



Lesson 5 – At the Temple Gate

Based on Acts 3; Acts 4:1-31

1) Where does our lesson begin today?

Acts 3:1-2 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the _____ hour. And a certain man _____ from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask _____ of them that entered into the temple;

2) How old was he?

Acts 4:22 For the man was above _____ years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shewed.

3) What did he ask for from the Disciples?

Acts 3:3-5 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the _____ asked an alms. And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us. And he gave heed unto them, expecting to _____ something of them.

This unfortunate man had long desired to see Jesus, that he might be healed; but he was almost helpless and was far removed from the scene of the great Physician's labors. His pleadings at last induced some friends to bear him to the gate of the temple, but upon arriving there, he found that the One upon whom his hopes were centered, had been put to a cruel death.

His disappointment excited the sympathy of those who knew for how long he had eagerly hoped to be healed by Jesus, and daily they brought him to the temple, in order that passers-by might be induced by pity to give him a trifle to relieve his wants.

4) Did Peter and John give him money?

Acts 3:6-7 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I _____; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and _____ him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

5) What did the lame man do?

Acts 3:8-9 And he _____ up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. And all the people saw him walking and _____ God:

6) How did everyone around react?

Acts 3:10-11 And they _____ that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with _____ and _____ at that which had happened unto him. And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

They were astonished that the disciples could perform miracles similar to those performed by Jesus. Yet here was this man, for forty years a helpless cripple, now rejoicing in the full use of his limbs, free from pain, and happy in believing in Jesus.

7) Did Peter flex and tell everyone how great he was?

Acts 3:12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our _____ or holiness we had made this man to walk?

8) Who's power did Peter explain that really did the healing?

Acts 3:16 And _____ name through _____ in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by _____ hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.



9) What else did he add to the statement?

Acts 3:13-15 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the _____ of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go. But ye denied the _____ and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are _____.

The apostles spoke plainly of the great sin of the Jews in rejecting and putting to death the Prince of life; but they were careful not to drive their hearers to despair.

10) What offer did he place before them?

Acts 3:17-19 And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers. But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his _____, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled. _____ ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be _____ out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

11) Peter reminded them of the promise. Which one?

Acts 3:25 Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be _____.

12) What did they say Jesus would do for them?

Acts 3:26 Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to _____ you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

13) Who were displeased with the happenings of the day?

Acts 4:1-2 And as they spake unto the people, the _____, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them, Being _____ that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

After Christ's resurrection the priests had spread far and near the lying report that His body had been stolen by the disciples while the Roman guard slept. It is not surprising that they were displeased when they hear Peter and John preaching the resurrection of the One they had murdered. The Sadducees especially were greatly aroused. They felt that their most cherished doctrine was in danger, and their reputation at stake.

14) What did the religious leaders do?

Acts 4:3 And they laid hands on them, and put them in _____ unto the next day: for it was now eventide.

15) How many converts were coming to Christ as a result of the Disciples preaching?

Acts 4:4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about _____.

Converts to the new faith were rapidly increasing, and both Pharisees and Sadducees agreed that if these new teachers were suffered to go unchecked, their own influence would be in **greater danger than when Jesus was upon the earth**. Accordingly, the captain of the temple, with the help of a number of Sadducees, arrested Peter and John, and put them in prison, as it was too late that day for them to be examined.

16) What had Jesus said to the Disciples during His earthly ministry?

John 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and _____ works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.



The enemies of the disciples could not but be convinced that Christ had risen from the dead. The evidence was too clear to be doubted. Nevertheless, they hardened their hearts, refusing to repent of the terrible deed they had committed in putting Jesus to death. Abundant evidence that the apostles were speaking and acting under divine inspiration had been given the Jewish rulers, but they firmly resisted the message of truth. Christ had not come in the manner that they expected, and though at times they had been convinced that He was the Son of God, yet they had stifled conviction and crucified Him.

In mercy God gave them still further evidence, and now another opportunity was granted them to turn to Him. He sent the disciples to tell them that they had killed the Prince of life, and in this terrible charge He gave them another call to repentance. But feeling secure in their own righteousness, the Jewish teachers refused to admit that the men charging them with crucifying Christ were speaking by the direction of the Holy Spirit.

