

## ***Acts Part 1 Study Guide***

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### **Lesson 3: Peter's Second Sermon – Acts 3**

#### **1. Healing the Lame Man – Acts 3:1-10**

- A. How it must have galled the Jewish leaders that this heretical “faction” was using the temple to advance their doctrine (Acts 2:46). And Peter and John present themselves in the temple for the mid-afternoon prayers (3:1).
- B. A man well known in the area for his crippled condition and his daily appearance in the temple is healed by Peter. The effect is instantaneous, and the man is overcome with ecstasy by his new lease on life. This action adds to the excitement and buzz surrounding the fledgling movement.

#### **2. Peter's Second Sermon – Acts 3:11-26**

- A. The commotion of the healing draws a crowd to Solomon's porch, a colonnaded area of the temple that provided shelter for gatherings. Note Luke's descriptive terms: wonder and amazement (3:10); amazed (3:11); marvel (3:12).
- B. Peter's address can be broadly divided into three sections:
  - 1. 3:12-16 – **Condemnation** for the rejection and death of Jesus.
    - a. What does Peter immediately disavow concerning the miracle?
    - b. How does Peter tie in ancient Jewish history with recent events?
    - c. What makes their rejection of Jesus so heinous?
    - d. What role do the apostles play in the aftermath of His death?
    - e. To whom does Peter attribute the healing of the lame man?
  - 2. 3:17-20 – **Conciliation** toward the rebellious Jews.
    - a. To what does Peter attribute their rejection of Jesus?
    - b. What had God “fulfilled” in the death of Jesus?
    - c. What does Peter urge these people to do to repair the damage?

3. 3:21-25 – **Context** of history. Peter emphasizes that the events which have transpired are not innovative, novel or dishonoring of Judaism. As he did in his first sermon on Pentecost, Peter strongly ties the present issues to the ancient prophecies. The events fulfill longstanding declarations of what would occur.

a. Cite the verses where Peter mentions the prophets.

b. When had these prophecies begun?

c. What is the nature of Moses' prophecy? How long did it take for his words to come true?

d. What covenant does Peter mention with the Jews' ancestry?

C. Peter's conclusion – Acts 3:26:

1. The Jews – *“to you first”*: The privilege and reward of being God's covenant people by virtue of connection to Abraham was that salvation is first offered to them.
2. God – The true force behind these events which the Jews had been wrestling with since the prophet John came on the scene.
3. Having raised up His Servant Jesus – The resurrection always figures prominently in the preaching of the apostles. This reference may also be designed to bring to mind the “Servant” prophecies of Isaiah.
4. Send Him to bless you – The incarnation of Jesus is the ultimate expression of God's love and concern for mankind. God had every right to destroy man in his rebellion, but He sent His Son to *bless mankind!*
5. In turning away every one of you from your iniquities – The objective: God wished to create a spiritual family from among men who would choose Him over sin, who would repent and renounce the rule of sin in their lives and strive for purity and godliness. *Forgiveness* is the main objective in all that God has done through Christ.