

## A MIRACLE WITH A MESSAGE

Acts 3:1-12

Intro: A. Let's take a look at the first miracle after Pentecost.

1. The call of Christ's 40 day ministry after His resurrection came at Pentecost (Acts 1:4-8). About five thousand men were saved.
2. A great revival fire was ignited. (Acts 2).
  - a. The Holy Spirit was given at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4).
  - b. The apostles were able to witness in a language understood by everyone. (Acts 2:4-6).
  - c. Peter brings his great Pentecost message of Repent and be baptized, ( Acts 2:38) and about three thousand souls were added. (Acts 2:41)
- B. All this was more than a miracle.
  1. The healing of the lame man was a miracle with a message. (Acts 3:1-9).
  2. Notice how the miracle and the message coincide.
  3. So what is the message?

### I. TWO WENT TO THE TEMPLE TO PRAY! (Acts 3:1)

- A. The temple was different than before the Cross.
  1. The veil that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies had been rent
  2. Everyone could now come into the Holy of Holies through faith in Jesus .
- B. Peter and John came to the temple to pray at the ninth hour.
  1. This was the traditional time of prayer at the temple.
  2. It was the typical time for offering the evening sacrifices.
  3. It was a time to announce Christ's sacrifice to pay for our sins.
- C. Prayer makes miracles possible and our message powerful.

### II. ONE WENT TO THE TEMPLE TO PLEAD (Acts 3:2,3).

- A. But we go to the temple, not to pray but to play.
- B. This one was lame in both his feet from his mother's womb
  1. He was a cripple from birth, Are not we also?
  2. We all have a very lame walk, because we are sinners from our mother's womb.
- C. This man had been living on the world's handouts, where as we have been living on Heaven's handouts. None of us has earned our keep.
  1. All cripples seek something to satisfy their emptiness.
  2. All of the best handouts of the world leaves us beggars still.
- D. The lame man need something the world could not provide.
- E. We look for our fulfillment in worldly pleasures and still come away empty.

### III. ONE WENT INTO THE TEMPLE WITH PRAISE! (vvs. 4-8)

- A. Peter saw the man's real need and met it.
- B. The beggar expected a gift of money. (More of this world's good).
  1. Peter said, "Silver and gold have I none".
  2. He had a much greater gift to give, "Such as I have give I thee."
- C. The miracle: "In the name of Jesus... rise up and walk".

1. Peter took the man by the hand and lifted him up.
- D. The message: With the Gospel we can lift others from sin , shame, and hell.
- E. The man, now healed, began to leap and praise God.

CONCLUSION: A. Notice the reaction of others when they saw the miracle.

1. They all were amazed.
  2. The miracle opened the door for the message of the Gospel.
- B. We ought to seize the opportunity to tell others about Jesus.  
C. Salvation is the greatest miracle of all.

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