

## Acts 3

### *Promises Fulfilled*

? When you were a kid, what did you think would be your biggest accomplishment/experience some day?

#### **Previously In Acts**

Peter and John just had one of the greatest experiences at Pentecost, where the promised Holy Spirit gave power and three thousand people were saved and baptized. Now we will see how Peter and John preached about Jesus wherever they went and through the Spirit's power, accomplished the first miracle written in the book of Acts. This miracle is similar to the miracles that Christ did in His lifetime.

#### **PART ONE: The Lame Walk**

##### **Acts 3:1-10 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. <sup>2</sup> Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. <sup>3</sup> When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. <sup>4</sup> Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” <sup>5</sup> So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

<sup>6</sup> Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” <sup>7</sup> Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. <sup>8</sup> He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. <sup>9</sup> When all the people saw him walking and praising God, <sup>10</sup> they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

#### **Questions For Discussion**

? What are some observations we can make about the beggar, and why do they matter?

? What do verses 1-7 tell us about Peter and John? Why is this important?

? When you think of a miracle, what typically comes to mind?

? What do you think is the purpose of a miracle?

? In this passage, we see a lame man suddenly able to walk. Beyond his physical healing, what other “miracle” can we see in this man?

? In this passage, how do we see the apostles performing these miracles?

? The beggar’s response to his healing was to go into the temple and praise God. Can you think of a time in your life when you saw God move and it caused, “walking, and jumping, and praising God?” (vs. 8) What happened?

? As believers, what can we do today to show the glory of God so that people are “filled with wonder and amazement?” (vs. 9)

## **PART TWO: Peter’s Message**

### **Acts 3:11- 26 (NIV)**

<sup>11</sup> While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon’s Colonnade. <sup>12</sup> When Peter saw this, he said to them: “Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? <sup>13</sup> The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. <sup>14</sup> You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. <sup>15</sup> You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. <sup>16</sup> By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus’ name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.

<sup>17</sup> “Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. <sup>18</sup> But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup> Repent,

then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,<sup>20</sup> and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.<sup>21</sup> Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.<sup>22</sup> For Moses said, ‘The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you.’<sup>23</sup> Anyone who does not listen to him will be completely cut off from their people.’

<sup>24</sup> “Indeed, beginning with Samuel, all the prophets who have spoken have foretold these days.<sup>25</sup> And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, ‘Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.’<sup>26</sup> When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways.”

### Questions For Discussion



How many Old Testament references can you find in Peter’s speech?



Each Old Testament reference is pointing to the promises God made to His people. Which of these promises resonates the most with you and why?



Throughout history the Israelites had people who would speak to them about the promises of God, one of those promises being that the Messiah would come. How have the people around you helped to tell you about Jesus as the Messiah?



Part of the beggar’s miracle was a transformed heart and joining God’s family! Verses 24-26 talk about how God blesses those who are a part of His family. In what ways have you seen God bless you so you can bless others?

### For Discussion And Accountability



One of the greatest miracles God has done in our lives is that He saved us from our sins and gave us new hearts. What do you need to do this week to remind yourself of this great miracle so that you can praise Him?

? Verse 19 discusses putting our faith in Christ because of the beautiful promises He has given His people. Which promises of God do you need to cling on to this week to remind you of God's unfailing love?