

A MIRACLE AT THE BEAUTIFUL GATE -- ACTS 3:1-16

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Monday 7:30pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – [Phil Twente](#), cell # 714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by Pastor Chuck Smith, David Hocking, Vernon McGee, John Stott and others.

AMAZEMENT; JESUS THE HEALER –VS. 1-10

THE CONDITION OF THE MAN WAS WELL KNOWN – Acts 3:1-3

Act 3:1 Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.

Act 3:2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily

at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful,

to ask alms from those who entered the temple;

Act 3:3 who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms.

THE CHALLENGE OF PETER WAS BASED ON CHRIST'S AUTHORITY-Acts3:4-6

Act 3:4 And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us."

Act 3:5 So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them.

AMAZEMENT; JESUS THE HEALER –VS. 1-10

THE CONDITION OF THE MAN WAS WELL KNOWN – VS 1-3

v. 1 “at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.” - – the evening sacrifice – many people would be there at that time. Peter and John are still loyal to the Jewish traditions and practices – cf. Ps. 55:17; Dan. 6:10; Acts 10:30 . Acts 1-10 talks about that transition from Israel to the Gentiles and from “Jewish Christianity” to the “one body” made up of both Jews and Gentiles. It took several years before many of the Jewish believers really understood the place of the Gentiles in God’s program, and this understanding did not come without its conflicts.

v. 2 “lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily” - The people involved - There are 14 steps on three sides of the Women’s Court, and five more steps to the gate – not an easy chore to do this every day!

Acts 4:22 says - that he was more than 40 years old

v. 2 “the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful” - The place and time - The Talmud calls it Nicanor’s gate after its donor – the only gate that led from the court of the Gentiles into the Court of the Women. Some say it is not Nicanor’s gate at the west end of the Women’s Court but the gate entering the Court of the Women on the east side, called the Corinthian Gate – made of Corinthian bronze being 50 cubits high with doors 40 cubits high (75 feet high) – some say it refers to the Golden Gate leading into the general temple area and Court of the Gentiles from the east.

v. 2 “to ask alms from those who entered the temple;” - The PURPOSE – cf - Deuteronomy 15:7-11; cf - Matthew 6:1-4

THE CHALLENGE OF PETER WAS BASED ON CHRIST'S AUTHORITY-Acts3:4-6

cf - Acts 2:43; Matthew 10:1; Mark 16:18- A REMINDER that money cannot solve every problem.

“A MIRACLE AT THE BEAUTIFUL GATE” - Acts 3:1-16 – Note the emphasis on both chapters 3 & 4 will be on the name of Jesus!



Titles & references of Jesus used by
Peter in chapter 3:

Jesus Christ of Nazareth

His Servant Jesus

Holy and Just One

Prince of Life

Prophet

faith in His name

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OBSERVATION

Act 3:6 Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."

THE CURE WAS IMMEDIATE AND DRAMATIC – Acts 3:7-11

Act 3:7 And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

Act 3:8 So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God.

Act 3:9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God.

Act 3:10 Then they knew that it was he who sat begging alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

INTERPRETATION

It is said that the theologian Thomas Aquinas...once called on Pope Innocent II when the latter was counting out a large sum of money. The Pope remarked, You see, Thomas, the church can no longer say, Silver and gold have I none. Aquinas replied, True, holy father, but neither can she now say, Rise and walk. [Fernando](#), p. 149

v. 6 "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." - A recognition of the source of power and authority

THE CURE WAS IMMEDIATE AND DRAMATIC – Acts 3:7-11

v.7 "And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up." - The action of Peter demonstrated his faith in the power of Christ – Acts 3:7; Mt. 14:30

v. 8 "So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God." - The ability of the man to walk was evident beyond any question –

v. 9 "saw him walking and praising God." - The attitude of the man reveals his faith in God as the One Who gave Peter and John this power

v. 10 "they were filled with wonder(a state of astonishment brought on by exposure to an unusual event, amazement, awe) and amazement (a state of consternation or profound emotional experience to the point of being beside oneself) at what had happened to him." - The amazement of the crowd reveals the nature of this miracle – words of shock and throwing the mind off balance

APPLICATION

Questions:

1. Where did the very early church go to worship God?
2. Peter used the event of Pentecost for his first sermon. What event did he use for his second sermon?
3. Can you name three characteristics that we find in men, that God uses mightily, in this week's study? (vs. 1, 6, 12)
4. Think about the faith that Peter must have had to lift the lame man (v. 7). What do you think may have been going through his mind as he "stepped out in faith" and lifted the lame man?
5. In verses 11-12, with regard to the amazement of the people, what incumbent danger can you see when a person exercises a gift from the Holy Spirit? Hint, see (Isaiah 42:8)
6. Was it the lame man's faith that was responsible for his healing? Do we have to have great faith to be healed?
7. Did Lazarus have great faith when Jesus raised him from the dead? Whose faith does Peter indicate is responsible for the healing of the lame man? (v. 16b).
8. Why was it important for Peter to acknowledge and to give credit to the fact that the faith came through Jesus, which resulted in the healing.
9. What do you think would have happened to Peter's current and future ministry if he had taken the glory of the healing of the lame man for himself? (vs. 12-16)
10. Is it likely that Jesus and His disciples went by this lame man many times in the past? Why do think they didn't they heal him sooner?
11. What titles of Jesus did Peter use to demonstrate Christ's centeredness and authority in his sermon in chapter 3?
12. On what aspect of Jesus Christ will be the primary emphasis in Acts chapters 3 & 4?

INDICTMENT: JESUS, THE SON OF GOD – VS.11-16

Act 3:11 Now as the lame man who was healed held on to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch which is called Solomon's, greatly amazed.

Act 3:12 So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: "Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?"

THE CAUSE BEHIND THE MIRACLE WAS GOD, NOT MAN – vs. 13-16

Act 3:13 The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go.

Act 3:14 But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer (Barabbas) to be granted to you,

Act 3:15 and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.

Act 3:16 And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

INDICTMENT: JESUS, THE SON OF GOD VS.11-16

THE CAUSE BEHIND THE MIRACLE WAS GOD, NOT MAN – vs. 13-16

v. 13 “glorified His Servant Jesus,” - It reveals God’s purpose toward His Son

v. 15 “and killed the Prince of life” - It reflects on the actions of the multitude toward Jesus – They didn’t see that God as behind the actions of the past few weeks!

v. 16 “And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.” - It requires faith in His name – cf. Isaiah 35:6 – “Then the lame will leap like a deer”; The emphasis in Acts 3:1-26 and Acts 4:1-37 is on the name of the Lord Jesus (Acts 3:6, 16; 4:7,10,12, 17-18, 30).

The name of the Lord Jesus has all authority behind it, for He is the Son of God (Mat 28:18).

His name is “above every name” (Phi 2:9-11),

Peter speaks about honoring Jesus Christ and His name!

He further speaks to the men of Israel how they dishonored Him!!

whom you delivered up

and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go.

Act 3:14 But you denied the Holy One and the Just,

and asked for a murderer to be granted to you,

Act 3:15 and killed the Prince of life, whom God

Yes, the name of Jesus Christ had, and still has authority and power. Let’s go forth in His name and conquer, winning souls for Christ!

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