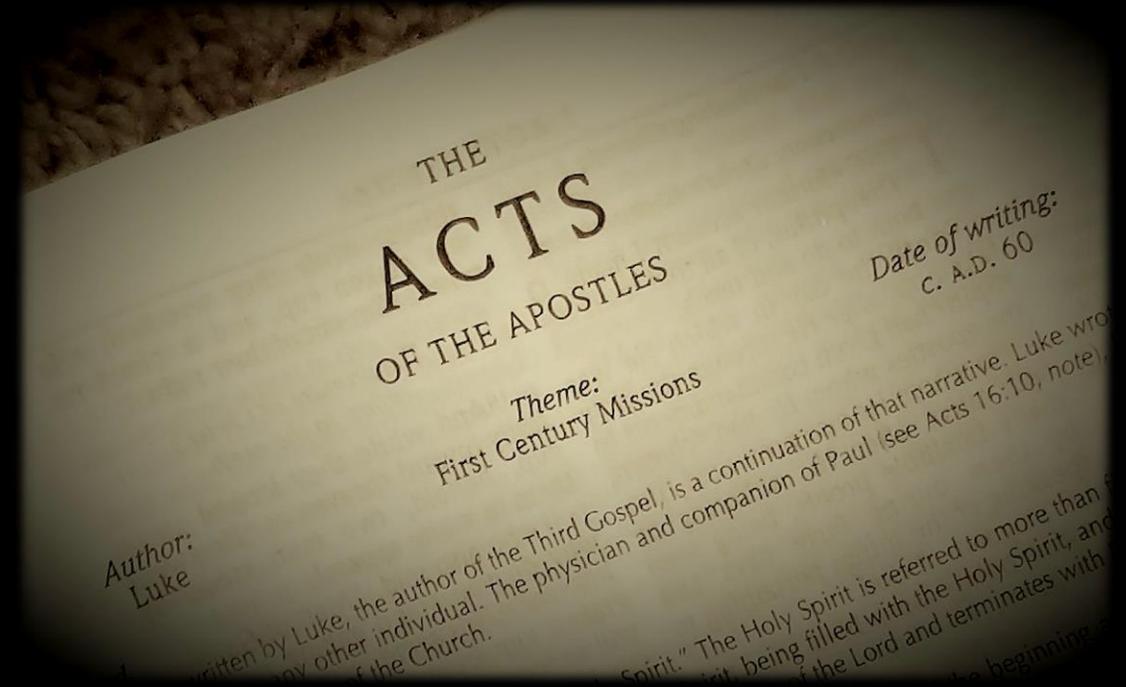


Verse by Verse

Acts 3



Previously in Acts

Previously in Acts

- In **Acts 1**, Jesus left the disciples and ascended into heaven before their eyes.
- He left them with instructions that included a promise of the Holy Spirit's coming.
- In **Acts 2**, the Holy Spirit descended upon the gathered disciples on the day of Pentecost.
- As a result, Peter told a large crowd about Christ.

Acts 3 Introduction

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- Toward the end of Acts 2, Luke said,
- “many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.” (2:43)
- In this chapter we see our first sample of those signs.
- The healing of a man lame from birth leads to Peter’s next evangelistic sermon.

Acts 3 Key Verses

Acts 3 Key Verses

- Acts 3:19-21 (ESV)

¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰ that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

Acts 3 Outline

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1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10
2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10

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- 3:1 Peter and John
- In the Gospels, Jesus liked to send the apostles out in pairs – and we sometimes saw these two together.
- That principle continues in **Acts** where ministry is normally done in teams of at least two.
- We will discuss this as an application point in just a bit.

1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10

- 3:1 the hour of prayer, the ninth hour
- This would be about 3pm in conjunction with the daily sacrifices.
- People would regularly gather at that time to recite daily prayers together at the temple.

1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10

- 3:2 lame from birth The man was never known to be able to walk at any point in his life.
- The Beautiful Gate There is some debate which gate this is, but it really doesn't matter.
- He probably liked to beg there because there was a lot of traffic in and out of the gate.

1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10

- 3:4-5 Peter and John Again, notice the mention of the two of them being together.
- Peter seems to take the lead – probably a factor of age and personality.
- Still, he is not there alone.

1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10

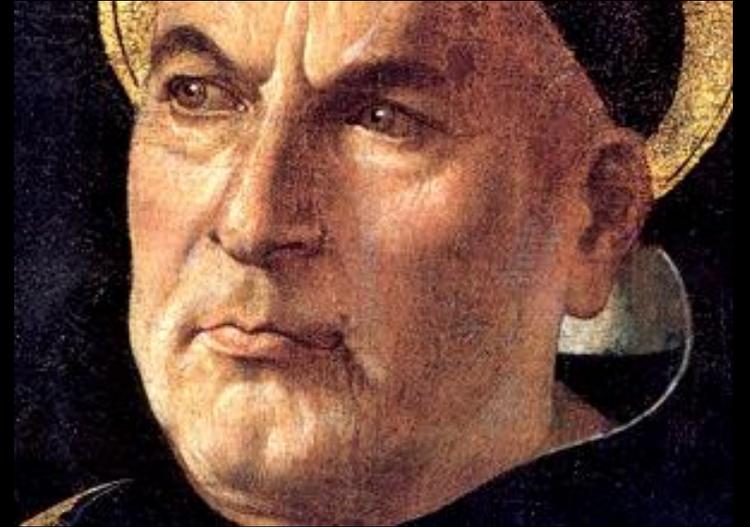
- 3:6 in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth
- When Jesus spoke or performed miracles, he did not do it in anyone else's name.
- His teaching and power were God's own power, so there was no need to call upon a higher authority.
- Not so with the apostles – they point people to Jesus and away from themselves.

