Acts 3:1-26 Lame man Healed through Peter and John

Healing man lame from his mother's womb

1 Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. 2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms from those who entered the temple; 3 who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms. 4 And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us." 5 So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. 6 Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." 7 And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. 8 So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them--walking, leaping, and praising God.

People gather on Solomon's Porch

9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God. 10 Then they knew that it was he who sat begging alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. 11 Now as the lame man who was healed held on to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch which is called Solomon's, greatly amazed.

God healed the Lame Man to glorify Jesus – Whom you had Pilate crucify – Whom God raised – Healed through Faith in the Name of Jesus

12 So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: "Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? 13 The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go. 14 But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, 15 and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses. 16 And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

You acted in ignorance – Prophecies were fulfilled

17 Yet now, brethren, I know that you did it in ignorance, as did also your rulers. 18 But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His prophets, that the Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled.

Repent for forgiveness – Jesus will remain in Heaven until times of Refreshing and Restoration ¹⁹ Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, ²⁰ and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.

The Prophet spoken of by Moses

22 For Moses truly said to the fathers, 'The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. 23 'And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.' 24 Yes, and all the prophets, from Samuel and those who follow, as many as have spoken, have also foretold these days.

To the Jew first – Sons of the Promise

25 You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' 26 To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities." NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms from those who entered the temple; who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms. [Acts 3:1-3]
- And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us." So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them--walking, leaping, and praising God. [Acts 3:4-8]
 - ♦ The man lame from birth was well known because he had been laid at the gate of the Temple to ask alms of those who entered, and he had been brought there daily for a long time, by the time he was healed he was over forty years old. [Acts 4:22]
 - ❖ Apparently Jesus had walked by him numerous times as He was teaching in the Temple before His crucifixion. The people came together at Solomon's porch where Jesus had walked as He taught on Chanukkah (dedication). [John 10:23]
 - ❖ It appears he had been left for this occasion that the ministry of the Apostles might be confirmed by the healing through Peter and John.
 - ♦ All he asked for was alms, but Healing was of much more importance.
 - ♦ Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I have I give you, in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." When Peter took him by the right hand and lifted him up, his feet and bones received strength. Some times we need to add action to our words of faith to see the miracle that is to happen.
 - ♦ As he entered the Temple with Peter and John, he was walking and leaping and praising God. The glory for miracles God does through us must go to God, not to the servant through whom the miracle was done.

People gather on Solomon's Porch

- And all the people saw him walking and praising God. Then they knew that it was he who sat begging alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. Now as the lame man who was healed held on to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch which is called Solomon's, greatly amazed. [Acts 3:9-11]
 - ♦ The man was well known because he had been a daily fixture at the Temple gate begging for alms for such a long time. [Acts 3:2]
 - ♦ When the people saw him walking, leaping, and praising God, they knew a miracle had happened and they came running together to learn more about it.
 - ♦ The place was on Solomon's Porch where Jesus had clearly said, "I and the Father are one," causing the Jews to attempt to stone Him because they understood that He was saying that He was God. [John 10:22-33]
 - \diamondsuit The people were greatly amazed at the healing of the man born lame.

Peter's message to the people:

God healed the Lame Man to glorify Jesus – Whom you had Pilate crucify – Whom God raised – Healed through Faith in the Name of Jesus

- ❖ So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: "Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go. But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses. And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all. [Acts 3:12-16]
 - ♦ Peter took advantage of the opportunity to point out that the God of Israel has glorified Jesus by the healing.
 - ♦ It is the same Jesus that they had killed, after they had chosen a murderer to be released when Pilate wanted to let Jesus go. [Matthew 27:16-26, Mark 15:6-15, Luke 23:13-25, John 18:39-40]
 - ♦ Jesus is the Holy One, and the Just, Who is the Prince of Life, Whom God raised from the dead.
 - ♦ The Apostles are witnesses of the resurrection. [Acts 1:21-22]
 - ♦ It was through faith in the name of Jesus that the lame man was made whole.
 - ♦ Not the faith of the lame man, but the faith of the Apostles. The lame man was only looking for alms.
 - ♦ God honored the faith of the Disciples and used the occasion to verify their words and actions by working the miracle at their word.

