**The Book of Acts 3**

**Verse 3:1**

\*The daily activity of the church members and apostles was evangelism in Jerusalem. Peter and John worked as a team (cf. Lk. 9:28; 22:8; Acts 3:1, 3, 11; 4:13, 19; 8:14) and ministered on their way to the Temple at 3 PM as they fulfilled their three-fold habit of daily prayers (Ps. 55:17; see 119:164).

**Verse 3:2**

\*These pillars of the church (Gal. 2:9) united their respective spiritual gifts of prophecy and mercy as they met the 40+ years old lame man (Acts 4:22). They continued the Lord’s divine calling of ministering to the poor and needy (Isa. 6:1; Lk. 4:18) which included healing the lame (Isa. 35:6) as practiced by the Lord Jesus (Mt. 11:5).

\*Dr. Luke recorded in his logbook the man’s affliction, its longevity, the location of the incident, and his purpose. The man was lame from birth, laid at the Beautiful gate (at one of the courts), and wanted alms (a charitable donation of money [cf. Acts 9:36]). The man was not a member of the church (cf. Acts 2:45; Ps. 37:25).

**Verses 3:3-5**

\*The beggar was persistent in begging (imperfect verb) to the apostles, perhaps knowing about the church communalism.

\*Peter saw the opportunity for messianic ministry and focused on him, requiring an eye to eye conversation. Rather than an impersonal and random coin toss, the apostles wanted to give much more which the beggar assumed.

**Verse 3:6**

\*Peter apparently did not carry money publicly and of course he was a poor man as were all of the apostles (Mt. 10:9-10; I Cor. 9:14; also Acts 20:34).

\*The apostle had something greater than money and that was the message of the Messiah with the power to heal spiritually and physically. The authority to heal was not with the apostle but with *“the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth”* (Acts 2:38; 4:10; 8:12; 16:18; see also Dt. 12:11). With an *aorist* imperative (*“rise up”*) and a present imperative (*“walk”*) Peter commanded the lame.

**Verse 3:7**

\*The physician learned that Peter took the lame man by the *“right hand”* and lifted him up (cf. Mk. 1:31). The miracle was immediate and *“his feet* (*basis* [1x]) *and ankle bones* (*sphudron* [1x]) *received strength* (*sterizo* > received steroids).”

\*Solomon made reference to the physical disparity of the legs of the lame, saying, *“the legs of the lame are not equal: so is a parable in the mouth of fools”* (Prov. 26:7).

**Verse 3:8-9**

\*The man’s immediate reaction to the miracle was physical and spiritual. Something beautiful happened at the gate called Beautiful! He leaped up (2x) and stood and walked (3x) and went with the apostles into the Temple leaping and praising God (2x). He was a living and obvious testimony to the power of the Lord.

**Verse 3:10-11**

\*The people knew that he was the long-time lame man and *“were filled with wonder* (*thambos* [1x]) *and amazement”* (*ekstasis* [7x]) and ran after him and were *“greatly wondering”* (*ekthambos* [1x]).