1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10

- 3:6 I have no silver and gold ... rise up and walk
- Peter did not have any money, but the Holy Spirit clearly led him to help this man.
- There is a story about Thomas Aquinas meeting Pope Innocent II in Rome, which contrast with this one.

1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10

Entering the presence of Innocent II, before whom a large sum of money was spread out, the Pope observed, *“You see, the Church is no longer in that age in which she said, ‘Silver and gold have I none.’”* — *“True, holy father,”* replied Aquinas; *“neither can she any longer say to the lame, ‘Rise up and walk.’”*¹



Thomas Aquinas
(1225 – 1274),
Scholastic Philosopher
and Theologian

1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10

- *My similar – or not so similar – experience.*
- **3:7-10** Remember the man was “lame from birth” (v.2) so no one had ever seen him walk before.
- Now he is “walking and leaping and praising God.”

1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10

- 3:8 Luke might be trying to show the man's healing as a sign that messianic times have arrived with Jesus.
- He uses an unusual Greek word (*hallomai*) for the man's leaping.
- This word is found in the Greek version (LXX) of Isaiah 35:6, "then shall the lame man leap like a deer."

1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10

Two things that we can apply:

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Two things that we can apply:

1. Christian work should still normally be done in teams of two or more.
 - This allows people with different gifts to combine together for a richer ministry.
 - It also provides a natural sort of accountability so that no one can go too far in a strange direction.

1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10

Two things that we can apply:

2. Christian work is done in the name of Jesus.
 - We do not operate on our own authority.
 - Like the apostles, even someone with a gift of working miracles must use that gift in Christ's name.
 - Our preaching, teaching and any form of serving needs to always point back to him.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

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- 3:11-16 Once again, Peter is clear to point his audience away from him and toward Jesus.
- He is also clear to connect Jesus to the God of Israel using “the God of” several times in v.13.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

- 3:11-16 The word “servant” in v.13 can also refer to a child.
- That may be why some versions translate it as “Son.”
- For example, the KJV, Geneva Bible (1599) and the contemporary paraphrase *The Message*.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

- 3:11-16 Speaking to this Jewish crowd at the temple in Jerusalem, Peter is also very clear about their guilt.
- Peter lists several things they did wrong in vv. 13-15.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

- 3:11-16 The worst is in v.15, “you killed the author of life” – a very pointed oxymoron.
- Yet Peter and John and the other apostles are witnesses that God raised Jesus from the dead.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

- 3:16 Now by faith in the name of Jesus the man who was lame from birth has been made well.
- It is not clear whose faith.
- It seems to be Peter's faith at first, with the man's faith coming after the healing.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

- 3:17 Peter is willing to grant that what they did, they did *in ignorance*.
- This doesn't make them innocent, but it does mean they deserve to know the truth.
- If they now reject Christ, their guilt will be obvious.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

- 3:18 Christ's coming was foretold in the Scriptures by the prophets.
- More on this in a moment.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

- 3:19-21 Our key verses remind us that repentance is a necessary component of real faith.
- They also show us the natural results of repentance – which are forgiveness, refreshing and restoration.
- Peter even ties the return of Christ to the repentance of God's people.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

- 3:22-23 Peter identifies Christ as “the prophet like Moses” that Moses said would someday come.
- This prophecy is from Deuteronomy, the contents of which date back at least 1400 years before Christ.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

- Deuteronomy 18:15-19 (ESV)

¹⁵ “The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen” ... ¹⁷ And the LORD said to me, ...

¹⁸ “I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹ And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.”

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

- 3:25 Peter says that Christ is the means of blessing that God promised in the covenant with Abraham.
- We are now back in the book of Genesis and a story about 2000 years old at the time of Peter.
- 3:26 This verse actually makes a nice summary of the whole message.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

Two important things about Peter's message:

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

Two important things about Peter's message:

1. He ties Christ back to the Old Testament just as he did in **Acts 2** – only this time with different verses.
 - This reminds us that Jesus is to be found throughout the Old Testament through various connections.
 - The **Bible** has one continuous story line that extends from **Genesis** to **Revelation** with **Christ** as the center.

2. Once Again Preaching Christ 3:11-26

Two important things about Peter's message:

2. He prompts people to make a commitment to Christ as the only way to forgiveness and blessing.
- God only sent one Christ to take care of the guilt of our sin – only one divine Son and Servant of God.
 - He is also going to return and restore all things, but this will not be a blessing to those who reject him.

Acts 3 What We Just Read

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1. Healing a Lame Beggar 3:1-10
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Acts 3 Key Points

Acts 3 Key Points

1. Christian work should still normally be done in teams of two or more.
2. Christian work is done in the name of Jesus.
3. The gospel message about Jesus Christ began with the OT prophets who pointed ahead to him.
4. We need to make a commitment to Christ as the only way to forgiveness and blessing.

Acts 3 A Prayer

Acts 3 A Prayer

- Heavenly Father,
- We thank you for revealing your plan to your prophets long before the gospel stories ever took place.
- We thank you for fulfilling that plan by sending your Son and Servant Jesus Christ to be our Savior, our Substitute and our Sacrifice who died on the cross for our sins.

Acts 3 A Prayer

- We thank you that Jesus Christ, the author of life, could not be held by the power of the grave.
- We look to him now along with you as the giver of eternal life to all who believe.
- Please allow us to experience the times of refreshing and restoration that would be the result of our faith and repentance.

Acts 3 A Prayer

- We ask for wisdom now as we seek to serve you. Help us to do so with right hearts and right attitudes, knowing that someday Christ will return.
- In Jesus' name we pray,
- Amen

Acts 3 References

1. S.A. Bent, comp. *Familiar Short Sayings of Great Men*. 1887.
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