

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

ACTS 3:11-21

LESSON: FAITH IN JESUS— December 3, 2017

INTRODUCTION:

¹The chapter opens with Peter and John going to the temple where they encounter a man lame from birth begging for alms at the gate called Beautiful. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Peter commands him to rise up and walk. Taking the lame man by the right hand and lifting him up, the man is healed instantly and completely. Walking, leaping, and praising God, he accompanies Peter and John into the temple to the wonder and amazement of the crowd (**3:1-10**).

LESSON: I. PREACHING JESUS ACTS 3:11-16

3:11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering. This was a sight to see. They see the lame man that was healed holding Peter and John tightly, and the crowd runs out to them onto the porch of Solomon's Hall.

3:12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? As the crowd gathered around them, Peter gives this opportunity to address the people of Israel asking why are they marveling at this; why look at them as though it was their power or holiness that made this man to walk? You see the people knew beyond question that the crippled beggar had been healed. They had known him to be a cripple for over forty years. The point is:

1. The people marveled not only at the miracle, but at the power and holiness of Peter and John.
2. Peter made the fact very clear that power and holiness are not of men. God does not work miracles for men to be glorified. So, there's no need to marvel or look earnestly upon them! Man has no merit, no virtue, no mortality, no strength, no authority, and no power to work such a miracle. There was nothing about Peter and John that deserved such power, and no holiness whatsoever. God had worked the miracle and God alone. So, when miracles are from God, it's expected, and He's the One to be glorified! He is all powerful!

3:13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go. Although Peter commands the man to rise up and walk, it was in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth and of His power that the miracle came! Peter lets them know that the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the forefathers glorified the Son, Jesus. Peter also tells them that Jesus, God's Son is the One they delivered up and denied before Pilate when Pilate wanted to let Him go. The power and holiness is of God's Son!

3:14 But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;— Peter repeats this again, that they denied Jesus. Even when it was an opportunity to let Jesus go, they chose a murderer to be granted freedom over Jesus, the Holy and Just One! So the point is:

¹ http://executableoutlines.com/acts/acts_03.htm
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html>

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1. Men delivered up God's Son.

- a. Jesus died for every man's sin. b. It was every man's sin that necessitated His death.

Can we look at it and say that no man is exempt from God's love and then say no man is exempt from the death of Jesus? Every man's sins are covered by God's love and Jesus' death. Therefore, every man—in all the arrogance and rebellion and denial of his sins—delivered Jesus up to the cross and killed Him. It was for my sins He died. It was my sins that put Him on the cross.

2. Men denied Jesus even when He was innocent. Jesus was innocent of the crimes with which He was charged. Even the Roman governor recognized this! There was no charge against Him that was justified.

3. Men denied the Holy One and the Just (Righteous One).

4. Men desired a sinner and murderer. **Think about it:** Every man who rejects Jesus is choosing sinful men and their ways over the sinless Son of God and His ways. Why? – Because murdering sinful man allows men to walk and live as they wish (immorally and unjustly).

3:15 And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

5. Men killed the Prince of life. The word "*Prince*" means both Prince and Author, the very Source of all Life. Although Peter tells them they killed the Prince of Life, this shows that He can't stay dead, for God, the Father raised Jesus from the dead, and Peter and John were witnesses.

3:16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all. So, to complete this, Peter recalls to them that it was His name through faith in His name that made the man strong. Therefore, his name stood for His authority and power. By using Jesus' Name, Peter showed who gave him the authority and power to heal. And it must be used by faith. It is in the Name of Jesus through faith in His Name that the man they saw and knew had received perfect healing; making the lame man strong.

II. PREACHING REPENTANCE ACTS 3:17-21

3:17 And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers. Peter describes that it was because of their ignorance just as their rulers' didn't know what they were doing to commit such a horrendous act of killing the Prince of Life.

3:18 But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled. Even in their ignorance, Peter still tells them that it was in this way that God fulfilled all that He had long ago foretold as to the sufferings of Christ, by the lips of all the prophets. These prophecies are found in Psalm 22 and Isaiah 6 and Isaiah 53:5. Peter was explaining the kind of Messiah God sent to earth. The Jews expected a great governor, not a suffering servant.

3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing" shall come from the presence of the Lord. A person just cannot continue and continue doing the same old things and expect forgiveness. So, Peter now makes reference that they will have to repent, so that they can be converted, to have their sins blotted out. And thereby, the Lord will send "*seasons of refreshing*" from His presence. When we repent, God promises not only to wipe away our sin, but to bring spiritual refreshment.

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3:20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:— Peter had shown them where they had gone wrong, but after repenting to be converted, their sins may be blotted out. Then, this Jesus who was before preached by the prophets; the Messiah whom they killed will return. This will be His Second Coming.

3:21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. There is an appointed time in which Jesus will return. But first heaven must be His home until the times of restoration or fulfillment of all things; until all things are put right of which God has spoken from earliest ages through the lips of His holy prophets—since the world began. This is the same Jesus they preached about! This means the former state in the program of God has to be restored; however, all events involved in the restoration will not take place at the same time. Scripture teaches that several major events of the restoration will happen at different times.

1. There will be the return of the Lord Himself to catch up and resurrect the believer (1 Thess. 4:16-18).
2. There will be the salvation of Israel (Rom. 11:25-26).
3. There will be the millennial reign of Christ upon earth (Rev. 20:4-6).
4. There will be the deliverance of the whole creation from suffering and corruption, including both nature itself and those among mankind who believe (Rom. 8:21-23).
5. There will be the explosive destruction and melting of heaven and earth by fire and the making of the new heavens and earth by God (2 Pt. 3:10-13).
6. There will be the glorious moment when Christ will deliver up the kingdom to God the Father ...that God may be all and all (1 Cor. 15:24).

SUMMARY:

²The people see the lame man walking and praising God. They know him as the one who begged alms at the Beautiful Gate. They are filled with wonder and amazement at what happened. As the lame man holds on to Peter and John, the people run to them on Solomon's Porch. Peter questions why the crowd marveled; why look at Peter and John so intently as though by their own power or godliness they made the man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of their fathers had glorified Jesus whom they then delivered up, denied, and killed the Prince of Life, for a murderer to be granted for release. But God raised Jesus from the dead where Peter said they were witnesses. It was Jesus' name through faith in His name that made the man strong (**3:11-16**).

Peter knows that they and their rulers crucified Christ in their ignorance. Those things God foretold by the mouth of His prophets, how Christ would suffer. He so fulfils. Peter commands them to repent and be converted that their sins may be blotted out, and that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord. God will send Jesus Christ who was preached to them before, but first heaven must receive Him until the times of restoration of all things which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began (**3:17-21**).

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