—a crowd began to assemble as a result. It was not their purpose to heal every lame person on earth, but rather to use the miraculous power that they had to preach the gospel. Today we have the completed written revelation of God's word and we are to use this teaching and the record of these miracles as the basis of reaching our lost friends and neighbors.
4. **...and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which happened unto him...** (Acts 3:10). Just as this miraculous help provided by the apostles was NOTICED by the people, they will also NOTICE non-miraculous acts of benevolence performed by and through the church today. Door are opened for teaching the lost by a genuine demonstration of our concern.
5. **...and when Peter SAW it, he answered unto the people...** (Acts 3:12). May we all be blessed with the VISION OF PETER to recognize opportunities to glorify the Lord by proclaiming His saving message.
6. **Notice Peter's powerful exaltation of Christ—**
 - 1) God has glorified His Son Jesus (v. 13).
 - 2) The Holy One (v. 14).
 - 3) The Just (v. 14).
 - 4) The Prince of Life (v. 15).
 - 5) He is the Prophet Moses spoke of (vv. 21-23).
 - 6) He MUST be obeyed (v. 23).
 - 7) He was spoken of by all the prophets (v. 24).
 - 8) He is the BLESSING promised to Abraham (v. 25).
 - 9) Him God has raised from the dead to BLESS YOU (v. 26).

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

S L K J H G F B E B L E S S E D D S A M
 N A V C X Z R P O I Y T T R E W Q A Z X
 S W M E D C A V I F D E S T R O Y E D R
 T G B U N H I Y N U J H C M K I O L P O
 L K I U E J S M I N H P T H G V F R E D
 C X S W Q L E A Q Z X O S W I C D E R F
 V B G T Y I D U U J M R K I O L T G B C
 E D C V F K U Q I A Z P X S W E D R F O
 V B G T Y E P J T Y H T N H Y U J R M V
 E N H Y T W R E I F V A C D E W S X E E
 Z V A Q W I D S E C D H E R F V B G T N
 N H E Y U S R U S W R T X B L E S S K A
 X C D R E E T S G B A N H Y U J M K I N
 M J U Y Y H N F O R E T O L D B G T N T
 F S E D C S Q A Z X H C D E R F V B D Y
 V E F R T G O B G T T Y H F A T H E R S
 N E H Y T G B U E D O V F W H T R A E W
 S D X C D E R F L B N G T Y H N M U D I
 V A B R A H A M V F R B G T Y H N M S M
 V F R T G B T U R N I N G B G T Y D R L

[The highlighted words can be found above. They may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. DRL]

Acts 3:23-26... ²³And it shall come to pass, that **every soul**, which will **not hear that prophet**, shall be **destroyed** from among the people. ²⁴Yea, and all the prophets from **Samuel** and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have **likewise foretold** of these days. ²⁵Ye are the **children** of the prophets, and of the **covenant** which God made with our **fathers**, saying unto **Abraham**, And in thy **seed** shall all the **kindreds** of the **earth be blessed**. ²⁶Unto you first God, having **raised up** his Son **Jesus**, sent him to **bless** you, in **turning** away every one of you from his **iniquities**.