



Acts 3:1-13 Now Peter and John were going up together to the temple complex at the hour of prayer at three in the afternoon. ² And a man who was lame from birth was carried there and placed every day at the temple gate

called Beautiful, so he could beg from those entering the temple complex. (HCSB) ³ When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple courts, he asked them for money. ⁴ Peter looked directly at him (as did John) and said, "Look at us!" ⁵ So the lame man paid attention to them, expecting to receive something from them. (NET) ⁶ But Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold for you. But I'll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!" (NLT) ⁷ Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. ⁸ He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. ⁹ When all the people saw him walking and praising God, (NIV) ¹⁰ and they recognized him as the man who used to sit and

ask for donations at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with astonishment and amazement at what had happened to him. (NET) ¹¹ While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's Portico, utterly astonished. (NRSV) ¹² Peter saw his opportunity and addressed the crowd. "People of Israel," he said, "what is so surprising about this? And why stare at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power or godliness? ¹³ For it is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—the God of all our ancestors—who has brought glory to his servant Jesus by doing this. (NLT) ¹⁹ Therefore repent and turn back so that your sins may be wiped out ²⁰ so that times of refreshing may come (Net)

Perhaps you have been lying at the gate looking for help, and you don't expect any more than a friendly hand. But God has so much more to give you... "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk," **and be what God wants you to be.** —Ray Stedman

vs.1 "Peter and John"

- Relationships: God will Redefine, Renew and Ruin your relationships in ways few of us ever bargained for.

vs.1&12 "At the hour of prayer", "Peter saw his opportunity"

- When Jesus comes into your life, your daily routine may not change much but your PRIORITIES do.

vs.6 "expecting to receive something from them"

- Your Needs: God may give you more life than you bargained for.

vs.7 "Taking him by the hand"

- What is the "Good News"? It's both information AND action

vs.9&10 "When all the people saw him walking... they were filled with astonishment"

- A genuinely changed life draws the attention of others.

vs.12&13 "by our own power or godliness?... God has brought glory to his servant Jesus by doing this"

- The big picture is not about the change in Peter or the beggar but about the continuing work of God in the world.

vs.19 "Therefore repent... so that refreshing may come"

- God's work calls us to a change of disposition about all of life and when He directs our lives, He WILL give you more than you bargained for.

When a lame man asks for alms, Peter and John have no money to give, but instead through the name of Jesus heal the man. *This gives the man the capability of an entirely new life;* it is an act that portrays what salvation does. —Darrell Brock, B.E.C.N.T. pg.158

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