



Sermon Highlights

The Power of Jesus' Name: When God Works Through His People

Sermon Summary:

This sermon examines Acts chapter 3, focusing on Peter and John's healing of the lame beggar at the Beautiful Gate of the temple. The message emphasizes that believers can only give out what they possess spiritually, and that the same resurrection power that raised Christ from the dead is available to His followers. The lame beggar serves as a powerful picture of humanity's spiritual condition - dead in sin and unable to save ourselves, requiring the resurrection power of Jesus Christ. The sermon challenges believers to live with visible excitement and joy about their salvation, making God's work evident to a watching world. It stresses that salvation comes through trusting God's Word, not through emotions or works, and that genuine encounters with God should produce visible life and transformation in believers.

Key Points:

- Peter and John maintained their Jewish practice of prayer at the temple, not seeing themselves as separate from their heritage but as fulfilling it
- The lame beggar represents all of humanity - spiritually dead and unable to save ourselves through our own efforts
- You cannot give out what you do not have; believers must first possess God's power, wisdom, and love before sharing it
- The healing occurred through the name and power of Jesus Christ, not through the apostles' own authority
- Salvation requires trusting God's Word as true, not relying on emotions or feelings
- Genuine encounters with God should produce visible joy, excitement, and transformation in believers' lives
- The church should be a place of life and energy, not spiritual deadness
- New believers should attach themselves to Bible-believing, Bible-teaching churches and follow those who follow Christ

- The Christian life should cause wonder and amazement in the world around us

Scripture Reference:

- Acts 3:1-11 (primary passage)
- References to the pool of Siloam healing (John 5)
- References to Pentecost (Acts 2)
- Romans 10:9-10 (confession and salvation)
- Ephesians 2:1 (dead in trespasses and sins)

Stories:

- The healing of the lame beggar at the Beautiful Gate who had been crippled from birth and begged daily at the temple entrance
- The man at the pool of Siloam who had been paralyzed for 40 years, healed by Jesus
- The Day of Pentecost when 3,000 souls were saved
- The Fall of Adam in the Garden of Eden as the origin of humanity's spiritual death
- Personal testimony references to how someone shared the gospel with the listeners, leading to their salvation