You acted in ignorance – Prophecies were fulfilled

- The Yet now, brethren, I know that you did it in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His prophets, that the Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled. [Acts 3:17-18]
 - ❖ Even when we don't have any idea of what is happening, God uses us to accomplish His predetermined plan for our time, just as He had used Pharaoh when He brought Israel out of Egypt. [Exodus 9:16, Acts 3:17-18, 13:27]
 - ♦ God has fulfilled the things concerning the suffering and death of the Messiah just as it had been written by all His prophets, when the last thing prophesied was fulfilled, Jesus said "It is Finished" then he gave up His spirit. [Matthew 26:54, 56, Mark 14:49, Luke 18:31, 24:25-27, 44, John 19:28-30]

Repent for forgiveness – Jesus will remain in Heaven until times of Refreshing and Restoration

- Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.

 [Acts 3:19-21]
 - ♦ The steps of Salvation are:
 - ☐ First to become aware that you are a sinner.
 - ☐ Second to repent of the sin. Repentance is always required for the forgiveness of sin.
 - ☐ Third to believe in God's plan of Salvation through Christ Jesus (be Converted), to set your feet on the path of having your sins blotted out by the blood of Jesus. [Acts 3:19, Psalm 51:1-3, 9, Isaiah 53:25, 44:21-22, Hebrews 9:14, 1 John 1:7, Revelation 7:14]
 - ♦ Jesus was preached to you before, but must remain in Heaven until the appointed time of restoration [Acts 3:20-21]

- ™ When God sends Jesus back to set up His Kingdom, He will bring with Him the times of refreshing. [Restoration of Nations: Acts 3:19, Isaiah 2:1-4, 11:10-12, 19:16-25, Amos 9:11-15, Zephaniah 2:11, Zechariah 14:16-19, Malachi 1:11, Revelation 15:4]
- ☐ [Restoration of the earth: Isaiah 4:2, 11:6-9, 27:6, 29:17-19, 32:15-20, 35:1-10, 41:17-20, 65:25, Ezekiel 34:25-31, 36:27-36, Joel 3:18, Romans 8:18-23]
- ☐ One of the characteristics of the Kingdom Age will be the restoration of all things, the earth will be like the Garden of Eden, universal peace will cover the earth, Israel will be restored as the Head Nation with Jesus reigning from Jerusalem, the remnant of all nations will be restored.
- ☐ All of this God has promised by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began. [Acts 3:21]

The Prophet spoken of by Moses

- For Moses truly said to the fathers, 'The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. 'And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.' Yes, and all the prophets, from Samuel and those who follow, as many as have spoken, have also foretold these days. [Acts 3:22-24]
 - ♦ Jesus is the prophet Moses has spoken of to Whom the people must listen. [Deuteronomy 18:15-18]
 - → Those who refuse to hear Jesus will be utterly destroyed from among his people.

 [Deuteronomy 18:19]
 - ♦ All the prophets from Samuel spoke of these days. [Acts 3:24]

To the Jew first – Sons of the Promise

- You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' [Acts 3:25]
 - ♦ Peter is speaking to the Jews who are blood descendants of the Children of Israel, and naturally in line of the covenant God made with Abraham.
 - ♦ The line of the covenant Peter points out is the line that says, "And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed." (Repeated to Isaac & Jacob). [Genesis 22:18, 26:4, 28:14]
 - ❖ This is the line of God's Covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that speaks of the Messiah Jesus Who is called "the Christ."
 - ♦ The blessing of Salvation through Jesus is not for the Jews only, but for all the families of the earth as originally stated in the first wording of the Covenant. [Genesis 12:3, 26:4, 28:14]
- To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities." [Acts 3:26]
 - ♦ The message of the Gospel was taken first to the Jews, as they had been appointed as the people to bring the light of God to the world. [Matthew 10:5-6, 15:24, Acts 11:19, 13:5, 14:1, 17:1, 10, 17:17, 18:4-5, 19, 26:23, Romans 1:16, 2:5-10]
 - ♦ John the Baptist, Jesus, and all the Apostles went to the Jews first with the message of Salvation.
 - ♦ In all cases, the call IS to REPENTANCE to turn away from all sins.
 - ❖ This is the same call found throughout the Old and New Testaments for the sins to be covered by the blood of Atonement.