Their obstinacy became more and more determined. It was not that they could not yield; they could but would not. It was not alone because they were guilty and deserving of death, not alone because they had put to death the Son of God, that they were cut off from salvation; it was because they armed themselves with opposition to God. They persistently rejected light and stifled the convictions of the Spirit. The influence that controls the children of disobedience worked in them, leading them to abuse the men through whom God was working. The malignity of their rebellion was intensified by each successive act of resistance against God and the message He had given His servants to declare.

17) What happened the next day after the lame man was healed?

Acts 4:5-7 And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes, And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were _____ at Jerusalem. And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what _____, or by what _____, have ye done this?

18) What was Peter's reply?

Acts 4:8-10 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what _____ he is made whole; Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of _____ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

Those present who remembered the part that Peter had acted at the trial of his Master, flattered themselves that he could now be intimidated by the threat of imprisonment and death. But the Peter who denied Christ in the hour of His greatest need was impulsive and self-confident, differing widely from the Peter who was brought before the Sanhedrin for examination. Since his fall he had been converted.

19) What did Peter boldly declare to them?

Acts 4:11-12 This is the stone which was set at nought of you _____, which is become the head of the _____. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be _____.

20) What had Jesus said earlier?

Matthew 21:42-44 Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the _____; this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to _____.

21) What did the Priests take knowledge of?

Acts 4:13 Now when they saw the _____ of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with _____.



22) What lesson did the Disciples learn on the Mount of Transfiguration?

Matthew 17:8 And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save _____ only.

In these words are contained the secret of the life and power that marked the history of the early church. When the disciples first heard the words of Christ, they felt their need of Him. They sought, they found, they followed Him. They were with Him in the temple, at the table, on the mountainside, in the field. They were as pupils with a teacher, daily receiving from Him lessons of eternal truth.

23) What promise did Jesus give His disciples (and us)?

Matthew 28:20 ...and, lo, I am with you _____, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

He had ascended to heaven in the form of humanity. They knew that He was before the throne of God, their Friend and Saviour still; that His sympathies were unchanged; that He would forever be identified with suffering humanity. They knew that He was presenting before God the merit of His blood, showing His wounded hands and feet as a remembrance of the price He had paid for His redeemed ones; and this thought strengthened them to endure reproach for His sake. Their union with Him was stronger now than when He was with them in person. The light and love and power of an indwelling Christ shone out through them, so that men, beholding, marveled.

24) What miracle had Peter done?

Acts 3:7 And he took him by the right hand, and _____ him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

Christ placed His seal on the words that Peter spoke in His defense. Close beside the disciple, as a convincing witness, stood the man who had been so miraculously healed. The appearance of this man, a few hours before a helpless cripple, but now restored to soundness of health, added a weight of testimony to Peter's words. Priests and rulers were silent.

Christ's crowning miracle, the raising of Lazarus, had sealed the determination of the priests to rid the world of Jesus and His wonderful works, which were fast destroying their influence over the people. They had crucified Him; but here was a convincing proof that they had not put a stop to the working of miracles in His name, nor to the proclamation of the truth He taught. Already the healing of the cripple and the preaching of the apostles had filled Jerusalem with excitement.

25) What did the council decide about Peter and John?

Acts 4:16-18 Saying, What shall we _____ to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot _____ it. But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name. And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the _____ of Jesus.

26) What was Peter and John's reply?

Acts 4:19-20 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be _____ in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but _____ the things which we have seen and heard.

27) Why couldn't the council punish them?

Acts 4:21 So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the _____: for all men glorified God for that which was done.

28) What prayers were being lifted up by the Brethren while they were jailed?

Acts 4:29-30 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all _____ they may speak thy word, By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that _____ and _____ may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.



29) What was the result?

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place was _____ where they were assembled together; and they were all _____ with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

The banner of truth and religious liberty held aloft by the founders of the gospel church and by God's witnesses during the centuries that have passed since then, has, in this last conflict, been committed to our hands. The responsibility for this great gift rests with those whom God has blessed with a knowledge of His word. We are to receive this word as supreme authority. We are to recognize human government as an ordinance of divine appointment, and teach obedience to it as a sacred duty, within its legitimate sphere. But when its claims conflict with the claims of God, we must obey God rather than men. God's word must be recognized as above all human legislation.

Can you see God is powerful?

Do you want Jesus to embolden you?

When is the time to speak for Him?

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-ACTS 4:31