

## Peter Speaks in Solomon's Porch

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*Act 3:11 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.*

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**Solomons Porch...** Solomon's Porch, Portico or Colonnade (**John 10:23; 5:12**), was located on the eastern side of the Temple's Outer Court (the Women's Court) in Jerusalem, named after Solomon, King of Israel.

**Greatly Wondering...** Amazement, Wonder, and Marvel, tend to follow when we see something miraculous. This is the only time *this phrase* is used in the Bible. Compare with **Mark 11:33**. This miracle was significant, and a prophesied sign, of Israel's restoration. **Isaiah 35:1-7; Matthew 11:5.**

*Matthew 11:4-6 Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: 5 The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. 6 And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.*

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*Acts 3:12-16 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 own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? 13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God 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. 14 But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; 15 And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses. 16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.*

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**Our own power...**It was NOT by the power of Peter and the eleven that had caused the cripple to walk. The same GOD that raised up Jesus, raised the lame to walk. The power to heal came by faith in his name. **Acts 3:6.**

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*Rev 2:13 I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas [literally translated, instead of & father] was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.*

The name of Jesus is what brings the power to the servant; the recipients are not required to have faith in this name, how can he? The believer doing the healing has the faith in His Name.

*Mar 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues...*

Those who say the lame & the sick did not have enough faith to be healed, are false prophets. They CAN NOT HEAL so when the lame and the sick remain as such, the blame is passed on to them and the excuse is "you didn't have enough faith to be healed".

There have also been legal controversies. For example, in 1955 at a Jack Coe revival service in Miami, Florida, Coe told the parents of a three-year-old boy that he healed their son who had polio. Coe then told the parents to remove the boy's leg braces. However, their son was not cured of polio and removing the braces left the boy in constant pain. As a result, through the efforts of Joseph L. Lewis, Coe was arrested and charged on February 6, 1956 with practicing medicine without a license, a felony in the state of Florida. A Florida Justice of the Peace dismissed the case on grounds that Florida exempts divine healing from the law. Later that year Coe was diagnosed with bulbar polio, and died a few weeks later at Dallas' Parkland Hospital on December 17, 1956.

**The faith...** this is the first time in the bible the phrase "the faith" mentioned. It is mentioned 42 more times in the New Testament. It is not A FAITH, but THE FAITH - the only kind to have. **Acts 4:12.**

*Rom\_1:5 By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:*

*1Ti\_3:9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.*

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*Acts 3:17-18 And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers. 18 But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.*

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**ignorance...** Ignorance is not stupid. It means "*Destitute of knowledge; uninstructed or uninformed; untaught; unenlightened.*" From the Greek **agnoia**. A = NO, and GNO = Knowledge. You see this in the words athiest (no god) or gnostic (to know, knowledge) or agnostic (no knowledge).

An *ignoramous* is one who is *ignorant*. God, judges you, individually, based on the knowledge of truth that you hold. Those who are **truly** ignorant, will be judged as such.

*Romans 1:18-25 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness...5 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.*

**By the mouth of all his prophets...** Remember, Everything that is happening in the book of Acts is according to the scriptures, as spoken by the mouth of the prophets.

*Luk\_1:70 As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:*

*Act\_3:18 But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.*

*Act\_3:21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.*

Some of these prophecies were not "by the mouth of the prophets" as they were only revealed in the scriptures and the true meaning was kept secret in the scriptures.

*Romans 16:25-26 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, 26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:*

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And some of the prophecies were kept secret, even from the scriptures, and were only revealed by the Apostle Paul through the revelation of God - it was NOT revealed in scripture or by the "mouth of the prophets"

*1Co\_2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:*

*Eph\_1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:*

*Eph 3:9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:*

**he hath so fulfilled...** Alfred Edersheim (*The Temple and Its Ministry and Services at the Time of Jesus Christ & The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*) found 456 Old Testament verses referring to the Messiah or His times. Conservatively, Jesus fulfilled at least 300 prophecies in His earthly ministry. The remaining are dealing with his Second Coming as Lion of the Tribe of Judah.

*Luke 4:17-21 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, 18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. 20 And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.*

Notice the entire quote from Isaiah. The restoration that was promised to the nation of Israel is to be in the "day of vengeance" and not associated with the life and death of Christ. This restoration was made possible by his resurrection!

**Isaiah 61:1-11** ....2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; 3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

Every prophecy that dealt with the suffering Messiah has been fulfilled, there is nothing now, standing in the way of the prophecies regarding the glorified Messiah. The Jews

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standing in the audience would first feel SHAME for crucifying their King; then, once they realize everything that believed could not be fulfilled – JOY.

So Peter now issues the requirement for the glorified Messiah to return.

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*Acts 3:19-21 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.*

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**repent...** They must repent of being the once to have caused their Messiah to suffer. Everything from verse 12 to verse 26 is directed towards the "*men of Israel*". They are the ones needing to repent of killing their messiah (see verses 14-16). The miracles being done are done in the early part of the Acts are done so to to "approve" the message of Peter.

