

Study Notes and Questions for Acts 3

- How does **Acts 3:1–10** reflect Jesus' words in **John 14:12–14**?
- Why do you think Peter and John were going to a regular prayer time at the Temple?
- How do you think spending time in prayer changed for believers like Peter and John compared to how they might have prayed before meeting Jesus?
- **Note:** Giving alms was considered a good deed that merited God's blessing. However, people normally just dropped coins into a beggar's hand without any personal contact.
- **Note:** In the name of Jesus Christ (3:6). A different Greek phrase from that in 2:38. This one means "*by the authority of Jesus*" (see 3:16; 4:10).
- How does the former cripple respond to his healing (see 3:8)? Is there an example here for us? Compare Luke 17:11–19.
- What purposes did this physical healing serve?
- Does **3:1–10** set any example for our priorities or mission today? If so, how? If not, why not?
- **Note:** Solomon's Colonnade (3:11). The porch that ran along the east side of the Court of the Gentiles. It had "rows of 27-foot-high stone columns and a roof of cedar." It was a good thirty yards wide and over five hundred yards long, so there was plenty of room for large gatherings (see 5:12).
- According to Peter, how was this healing possible?
- Why is it important for us to understand that the apostles did not need their own power or exceptional godliness to heal the lame man?
- How did Peter describe Jesus in this speech?
- **Note:** Holy and Righteous One (3:14). Jesus was dedicated to God (holy) and morally upright (righteous). Peter proved this by pointing out Pilate's desire to release Jesus as innocent (see 3:13). For the Jews, it would have seemed incredible to call someone holy and righteous who had been hanged or impaled on a pole because Deuteronomy 21:22–23 said that this death signified God's curse.
- In what sense is Jesus "the author of life"?
- Peter tailored his speech for his fellow Jews, who had personally supported Jesus' execution, knew the Old Testament prophecies about the servant and the prophet like Moses, and had inherited the covenant. However, what parts of Peter's sermon could you include in explaining the gospel to unbelievers you know?