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By Dan Maines

## **Acts 3**

### **Acts 3:1**

Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the ninth hour, the hour of prayer.

† The apostles still participated in temple prayers, showing continuity with Jewish custom, yet their faith was centered in Christ.

† Josephus (Antiquities 14.4.3) affirms that Jews prayed at fixed hours, including the ninth hour.

### **Acts 3:2-3**

And a man who had been unable to walk from birth was being carried, whom they used to set down every day at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, in order for him to beg for charitable gifts from those who were entering the temple grounds. When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple grounds, he began asking to receive a charitable gift.

† The lame man's daily presence was well known, underscoring the reality of the miracle.

† Begging at temple gates was common. The Mishnah (Peah 8.9) notes almsgiving as a duty, especially near the temple.

### **Acts 3:4-6**

But Peter, along with John, looked at him intently and said, "Look at us!" And he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, "I do not have silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, walk!"

† Peter's authority is not in wealth but in the name of Jesus. The power of Christ surpasses material riches.

### **Acts 3:7-8**

And grasping him by the right hand, he raised him up; and immediately his feet and his ankles were strengthened. And leaping up, he stood and began to walk; and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.

† The man is instantly healed, fulfilling Isaiah 35:6, "the lame will leap like a deer." The kingdom's restoration is present.

† This public miracle validated apostolic authority and Christ's resurrection.

### **Acts 3:9-10**

And all the people saw him walking and praising God; and they recognized him as being the very one who used to sit at the Beautiful Gate of the temple to beg for charitable gifts, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

† The undeniable nature of the miracle silenced doubt. The entire community had seen the man daily.

### **Acts 3:11-12**

While he was clinging to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them at the portico named Solomon's, completely astonished. But when Peter saw this, he replied to the people, "Men of Israel, why are you amazed at this, or why are you staring at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made him walk?"

† Peter deflects glory to God, insisting the miracle was by Jesus' power. The setting in Solomon's Portico recalls Jesus' own teaching there (John 10:23).

### **Acts 3:13-15**

"The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His Servant Jesus, the one whom you handed over and disowned in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him. But you disowned the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, but put to death the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we are witnesses."

† Peter identifies Jesus as the Servant of Isaiah 52-53. Israel rejected Him, but God raised Him.

† Tacitus (Annals 15.44) confirms Jesus' execution under Pilate.

### **Acts 3:16**

"And on the basis of faith in His name, it is the name of Jesus which has strengthened this man whom you see and know; and the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect health in the presence of you all."

† The miracle is attributed to Jesus' name and faith in Him. Salvation and healing are inseparable in His authority.

### **Acts 3:17-18**

"And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, just as your rulers also did. But the things which God previously announced by the mouths of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He has fulfilled in this way."

† Even Israel's rejection fulfilled prophecy. Isaiah 53 foretold the suffering servant. Fulfillment had arrived in their generation.

### **Acts 3:19-21**

"Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things, about which God spoke by the mouths of His holy prophets from ancient times."

† Peter calls for repentance, promising forgiveness and refreshing. The "restoration of all things" refers to covenant restoration, not cosmic renovation.

† Josephus (Wars 6.9.1-4) recorded Israel's destruction for failing to repent. Peter offers covenant restoration through Christ.

### **Acts 3:22-23**

"Moses said, 'The Lord God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your countrymen; to Him you shall listen regarding

everything He says to you. And it shall be that every soul that does not listen to that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people."

† Quoting Deuteronomy 18:15-19, Peter identifies Jesus as the Prophet like Moses. Rejecting Him meant destruction, fulfilled in AD 70.

### **Acts 3:24-26**

"And likewise, all the prophets who have spoken from Samuel and his successors onward have also announced these days. It is you who are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant which God ordained with your fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' God raised up His Servant for you first, and sent Him to bless you by turning every one of you from your wicked ways."

† Peter stresses that all prophets spoke of "these days," not a far future. The blessing of Abraham's seed is realized in Christ, who first came to Israel, then extended blessing to all nations.

### **How it applies to us today**

† True healing is in Christ's name, not in wealth or human power.

† The restoration of all things is covenantal and fulfilled in Christ, not a future cosmic event.

† Prophets from Moses to Samuel pointed to these fulfilled days. Scripture is consistent and complete in Christ.

† Our call remains repentance, faith in Christ, and witness to His kingdom.

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

## Source Index

- † Josephus, Antiquities 14.4.3 – Fixed hours of Jewish prayer
- † Mishnah, Peah 8.9 – Almsgiving at the temple
- † Isaiah 35:6 – Lambs leaping like a deer
- † Tacitus, Annals 15.44 – Execution of Jesus
- † Isaiah 53 – The suffering servant
- † Josephus, Wars 6.9.1-4 – Israel's destruction for rejecting repentance
- † Deuteronomy 18:15-19 – Prophet like Moses
- † Genesis 22:18 – In your seed all nations blessed

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