**Acts 2:22.** See notes on Acts 2:38.

*Hebrews 2:3-4 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; 4 God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?*

**be converted....** Also see **Mat 13:15; Acts 28:27; Isa 6:8-13**. Once you hear the truth, you are required to convert to it. The goal of truth is to step out of ignorance, we do this by faith. Holding the TRUTH and not acting in it is UNRIGHTEOUSNESS. **Rom 1:18**.

*Act\_28:27 For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.*

Convert from Judaism, into "The Faith", also called "The Way".

**See Isaiah 6:8-13.**

*Isaiah 6:8-13 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. 9 And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. 10 Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed. 11 Then*

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*said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate, 12 And the LORD have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land. 13 But yet in it shall be a tenth, and it shall return, and shall be eaten: as a teil tree, and as an oak, whose substance is in them, when they cast their leaves: so the holy seed shall be the substance thereof.*

The conversion of the nation of Israel is to happen when "*the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate*". This occurs prior to, and into the coming Tribulation, wars, famine, and pestilence; and all this occurs prior to, *and is the reason for*, the peace treaty which starts Daniels 70th week as signed by the *antichrist*. **Mark 13:14**.

Only a remnant (10%) of the nation converts and dwells in Zion. See verse 13 above. "*and the LORD have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land. But yet in it shall be a tenth, and it shall return*"

**sins blotted out...** Those who convert, will have their sins forgiven DURING the "*times of restoration*". See notes on **Acts 2:38**; and **Joel 1 & 2**.

**times of refreshing...** This is the period of time, before the second coming, when the nation of Israel is restored. See **Joel 2**, and **Micah 4**.

Refreshments occur prior to the full course. It's a relief after fatigue or suffering and is only meant to be "*a light snack or drink*".

The Tribulation to come will affect everyone on earth, believers included. But THEY will be saved out of it.

*Jeremiah 30:7-9 Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it. 8 For it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off thy neck, and will burst thy bonds, and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him: 9 But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up unto them.*

This is done accomplished during the days of Elijah. **Mat 17:11**; **Mal\_4:6**; **Luk\_1:16-17**, **Luk\_3:3-14**;

*Mat\_17:11 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things.*

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*Zep\_1:7 Hold thy peace at the presence of the Lord GOD: for the day of the LORD is at hand: for the LORD hath prepared a sacrifice, he hath bid his guests.*

Notice the timing. The Nation of Israel is asked to (1) Repent, and be (2) converted. The first two requirements occur at the same time. Then, (3) your sins will be blotted out WHEN (4) the times of refreshing come.

At least two things MUST occur before the above happens, and before Jesus comes back.

(1) God must FULFIL Acts 2 and Pour out his Spirit to ALL FLESH.

(2) God will send Elijah the Prophet to restore ALL THINGS to Israel.

This is NOT the gospel we preach today; our sins are forgiven WHEN we are quickened together with HIM, which occurs WHEN we believe!

*Eph 1:13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,*

*Col\_2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;*

Their failure is what allowed the mystery of our gospel to be preached today. And their restoration will bring much more “riches” to the world.

*Romans 11:11-12 I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy. 12 Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness?*

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*Acts 3:22-25 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. 23 And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people. 24 Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days. 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 blessed.*

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**Moses...** Moses is referred to nineteen times in Acts; Moses is the founder of the church of the firstborn, *which was born in the wilderness*. Moses prophesied of the coming Messiah.

*Heb\_12:23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,*

*1 Corinthians 10:1-2 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;*

*Act\_7:38 This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:*

**shall be destroyed...** The reason for verses 19-21, as well as 2:40, was to save the true Jew through conversion. Those Jews who refuse to accept their messiah and thus *willfully* reject Him as their King, will be destroyed.

**Of these days...** ALL the prophets have “*likewise foretold of these days*”. In the last days, Israel is to be a blessing and have the promises made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, be fulfilled.

*Genesis 49:1-2 And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days. 2 Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father.*

The phrase the LAST DAYS could also be said to be the RESULTING DAYS, or the CONCLUDING DAYS. The days concluding and resulting from that which preceded them. It is the fruition of prior days.

**be blessed...** It has always been foretold, in the scriptures, that Israel would be a (1) nation of Priests and a (2) blessing to all the earth; both of which are still future.

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Israel being a blessing to the world is the fruition of all the promises made to the fathers of Israel.

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

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**You first...** This is why Israel is FIRST in line, the gospel proceeds forth to the “*jew first*” because they are to be God’s instruments of blessing to the world. **Rom\_1:16; Rom\_2:9; Rom\_2:10.**

*Act 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

For one to truly serve God – one must turn from their iniquities.

One day, the Book of Acts will be played in reverse. As the Gentiles are to be the channel of blessings today, this ministry will again return to the Jew, signs and wonders following.