

Acts 3:1-11: A SIGN FOR ISRAEL THRU THE APOSTLE PETER

The structure of the early chapters of Acts is not readily apparent, but note the following:

Acts 2

- Miracle: Tongues (Apostles)
- Jews / Visiting Proselytes Gather
- Peter Preaches:
"Jesus = the Resurrected Messiah / Lord"
- 3000 Saved (all Jewish Proselytes)



Unity of Believers / Miracles follow
2:42-47

Acts 3

- Miracle: Lame Man (Peter)
- Jerusalem Jews Gather
- Peter Preaches:
"Jesus = Resurrected Messiah, Prophet,
Restorer of Israel"
- 5000: # of Jewish Believers Increase
- Persecution by Jewish Religious Leaders



Unity of Believers / Miracles follow
4:24, 29-33; 5:12

Acts 3:1-11: Healing if the Lame Man

The healing of the lame man (3:1-11) is a prelude to Peter's second recorded message (3:12-26), the success of which induces persecution by Jewish priests and the Sanhedrin (4:1-22). The persecution only stimulates the Believers to fervent prayer and boldness of witness (4:23-31). Healing of the lame man sort of brackets the entire narrative (compare 3:6 and 4:21, 22).

Vs. 1 - The setting for this detailed miracle is the _____ area during the _____ hour of prayer (_____ p.m.), a service preparatory to the offering of the evening sacrifice (see Exodus 29:28-43).

Though Christians in the N.T. sense, the Apostles are still very Jewish.

Vs. 2 - At a Gate (door) called _____, one of nine gates that separated the Court of the Gentiles from the Inner courts (Ct. of the Women and Treasury; Ct. of Israel; Ct. of Priest and Levites; The Sanctuary), there was placed everyday a man lame from _____ where he begged from alms.

NOTE 3 THINGS:

1. This was a _____ deformity from Birth.
2. It disabled the man: he had to be placed at the gate.
3. He was now _____ years old (4:22): everyone knew him

Vs. 3,4 - As Peter and John enter the Temple area where no Gentile could go, the crippled man begs for money.

Vs. 5 - The lame man expected to receive _____ from them.

Vs. 6 - Peter then said, "I do not have silver and gold, but what I do have, I give to you: in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and (Byzantine, Lt. Vg., Syriac Versions) start walking."

Vs. 7 - But the lame man does not move! Peter literally "seizes" his right hand and raises him up. IMMEDIATELY, his lame feet and ankles are straightened AND HE SENSES THIS.

Vs. 8 - Thus leaping up, he kept standing (Imperfect Tense), then he kept walking about (Imperfect Tense) and he entered into the Temple (Ct. of women) with them continually walking and leaping and exalting (Present Tenses) God.

Vs. 9-11 - Luke records immediate effect of this miracle on the people:

1. They saw him walking and leaping (empirical evidence);
2. They knew (Imperfect Tense) him as the lame beggar;
3. They were filled with wonder and amazement over this empirical evidence of a miracle;
4. They gather at Solomon's Porch (outside the temple proper) in amazement, and the scene is set for Peter's second recorded message in Acts.