

I. There is Power in His Name (vv. 1-11)

- a. Peter and John frequented the Temple to pray, to maintain their Jewish customs.
- b. Chapters 1-10 of Acts describe a gradual transition from Jewish Christianity to “one body” made up of Jews and Gentiles.
 1. It took several years for many Jews to understand the Gentile’s place in God’s plan of salvation.
- c. The Holy Spirit is not mentioned in this chapter but you see Him working.
- d. Peter and John encountered a crippled man that was lame from birth.
- e. The Apostles had no money to give, so they gave them what he needed and not what he wanted. They commanded the man to walk, “in Jesus name.”
- f. The once crippled man walks, jumps and praises God. Notice that the man did not need faith to be healed. The emphasis is on the power of the name of Jesus. (Read Matt 28:18; Phil 2:9-11)
- g. It was the Apostles who had faith in the name of Jesus.
- h. The miraculous healing was not done in isolation. Thousands of people and other beggars were there to bear witness. The people knew the lame beggar, his healing could not be denied.
- i. Peter took no credit instead he says, *the one you killed is the one who healed this man.* (vv.15-16)
- j. The healing sparked interest and opened a door for conversation. It was also done to prove that the Apostles walked and operated in the power of God. The people needed a sign. (John 4:48)
- k. How could two ordinary fisherman perform such a miracle unless God was with them?

II. Peter Urges the Jews to Repent and Believe (vv.12-26)

- a. After the prayer serve, Peter preached a similar sermon (Acts 2) of **recognize** your sin, **repent** “turn again”, and **receive** salvation through Jesus Christ.
- b. You killed the Author of life, but God restored Him to life gain and we are witnesses. (2 Pet 1:16)
- c. “Times of refreshing” (*cool by blowing*, appears only once in the N.T.) the work of the Holy Spirit.
- d. There is something refreshing in the air. National repentance now depends on personal responsibility. *Each one* must confess their sin and personally Jesus as Lord and Savior. “And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed” (v.25) (Isaiah 11:2-9; 35:1-6)
- e. Peter’s preaching conflicted with the Sadducees teaching because they did not believe in the resurrection of the human body.
- f. The temple guards arrested Peter and John. However, thousands received salvation. (Acts 4:4)

III. Thoughts and Considerations for Action

- a. God is long-suffering with lost sinners. He sent John the Baptist, Jesus, and now Peter.
- b. Evangelizing involves the “bad news” of sin as well as the “good news” of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.
- c. The way to win a large group of people is by helping the individual sinner. The transformed lame man was catalyst to win many! The best defense of the truth is a changed life.
- d. Whenever God blesses, Satan shows up to oppose the work and silence the witness. He often uses religious folk to do his work.
- e. The name of Jesus still has wonder working power. We may not perform the same miracles as the Apostles, we can proclaim the gospel in His name, and we can give food and clothing in His name.
- f. Each ministry done in the name of Jesus will impact and transform lives.
- g. We do not need to make a name for ourselves when we carry the name that stands above every name – Jesus! Allow God to work a miracle through your witness.