

ACTS 3:12-26: PETER URGES ISRAELITES TO REPENT, Part I

In Acts 3:1-4:31 all events are associated with the healing of the lame man. Prior to this, the Believers enjoyed general popular favor in the community (2:43, 47a): after this, they will be the focus of repression by the Jewish priesthood, and eventually, outright persecution.

In this paper, we want to analyze Peter's message that leads to this negative repression. The healing of the lame man is merely the drawing card that the Lord uses to excite the Jewish throng in the Temple precincts: these run to Peter, John and the healed cripple on Solomon's Porch. Peter then preaches.

Peter's Message: 3:12-19, Part I

1. v. 12a Note that Peter is addressing _____ (same as ch. 2)

3:12 "You men of Israel"

3:17 "Brethren..."

3:25 "You (pl.) are the sons of the prophets and the covenant..."

- v. 12b "We are not the source focal point of this miracle."

Peter will go on to show that the resurrected Jesus is.

2. vs. 13-15 The treatment of Jesus by Israel's _____ is contrasted with that of the Israelites.

a. treatment by Israel's God

v. 13 "the God of Abraham, etc. ...has glorified His son (lit. "servant") Jesus

v. 15 "God has raised him from the dead."

b. treatment by Israelites (5 Aorist Verbs)

1) "You (pl., emphatic) delivered him up." Transl. "betrayed" in Mt. 10:4; 26:16, 24, 46; 27:3.

2) "You denied him" before Pilate who was willing to free him. Cmp. Luke 23:14-23.

3) "You (pl. emphatic) denied the Holy One, the Just One (the Messiah)."

4) "You desired ("asked for") a murderer in his place."

5) "You killed the Prince ("Author") of life."

(OVER)

3. v. 16 Peter explains the real source of the healing and highlights the incontrovertible evidence (empirical)

- How? Upon and through the _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- The Evidence:
 - “You see and know this healed man”
 - “He is now complete and in perfect health”
 - “This was done in the presence of you all; i.e. publicly.”

4. v.17-19 Peter begins his application

- a. v. 17 “I know that you did this through _____.” But _____ is not the basis of forgiveness.
- b. v. 18 “The sufferings of _____ Messiah that the prophets foretold, he has fulfilled or completed.” Isaiah 53; Psalms 22; Zech. 13:6 are in view.
- c. v. 19 What were these Israelites to do in view of their sins of ignorance against God’s Messiah?

“**REPENT**”, that is, _____ your mind relative to who Jesus of Nazareth is and what He has accomplished. Bring your attitude about Christ into line with God’s attitude.

BE TURNED or **RETURN** to God’s point of view on this subject, “turn back” to God’s plan in Messiah. This command reaffirms “repent.”

WHY! “THAT YOU SINS MAY BE BLOTTED OUT!” What sins? All of them!

Next Week: We complete Peter’s message and categorize its special meaning relative to the Mediatorial Kingdom of God.

