

Acts 3: 1-16

Peter Heals the Crippled Beggar

A 40 year-old man, who had been paralyzed since birth, was brought every day by his friends to a popular place near the temple gate to beg for his living as a panhandler.

“One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. When all the people saw him walking and praising God, they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.”

While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon’s Colonnade. When Peter saw this, he said to them: “Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. You disowned

the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.”

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What a GREAT story, this deliverance of the paralyzed man through the hands of Peter and John in the name of Jesus! But as they say, “No good deed goes unpunished!” The story continues in the next chapter of Acts with Peter and John taken into custody by the authorities who disagreed with the teachings of Jesus. Among the authorities of the day were the Sadducees. The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection of the body, a fact that Jesus had recently proven with his own death and resurrection. That’s why the Sadducees were Sad, u see???

Please continue this story of courage by Peter and John in Acts Chapter 3!

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