

*Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible*

Current Book: The Acts of the Apostles

Key from *How to Study the Bible*:

There is no correct understanding of the Bible without understanding that the Bible is written to **THREE** types of people – Jews, Gentiles and the Church. The Church began on the cross (*Ephesians 2:16*). **NOTE** – the entire Bible is written **FOR** you, but not all the Bible is written **TO** you!

**Scriptures for Today: Acts 3:1-26** – Intentional Evangelism – *the message is the key, not the miracle!***PRINCIPLES****1. Peter and John went up *together* to *intentionally* WITNESS to *strangers*. 3:1**

- ✓ The Bible says they went *into the temple* – where **Jews** were assembled...  
Mark 6:7; Ecclesiastes 4:9; Deut 17:6; 19:15; Mt 18:16; 2 Cor 13:1; Heb 10:28-31

**NOTE** The context of this passage continues to be clearly **Jewish**. The focus for the apostles is still the **Jews**. Peter and John go into the temple to engage **Jews** – *that were strangers to them personally* – as a faithful witness **must** with the intent to have **grave discussions** related to cross of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**2. An OPPORTUNITY was *clearly presented* for them to be a *witness* for Christ. 3:2-10**

- ✓ A **certain** man lame from his mother's womb is the opportunity – **everyone** knew him...  
Acts 3:2
- ✓ God used Peter to accomplish a **miracle** for all to see – a **sign** for the **unbelieving Jews**...  
"wonder and amazement"; 1 Corinthians 1:22; Acts 2:7 "they were all amazed and marveled"

**NOTE** The Bible says that that **Jews** require a **sign** (1 Cor 1:22). This is a **1<sup>st</sup> Century early church** miracle custom made for the **Jews** present so there would be **no excuse**. It was a **sign** for the **Jews** so they would know that **the messenger was from God**, and they were expected to **hear his message!!**

**3. Peter *immediately* turned the focus from the *miracle* to the MESSAGE. 3:11-26**

- ✓ The initial aim of his message was their **individual** and **personal sins against God**...  
"whom **ye** delivered up, and denied him", "**ye** denied the Holy One and the Just...and killed the Prince of life"; Romans 1:16-2:16; Mark 10:17-27; Romans 7:7

- ✓ Peter said they had broken God's Law by **denying and murdering His Son, the Lord**...  
Exodus 20:1-26; Mt 5; 1 John 3:4; Romans 3:19-20; 7:7; Galatians 3:19-25; James 2:8-12

**NOTE** This is Peter's 2<sup>nd</sup> installment as a witness ("whereof we are witnesses", 1<sup>st</sup> was Acts 2:32).

- ✓ Peter said it was the man's **faith in the name of Jesus Christ** that made him whole...  
Matthew 9:22; 15:28; Mk 5:34; 10:52; Lk 8:48; 17:19; Acts 20:21; 26:20; Rom 10:9-13
- ✓ Peter said that the result of his **faith** in Christ was **perfect soundness** which was visible...  
Luke 8:35; Hebrews 2:15; 1 Peter 1:22; Galatians 5:22-23

4. Peter **commanded** them to **repent** because the Day of **JUDGMENT** was coming. 3:17-26

- ✓ Peter told them to **repent** and **be converted** that their sins may be blotted out...  
Acts 17:30-31; 20:21; 26:20
- ✓ Peter said "**the times of refreshing**" would come for those that **repent and trust Christ**...  
Revelation 5:11-14, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain..."; Rev 21, 22
- ✓ Peter said "**the times of restitution of all things**" would also **surely come**...  
Revelation 19:11-21;

**NOTE** Peter said that **all of God's prophets** spoke of Christ's suffering – which He also fulfilled. He also said that **all of God's prophets** have spoken of **The Day of the Lord** – since the world began. This is that great and terrible day of God's wrath and judgment (Isa 13:13; 22:5; Jer 4:9; Lam 1:12; Ezek 30:2-3; Joel 1:15; 2:1, 11, 31; Amos 5:18, 20, 8:3; Obadiah 1:8, 15; Micah 5:10; Nahum 1:7; Zeph 1:7, 14, 2:1-3; Zech 12:4, 8, 14:3, 13; 14:20-21) when Jesus comes back in all His glory to take back what is rightfully His – by taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thess 1:7-9). Noah preached coming judgment as did **Jesus** and the apostles. Jude preached it hard noting the all **ungodly** sinners will perish. He even said it was Enoch's message – the **7<sup>th</sup>** from **Adam!!**

- ✓ Peter's conclusion was simple – **every soul** must hear and **OBEY** Christ or **perish**...  
Revelation 20:11-15; 21:8; 1 Cor 6:9-11; Heb 9:27; Rom 2:5, 16; 2 Tim 4:1, 8; Gen 18:25; Lk 13:3, 5

**NOTE** The Day of Judgment is the very **reason** men are **commanded to repent by God** (Acts 17:30-31). Judgment Day is the climax of the ages (Ps 96:11-13). It is the day that the whole creation eagerly awaits, an event for which the very ground cries out. It has done so from the blood of Abel and will continue to the end of this age. God loves justice – and He will have it. All those who have ever broken even just 1 of God's commandments (James 2:10) will be guilty on that day and will suffer eternal punishment in a literal place called hell. The only hope for a wretched, poor, and destitute sinner is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious blood which was shed to take away our sins.

## PRACTICES

1. What **truth from the Bible** has God made clear to you today that you **must believe**?

- ✓ Have you **been taught** something that goes contrary to what the **Bible clearly says**?
- ✓ Did God reveal a need for you to **speak today's truth** to someone in your life this week?

2. What has God revealed to you today related to **Judgment Day**?

- ✓ Are you ready for **that** Day? Have you **repented** of your sins and **put your faith** in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation?
- ✓ Has **Judgment Day** been the focal point of your message when witnessing? It should be.

**\*\* MARK YOUR CALENDAR – Upcoming Events \*\***

1. **New Members Class** There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer for our first new Members class starting on **Sunday, 10/6 from 9-10am** (6 weeks)
2. **How to Study the Bible** There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer for our first Wednesday night Bible study starting on **Wednesday, 10/2 from 7-8pm** (12 weeks)
3. **Prayer Meeting** We must be a house of prayer (Matthew 21:13) – we will begin having a corporate time of prayer each week beginning on **Wednesday, 10/2 at 6:30pm**