

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Since Peter and John had no money, what prompted Peter to respond as he did?
2. What was the lame man's reaction? What did he praise God for?
3. Do people today see their real needs, or are they as the lame man looking for help in the wrong places?
4. What are our responsibilities as Christians towards those in need?
5. Other than money, what can we as Christians offer to those in need?

SUMMARY:

Peter and John, in their great desire for communion with God, were going to the temple to pray when they were asked for money by a helpless, crippled beggar. Like a sin-sick sinner, he needed something. However, instead of what he hoped for, he received an even greater gift: salvation and eternal life. It is through faithful witnesses the world over—those who are led by the Holy Spirit—that the gospel message is given to those in need of spiritual healing. [\[SoF:15\]](#)

NOTES:

[\[SoF:15\]](#) We believe that the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ is an invitation for everyone to live a life of abandonment to Him, Who loved us and gave Himself for us - surrendering His personal ambitions and possessions in an unreserved committal to take the proclamation of the Gospel throughout "all the world to every creature".

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #5

October 29, 2023

Fourth Quarter

THE FIRST APOSTOLIC MIRACLE

LESSON TEXT: *Act 3:1-26*

LESSON SETTING: At the gate of the temple called Beautiful in Jerusalem.

TIME: Approximately 33 A.D. After Christ returned to the right hand of God.

- I. A GREAT NEED.** Acts 3:1-3
 - A. Spiritual Need. 2 Chronicles 15:3; Proverbs 21:17; Ephesians 2:12; Revelation 3:17-18
 - B. Physical Need. Luke 13:11; John 3:27; 5:7; 2 Corinthians 3:5
 - C. Economic Need. Exodus 23:11; Deuteronomy 15:7; Psalms 41:1; Proverbs 14:21
- II. A GREAT MIRACLE.** Acts 3:4-10
 - A. Sympathy. Acts 20:35; Romans 12:15; 15:1; Galatians 6:2; Hebrews 13:3; James 1:27
 - B. Faith. Genesis 22:8; Matthew 8:13; 9:29-30; Matthew 17:20; Mark 9:23
 - C. Praise. Psalms 9:11; 33:2; 1 Peter 2:9
- III. A GREAT TESTIMONY.** Acts 3:11-26
 - A. Thanks. Psalm 100:4; Colossians 3:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:18
 - B. Glorifying Christ. Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 5:16; Matthew 15:31; 1 Corinthians 6:20
 - C. Confessing Christ. Matthew 16:16; John 1:49; John 6:69; 11:27; 20:28; Acts 8:37

GOLDEN TEXT: *SILVER AND GOLD HAVE I NONE, BUT SUCH AS I HAVE GIVE I THEE.*

Acts 3:6

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Acts 4:1-22

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: 1 Kings 22:1-28;
2 Chronicles 24:15-22;
Psalm 2:1-12

QUARTERLY THEME: The Early Church

TOPIC: THE FIRST PERSECUTION

INTRODUCTION:

The priests and elders had seen that Jesus was crucified. They were jealous of Him and wanted Him out of the way. But they were not able to do so. Although, He Himself was no longer on earth, His presence in every believer was working miracles and they saw that their plan of doing away with Jesus had failed. Here were Peter and John drawing thousands of people to them and the priests and elders imprisoned them. They found no reason for punishing Peter and John, but were boldly told that He whom God had raised from the dead was the very one they had killed and now by His risen power the lame man was made whole. For the present the elders could only command them not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.

Little did they know what power this name would have among the people.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Christians should be faithful to Christ no matter what the cost may be.

GOLDEN TEXT: *BLESSED ARE YE WHEN MEN SHALL REVILE YOU, AND PERSECUTE YOU, AND SHALL SAY ALL MANNER OF EVIL AGAINST YOU FALSELY, FOR MY SAKE.* Matthew 5:11

Jesus had known that His disciples, who were weak in faith but willing to follow Him would become different men when the Holy Spirit truly controlled them. He knew also that their ministry, even as His ministry, would arouse the anger and opposition of the elders and leaders. He felt the need to encourage them before their time of testing, knowing the Holy Spirit would remind them of His words and help them to be like Him, their teacher, when persecution would arise. So, He gave them many other teachings like our golden text. "The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household." (Matthew 10:24-25)

If we would be like Jesus in all things, even in persecution we will also need His example, His Word and His Spirit:

O Deliverer from all bondage.
Jesus Christ, our Saviour dear.
With whom harm, contempt, dishonor,
Bring the joy of heaven near!
We ask not for ease and pleasure
As our portion in this life;
What Thou deemest necessary,
Do while here we bear the strife.
Z.H. 35:1

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Oct. 30 – Nov. 5

Mon. *The Apostles' Imprisonment. Acts 4:1-4
Tue. *Peter's Testimony. Acts 4:5-12
Wed. *The Baffled Leaders. Acts 4:13-22
Thu. The Persecution of Micaiah. 1 Kings 22:15-27
Fri. The Persecution of Zechariah. 2 Chronicles 24:15-22
Sat. Paul's Sufferings. 2 Corinthians 11:18-30
Sun. The Purpose of Testing. Hebrews 12:1-7

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