

Acts # 6 (5.31.20) #20041

Acts Chapter 3

Gospel Focus

I. **Background. Amazing work in the Name of Jesus.**

- A. The new community that Jesus promised has been “re-birtherd.”
- B. The impact on Jerusalem is dramatic. Stunning and challenging.
- C. Acts 2-6 covers the first 3-5 years of the church’s life.

II. **Peter heals and preaches at the Temple. Acts 3**

A. **The Miracle. 1-12 (Read)**

- 1. Lame man healed. 3pm Temple area.
 - a) Paraplegic from birth. Healed with a Word in Christ’s name.
- 2. This is a continuation of the type of miracle Jesus did. His apostles carried on His ministry. Acts 2:43; Jn. 14:12-14
- 3. The first of 14 miracles in Acts. All of them done in conjunction with or by apostles and authenticating who Jesus is.
- 4. **But...This is not a how-to manual for miracle working.**
 - a) *It is a declaration of who Jesus is.*
 - b) The only reason the miracle was done was to authenticate Jesus as Messiah.

B. **The Message. 13-26. (Read) Note 5 things:**

- 1. We didn’t do this in our power, Jesus did. 12-16
 - a) **Not us:** Personal piety does not produce extra “power.”
 - b) **But Jesus Messiah:** The Author of Life, who you killed.
- 2. Because God is fulfilling His predicted plan. 17-18 (2:23)
 - a) What He foretold, he has thus fulfilled: the Cross.
 - b) Messiah must suffer (death, burial, resurrection, ascension)
- 3. So repent and trust Christ now. 19-21
 - a) So repent, and trust Christ now.
 - b) So that your sins may be blotted out
- 4. Because He is the One the Bible talks about. 22-25
 - a) He is the One the prophets were pointing to
 - b) He is the “Greater Moses” Moses predicted Deut.18:15
- 5. And He came to you first. 26
 - a) He is your Messiah, the Jewish Promise. (Jn.1:1-13)
 - b) And he is turning you from your wickedness

III. **What this Event is Not about: (some pastoral advice)**

- A. It’s not about the miracle itself. 12
 - 1. Why do you marvel at this? (a rhetorical question)
 - a) Peter is trying to re-direct their attention to Christ
 - 2. *Don’t chase signs and wonders.*
- B. It’s not about us as miracle-workers. 12
 - 1. It’s not about our personal power and piety (NIV, godliness)
 - 2. *Don’t follow gurus and prophets.* Matt. 24:5, 24
 - a) *Many will use My name and do miracles*

IV. What this Event Is about: It's about Jesus the Christ. This One you have rejected!

A. See who He really is.

1. Messiah. v. 13, 14 Isa 52:13-53:12
 - a) The Servant of God—you disowned 13
 - b) The Holy and Righteous One—you traded for a murderer 14 (Isa 53:11)
2. Author (ESV, NIV) Prince (NAS) Source (CSB) of Life 15. Col. 1:13-18
 - a) archepon = leader, ruler, originator, author, founder, source
 - b) *He is the one who maintains and determines all life.*
3. The Prophet to come. The Greater Moses. 22-23
 - a) Moses predicted in Deut. 18:15; 19 (LXX)

B. Look what He has actually done.

1. Fulfilled God's plan even through our disobedience.
 - a) The Work of regeneration and redemption of the world has begun.
2. Scheduled the Next Event—the restoration of all things. The 2nd Coming.
 - a) *This age is temporary* and God's plan will bring judgment and resurrection.

C. Enter into what He is currently doing.

1. **Blotting out sin. *The Thing we Need. We need this more than anything!***
 - a) Sins wiped away – Greek word = to remove, obliterate, wipe away.
 - (1) Like the felt pen off a mylar board
 - b) Ignorance is real but does not absolve. 18-19
 - (1) They still had to repent and trust Christ.
 - c) Wickedness is endemic, and we can't remove it.
 - (1) It can only be “blotted out” by the blood of Christ.
 - (2) These are very strict and religious people. So apparently being strict and religious does not actually touch the sin/wickedness within.
 - (3) Religion never has and never will remove wickedness.
2. **Promising and offering relief for our souls. *The Thing we Crave. 20***
 - a) Refreshing: Greek word = relief, recovery, getting your breath.
 - b) **A Promise:** The Restoration of all things in Christ.
 - c) **An offer: Matt.11:25-30**
 - (1) Rest for your souls, even now, through forgiveness. Jesus beckons us to forgiveness and rest in Him.