

## Book of Acts Study

### Men of Grace

February 9, 2010

Acts 3:1-26

Brian Christie

#### Outline of Acts

- I. Introduction: Jesus ascends to the Father and gives a mission (1:1-11)**
  - A. Review of book 1 to the ascension (1:1-5)**
  - B. The ascension and final testament: A promise for the disciples now and a promise to return (1:6-11)**

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- II. The early church in Jerusalem (1:12-6:7)**
  - A. Community life: Replacing Judas by depending on God and reconstituting the Twelve (1:12-26)**
  - B. Pentecost (2:1-41)**
    - 1. The event: The coming of the Spirit (2:1-13)**
    - 2. The explanation: The Spirit's coming shows Jesus is Lord-Messiah (2:14-36)**
    - 3. The reaction: Repent and receive the promised gift (2:37-41)**

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- C. Summary: Community life (2:42-47)**
- D. The healing of the lame man and the arrest of Peter and John (3:1-4:31)**
  - 1. The event: The healing of the lame man (3:1-10)**
  - 2. The explanation: Peter preaches Jesus from Torah and promise (3:11-26)**
  - 3. The arrest and the leadership's deliberation (4:1-22)**
  - 4. The community reaction: Prayer for boldness (4:23-31)**

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- E. Community life and problems (4:32-5:11)**
  - 1. All things in common: the example of Barnabas (4:32-37)**
  - 2. Deceiving the Spirit and judgment: Ananias and Sapphira (5:1-11)**
- F. Summary: signs and wonders (5:12-16)**
- G. More persecution (5:17-42)**
  - 1. Arrest, divine release, and rearrest (5:17-26)**
  - 2. Deliberation and release (5:27-42)**

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- H. Community life: The appointment of the Seven to help Hellenist widows (6:1-6)**
- I. Summary of the Jerusalem community (6:7)**

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## Outline of Acts

### MAIN IDEA OF 3:1-26

*This first apostolic miracle (healing of the lame man) shows that the exalted Jesus is continuing His supernatural ministry through the apostles and leads to Peter's second sermon focusing on the continuing power of Jesus to heal and calls on the Jewish audience to repent and receive God's forgiveness and the possibility of Jesus' return.*

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**Verse 21 ... "the final restoration of all things, as God Promised long ago through His Prophets."**

**So, to learn what this time will be like we need to read what God has already said through the prophets**

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## Outline of Acts

### Isaiah 2: 2-4

*2 In the last days, the mountain of the Lord's house will be the highest of all—the most important place on earth. It will be raised above the other hills and people from all over the world will stream there to worship. 3 People from many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of Jacob's God. There he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths." 4 For the Lord's teaching will go out from Zion: his word will go out from Jerusalem. 5 The Lord will mediate between nations and will settle international disputes. They will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will no longer fight against nation, nor train for war anymore.*

*Isaiah 65:17-25 17 "Look! I am creating new heavens and a new earth and no one will even think about the old ones anymore. 18 Be glad; rejoice forever in my creation! And look! I will create Jerusalem as a place of happiness. Her people will be a source of joy. 19 I will rejoice over Jerusalem and delight in my people. And the sound of weeping and crying will be heard in it no more. 20 "No longer will babies die when only a few days old. No longer will adults die before they have lived a full life. No longer will people be considered old at one hundred! Only the cursed will die that young! 21 In those days people will live in the houses they build and eat the fruit of their own vineyards. 22 Unlike the past, invaders will not take their houses and confiscate their vineyards. For my people will live as long as trees, and my chosen ones will have time to enjoy their hard-earned gains. 23 They will not work in vain, and their children will not be doomed to misfortune. For they are people blessed by the Lord, and their children, too, will be blessed. 24 I will answer them before they even call to me. While they are still talking about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers! 25 The wolf and the lamb will feed together. The lion will not prey like a cow. But the snakes will eat the dust. In those days no one will be hurt or destroyed on my holy mountain. I, the Lord, have spoken!"*

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## Outline of Acts

*Isaiah 66:10-14 10 "Rejoice with Jerusalem! Be glad with her, all you who love her and all you who mourn for her. 11 Drink deeply of her glory even as an infant drinks at its mother's comforting breasts." 12 This is what the Lord says: "I will give Jerusalem a river of peace and prosperity. The wealth of the nations will flow to her. Her children will be nursed at her breasts, carried in her arms, and held on her lap. 13 I will comfort you there in Jerusalem as a mother comforts her child." 14 When you see these things, your heart will rejoice. You will flourish like the grass! Everyone will see the Lord's hand of blessing on his servants—and his anger against his enemies.*

