

## Healing: Acts 3.

### 1. (1-10) Physical Healing.

We were told many signs and wonders were done through the apostles in Acts 2:43; and this chapter records one of the many. The lame man simply wanted help in the condition that he was in but God had a different plan. The man's expectation didn't come to pass, Peter didn't have any money, but he did have authority from Jesus to heal him. At this moment, Peter received and exercised the gift of faith and healing described in 1 Corinthians 12.

After the man is healed; First, he attached himself to the apostles (entered the temple where he had never been because of his disability). Secondly, he immediately started to use what God had given him (walking, leaping). Finally, he began to honor God.

**Luke 4:18** - *"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed. [Isaiah 61:1]."*

Jesus must have passed him by many times without healing him; God's timing is just as important as His will, His plan was to heal him through Peter.

Much as God heals, He never said that He would heal everyone from every disease or disability; those He doesn't heal He gives strength and comfort through the trials.

**2 Corinthians 12:7-10** - *"And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong."*

### 2. Spiritual Healing: 11-26.

The miracle draws attention and a crowd to Peter; and he explains that the healing is not because of his power or godliness, but Jesus' power and will (their Savior, whom they had rejected and falsely accused before Pilate demanding a murderer to be freed and He executed [in ignorance fulfilling prophecy], raised from the dead in authority).

Many gifted in miracles and healing often parade the healed and give the impression that healing happens because they are so spiritual, so close to God, or so godly, taking God's glory.

**Mathew 10:8** - *"Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give."*

Peter emphasizes that it wasn't anything about him, and doesn't even focus on the miracle, but Jesus Christ, the miracle worker to who all credit, power and honor belongs. Never take credit for what God does.

**2 Corinthians 4:5-7** - *For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God, and not of us.*

Peter calls upon the Jewish crowd to repent that their sins may be forgiven and that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; survive God's wrath; enjoy peace with Him, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and eventually eternity with Him (Good Life).

Peter assures them that they were experiencing the fulfillment of Deuteronomy 18: 15, 18, 19 (the Messiah coming as a man and the destruction of those who reject Him) and that they are the beneficiaries of God's promise of blessing from Genesis 12:3.

Just as the crippled needed physical healing; they were crippled with another disability, the wickedness of their hearts, so they needed another type of healing, spiritual healing; healing from sin, guilt, anger, bitterness, un-forgiveness, failures, old nature...

**Hosea 6:1-3** - *Come, and let us return to the LORD; For He has torn, but He will heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up. After two days He will revive us; On the third day He will raise us up, that we may live in His sight. Let us know, let us pursue the knowledge of the LORD. His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the rain, like the latter and former rain to the earth.*

**Psalms 30:2** - *O LORD my God, I cried out to You, and You healed me.*

**Jeremiah 17:14** - *Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved, for You are my praise.*