

## Study of Acts

### Lesson 3

#### Acts Chapter 3 (part 1)

1. Vs 1-11 Healing of a crippled beggar.
  - a. Last week we ended with how the church was operating. DAILY in devotion to the Lord and to each other, living in unity, working and functioning as a whole body, and how this caused growth spiritually as well as in number (physically)
  - b. They were empowered to live in unity because their desire to live like Jesus drove them to press into the Holy Spirit. They spent time in the presence of the Lord they were living like David spoke of in Psalms 16 TPT
  - c. Jesus was no longer with them in Body, but the atmosphere had shifted since the manifestation of the Holy Spirit. The disciples began to become empowered to do the things that Jesus did while he was on the earth. They were transformed by this indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
    - i. Matthew 17:16 (Mark 9), disciples were not able to cast out a demon when Jesus was with them, Jesus rebuked them because of their lack of faith, prayer and fasting.
    - ii. After the manifestation of the Holy Spirit we see them spending time in the presence of the Lord Acts 1:8 and when you receive the Holy Spirit you will receive POWER and you will be my messengers. These are Jesus words.
2. Significance of the time of day.
  - a. Notice in vs 1 where it says they went to the temple for the 3:00 prayer service.
    - i. It was at 3:00 in the afternoon, same time as death of Jesus according to Mark 15:25, called the hour of Mercy by some. The number 3 biblically represents divine wholeness, completeness and perfection. 3 years to Jesus ministry, his death at 33, 3 days for him to rise again etc. I don't believe it was coincidence that Peter and John ran into this crippled man at just this particular time of day. God is always orchestrating Proverbs 16:9
    - ii. God wanted to do more for this man than just heal him physically. God wants the same for us as well, let's see how.
3. Parallels of the crippled man and the HU-man.
  - a. The condition of the crippled man
    - i. Lame from birth and was carried daily to the entrance of the temple. He was seeking the help of the people coming in and out of the temple. I expect he knew of the early followers of Christ, their love for others, their compassion, maybe even hearing of miracles. I am certain he heard about Jesus of Nazareth and all the miracles that followed him.
      1. We are also lame, born into sin nature, Romans 5:12 it cripples us even from birth. Can you remember back to the time you first heard about Jesus, and I don't mean just hearing a story but hearing with

your heart. You were also drawn to the love, compassion and maybe even miracles.

- ii. Due to his disability the man was looking to be supported in his condition. He was looking for the blessing of provision and didn't consider the blessing of healing and salvation that was right in front of him.
    1. We look to the world to support us in our condition (Jeremiah 17:9) we rely on feelings and yet what we need is for Jesus to CHANGE our condition. Like the man we may spend time seeking the mediocre things, but It is God's will for us to be made completely whole
  - iii. He was begging for alms from those going into the temple. He couldn't work so we assume he was impoverished, he relied on people to help him survive, he looked to them to provide for him.
    1. Many times, we rely on other people to give us what we think we need rather than seeking the King of Kings who has already promised us HE is everything we need. Statements of Jesus
  - iv. Someone else had to carry him there, he couldn't get there alone
    1. Who you chose to spend your time with is as important as how you spend your time. Proverbs 13:20
    2. We are called to walk beside those who aren't strong yet, our encouragement in the word gives them strength. Romans 12:15, Hebrews 10:24
  - v. The crippled man's faith was strengthened by those who's faith was strong in the Lord
    1. As we speak life into others, it also helps to strengthen their faith! Proverbs 16:24, Romans 10:17 faith comes by hearing.
4. The gate called Beautiful, the representation of Jesus.
- a. Jesus is the gate John 10:9 The gate called Beautiful. According to the Jewish historian Flavious Josephus, "the temple had nine gates all around covered with gold and silver, but there was one gate outside the holy house made of Corinthian brass. Now all of the gates had gold and silver including the Beautiful gate. Some of them were wood overlain with gold and silver. The Beautiful gate was Corinthian brass plus it was of course beautiful ornate in carvings and it was overlaid with gold and silver, but the Corinthian gate which opened on the east, was much larger and Its height was seventy-five feet."
5. This part of Acts 3 is a beautiful key to the kingdom way of life (on earth as it is in heaven) how we become Kingdom Carriers!
- a. Spending time with the Lord, in his presence, in communion with him and the body and in daily devotion to walking in the Spirit
  - b. Speaking life, walking beside others, praying BOLD prayers
  - c. And what we are following up with next week in part 2.....GIVING GOD THE GLORY.

## **JESUS IS...**

1. I am the way, the truth, the life. John 14:6
2. I am the resurrection and the life. John 11:25
3. I am the good shepherd. John 10:11-14
4. I am the gate. John 10:7
5. I am the light of the world. John 8:12
6. I am the bread of life. John 6:35-48
7. I am the true vine. John 15:1-5
8. I am the living water. John 7:37-39, John 4:13-14

**HE IS EVERYTHING WE NEED AND WILL SUPPLY ALL WE NEED  
ACCORDING TO HIS RICHES IN GLORY!! PHILIPPIANS 4:19**