*Ezekiel 37:21-28 21 And give them this message from the Sovereign Lord: I will gather the people of Israel from among the nations. I will bring them home to their own land from the places where they have been scattered. 22 I will unify them into one nation on the mountains of Israel. One king will rule them all; no longer will they be divided into two nations or into two kingdoms. 23 They will never again pollute themselves with their idols and vile images and rebellions, for I will save them from their sinful backsliding. I will cleanse them. Then they will truly be my people, and I will be their God. 24 "My servant David will be their king, and they will have only one shepherd. They will obey my regulations and be careful to keep my decrees. 25 They will live in the land I gave my servant Jacob, the land where their ancestors lived. They and their children and their grandchildren after them will live there forever, generation after generation. And my servant David will be their prince forever. 26 And I will make a covenant of peace with them, an everlasting covenant. I will give them their land and increase their numbers, and I will put my Temple among them forever. 27 I will make my home among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 28 And when my Temple is among them forever, the nations will know that I am the Lord, who makes Israel holy."*

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### Discussion Questions

1. If the nation of Israel as a whole had repented would forgiveness have been accompanied by Jesus' return and the "restoration of all things"? (verse 19-21)  
See Acts 1:6, Romans 11:26, and Matthew 23:39.
2. Discuss verse 19. What does the truth that we are "cleansed of our sins" mean to you in your daily life? (Colossians 2:13-14 and Romans 4:6-8 are great cross-references)

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## ***Men of Grace*** ***February 9, 2010*** ***Acts 3:1-26***

<sup>1</sup> Peter and John went to the Temple one afternoon to take part in the three o'clock prayer service. <sup>2</sup> As they approached the Temple, a man lame from birth was being carried in. Each day he was put beside the Temple gate, the one called the Beautiful Gate, so he could beg from the people going into the Temple. <sup>3</sup> When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for some money. <sup>4</sup> Peter and John looked at him intently, and Peter said, "Look at us!" <sup>5</sup> The lame man looked at them eagerly, expecting some money. <sup>6</sup> But Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold for you. But I'll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!" <sup>7</sup> Then Peter took the lame man by the right hand and helped him up. And as he did, the man's feet and ankles were instantly healed and strengthened. <sup>8</sup> He jumped up, stood on his feet, and began to walk! Then, walking, leaping, and praising God, he went into the Temple with them. <sup>9</sup> All the people saw him walking and heard him praising God. <sup>10</sup> When they realized he was the lame beggar they had seen so often at the Beautiful Gate, they were absolutely astounded! <sup>11</sup> They all rushed out in amazement to Solomon's Colonnade, where the man was holding tightly to Peter and John. <sup>12</sup> Peter saw his opportunity and addressed the crowd. "People of Israel," he said, "what is so surprising about this? And why stare at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power or godliness? <sup>13</sup> For it is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—the God of all our

ancestors—who has brought glory to his servant Jesus by doing this. This is the same Jesus whom you handed over and rejected before Pilate, despite Pilate's decision to release him. <sup>14</sup> You rejected this holy, righteous one and instead demanded the release of a murderer. <sup>15</sup> You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. And we are witnesses of this fact! <sup>16</sup> "Through faith in the name of Jesus, this man was healed—and you know how crippled he was before. Faith in Jesus' name has healed him before your very eyes. <sup>17</sup> "Friends, I realize that what you and your leaders did to Jesus was done in ignorance. <sup>18</sup> But God was fulfilling what all the prophets had foretold about the Messiah—that he must suffer these things. <sup>19</sup> Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away. <sup>20</sup> Then times of refreshment will come from the presence of the Lord, and he will again send you Jesus, your appointed Messiah. <sup>21</sup> For he must remain in heaven until the time for the final restoration of all things, as God promised long ago through his holy prophets. <sup>22</sup> Moses said, 'The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from among your own people. Listen carefully to everything he tells you.' <sup>23</sup> Then Moses said, 'Anyone who will not listen to that Prophet will be completely cut off from God's people.' <sup>24</sup> "Starting with Samuel, every prophet spoke about what is happening today. <sup>25</sup> You are the children of those prophets, and you are included in the covenant God promised to your ancestors. For God said to Abraham, 'Through your descendants all the families on earth will be blessed.' <sup>26</sup> When God raised up his servant, Jesus, he sent him first to you people of Israel, to bless you by turning each of you back from your sinful ways."