

Sermon Handout

The Power of Jesus' Name

Acts 3:11-26

I. The Sequence of Events v. 11

- a. The healing in the Court of Gentiles v. 2
At one of the gates leading to the Court of Women
- b. The restored man enters the inner courts with Peter & John v. 8
Purpose: to attend the daily afternoon prayers v. 1 *cf.* 2:46
- c. The three reemerge into the Court of Gentiles after prayers v. 11

II. Peter's Opening Address to the Crowd vv. 12-16

- a. Addressing the confusion with two questions
 - i. Why are you amazed at what was done for this man?
 - ii. Why do you think this is something "we" have done?
- b. Peter disavows personal capacity to heal
 - i. Power is from the Holy Ghost 1:8 (*see* "authority" in Mt 28:18)
 - ii. Jesus' authority conveyed to Apostles via the Holy Spirit Jn 15:26; 16:13
- c. This is God's doing! vv. 13-16 (A sign from the glorified Jesus)
 - i. The God of our fathers glorified Jesus, raising him from death vv. 13, 15
 - ii. Faith in God's Servant (Jesus) has healed this man v. 16
- d. "Glorified" (v. 13) reflects Is 52:13
Raised from the dead vv. 15, 26
Exalted to the Father's right hand 1:8; 2:43; Jn 14:13-14, 16-17; 16:7-8
- e. The "Servant" (v. 13) is the suffering servant of Isaiah – 42:1; 52:13; 53:11
He redeems his people from their sin Lk 3:21-22; Is 42:1; Ps 2:7 (v. 26 here)
cf. Acts 8:30-35; Is 53:7

III. The Heart of Peter's Sermon vv. 17-26

- a. OT promises fulfilled in Jesus *cf.* Lk 24:25-27 ("Fools, slow of heart"); 24:44
 - i. Moses vv. 22-23 citing Dt 18:15-19
 - ii. "All the prophets" – Isaiah in v. 13; from Samuel onward in v. 24
- b. The culpability of his audience
 - i. You delivered and denied him to Pilate v. 13
 - ii. You preferred a murderer to him v. 14
 - iii. You killed the Prince of Life v. 15
 - iv. You acted in ignorance of Scripture v. 17
Yet you remain guilty because you had God's Word
 - v. You are children of the prophets and the covenant v. 25
- c. Therefore, the Son is here to turn you from your iniquities v. 26
Repentance is required v. 23 (*cf.* 2:40); Dt 18:15, 19
Result: 5,000 men are converted 4:4; leaders remain unrepentant 4:18