

The Book of Acts | The Miracle and the Message
Acts 3: 1-26
May 31, 2025

Acts 3:1-26

[1] Now Peter and John were going up to the temple for the time of prayer at three in the afternoon. [2] A man who was lame from birth was being carried there. He was placed each day at the temple gate called Beautiful, so that he could beg from those entering the temple. [3] When he saw Peter and John about to enter the temple, he asked for money. [4] Peter, along with John, looked straight at him and said, "Look at us." [5] So he turned to them, expecting to get something from them. [6] But Peter said, "I don't have silver or gold, but what I do have, I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!" [7] Then, taking him by the right hand he raised him up, and at once his feet and ankles became strong. [8] So he jumped up and started to walk, and he entered the temple with them — walking, leaping, and praising God. [9] All the people saw him walking and praising God, [10] and they recognized that he was the one who used to sit and beg at the Beautiful Gate of the temple. So they were filled with awe and astonishment at what had happened to him.

[11] While he was holding on to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astonished, ran toward them in what is called Solomon's Colonnade. [12] When Peter saw this, he addressed the people: "Fellow Israelites, why are you amazed at this? Why do you stare at us, as though we had made him walk by our own power or godliness? [13] The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and denied before Pilate, though he had decided to release him. [14] You denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer released to you. [15] You killed the source of life, whom God raised from the dead; we are witnesses of this. [16] By faith in his name, his name has made this man strong, whom you see and know. So the faith that comes through Jesus has given him this perfect health in front of all of you.

[17] "And now, brothers and sisters, I know that you acted in ignorance, just as your leaders also did. [18] In this way God fulfilled what he had predicted through all the prophets — that his Messiah would suffer. [19] Therefore repent and turn back, so that your sins may be wiped out, [20] that seasons of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send Jesus, who has been appointed for you as the Messiah. [21] Heaven must receive him until the time of the restoration of all things, which God spoke about through his holy prophets from the beginning. [22] Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your brothers. You must listen to everything he tells you. [23] And everyone who does not listen to that prophet will be completely cut off from the people.

[24] "In addition, all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those after him, have also foretold these days. [25] You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your ancestors, saying to Abraham, And all the families of the earth will be blessed through your offspring. [26] God raised up his servant and sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your evil ways."

1. Intro - "miss the forest for the trees"
2. Main Idea - **It is the message alone that Saves**
 1. The Miracle - we believe the message will explain the miracle
 2. The Message
3. The Miracle
 1. Beggar at the Gate
 2. Peter and John
 3. The beggar is healed
 1. Isaiah 35.6
 4. We are tempted to stop here - what a thing that happened
 1. Chapter 4 they just call this a good deed
4. The Message
 1. We are tempted to stop here - to tell of this incredible thing
 2. Why are you amazed - Wyatt Earp walking on water
 1. **Why are you looking at us, why are you amazed?**
 2. **Who Christ Is** - exaltation - he calls different witness, God, the prophets, the miracle
 1. God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob - 12 times this is how he is referred to
 2. Died on the Cross
 3. He is the source of life
 4. He's the one who suffered knowing all along that he would
 1. And you should expect the same
 5. He did this Miracle not us - and of course he can
 3. **Who are we**
 1. We are the crucifiers
 2. We are ignorant (17) - NOT AN EXCUSE!!
 3. We are Guilty - need more than just physical/mental healing
 4. So what should be your response this - JESUS WAS AT THIS PLACE
 1. **John 10.22-27 - 22** Then the Festival of Dedication took place in Jerusalem, and it was winter. **23** Jesus was walking in the temple in Solomon's Colonnade. **24** The Jews surrounded him and asked, "How long are you going to keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." **25** "I did tell you and you don't believe," Jesus answered them. "The works that I do in my Father's name testify about me. **26** But you don't believe because you are not of my sheep. **27** My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me.
 2. You should Repent and Believe
 3. And what will be given
 1. For you - refreshment
 1. Psalm 23.2-3 - He refreshes my soul
 2. Psalm 68.9 - You gave abundant showers
 3. Isaiah 40.31 - Soar up on wings like eagles
 4. 2 Cor 4.16 - don't lose heart we are being renewed
 2. The Church refreshes
 1. 2 Tim 1.16 - Onesiphorus refreshed Paul
 2. **Philemon 1.7 - 7** For I have great joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother.
 3. Restored
 1. **Joel 2.25-26**

2. **Revelation 21.1-5 - 21** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2** I also saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband. **3** Then I heard a loud voice from the throne: Look, God's dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and will be their God. **4** He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; grief, crying, and pain will be no more, because the previous things have passed away. **5** Then the one seated on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new." He also said, "Write, because these words are faithful and true." **6** Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will freely give to the thirsty from the spring of the water of life.
4. **But What ABOUT MY SIN - If you think you don't deserve it, Christ goes first to those that crucified him**
4. Lastly, knowing all these things - You can often get caught up in the miracle "work" and not message.
 1. But the message is the real miracle,
 2. Do you believe it?

Life Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you during our Sunday gathering?
- When is a time that you focused on the wrong detail and missed the bigger picture?
- Have you ever witnessed something you would consider a miracle? How have you typically understood the role of miracles in the kingdom of God?
- Can you imagine life without community? What would you miss the most?
- Why is the message of Christ more important than a "good deed done"?
- How has the Lord brought refreshing and restoration throughout your life? How do you need to be refreshed by the gospel now?
- How are our lives and our words meant to point people to the gospel? What would it practically look like to make the gospel known through the good things God has given you to do?
- How can you share this incredible message of Jesus Christ with someone?
- From your Life Group time, what is an idea or two from your discussion that you can work to apply this week?