
Preaching Revival and Restoration (3:11-26)

The Speaker

1. Who preached this sermon and how would his experiences with King Jesus prepare him for this occasion? (2 Pt. 1:16-21; Lk. 5:17-26)

2. What were the apostles doing before this sermon is preached? (2:42-43)

¹¹ While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. ¹² And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴ But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶ And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus^[c] has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷ "And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸ But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰ that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago. ²² Moses said, 'The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. ²³ And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.' ²⁴ And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days. ²⁵ You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.' ²⁶ God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness."

The Audience

3. Who is in the audience and why are they at the temple? (3:1, 2, 9, 12, 17; 4:1)

The Occasion

4. Describe the scene in 3:1-11. Where are they? What attracted the crowd? How would you describe their response to the scene that plays out? Where does Peter end up preaching? In what ways did Peter show he was aware of his audience (3:6, 12)?

The Message (3:13-26)

5. Peter goes to Israel's Story to explain a healing--he appeals to the God who raised Jesus from the dead and tells the gospel story (3:13-15)
 - a. There are several titles listed to describe Jesus. List each title and comment on its importance.
 - i. 2:13, 26 -
 - ii. 2:14 -
 - iii. 2:15 -
 - iv. 2:18, 20 -
 - v. 2:22 -
 - b. Luke emphasizes what God did vs what the audience did in apostolic preaching throughout Acts. List what God did in 2:13, 15 vs what the audience did in 2:13-14. What is the contrast between "you killed" and the "Author of life" in 2:15?
6. Faith in the resurrected Jesus heals (3:16)
 - a. Whose faith "in his name" made this man strong?
 - b. What can this man participate in now that he is refreshed and restored with "perfect health"? (Lev. 21:17-20)

The Healings of Jesus, Peter and Paul

Luke's narratives often draw parallels between related events. It seems he intentionally reported similar healings performed by Jesus, Peter, and Paul.

- Jesus: L.3:31-32 Jesus prayed prior to receiving the Holy Spirit
Peter: A.1:14 Peter and apostles praying before Spirit poured out on them
Paul: A.9:11 Paul prayed prior to Ananias came and gave him the Spirit

- Jesus: L.5:17-26 Jesus heals a paralytic (lowered thru roof)
Peter: A.3:1-10 Peter heals a man lamed from birth
A.9:33 Peter heals a paralytic (Aeneas)
Paul: A.14:8-10 Paul heals a man crippled from birth

- Jesus: L.7:11-17 Jesus raises widow's son
L.8:41-56 Jesus raises Jairus' daughter
Peter: A.9:36-43 Peter raises widow (Dorcas)
Paul A.20:9-12 Paul raised Eutychus to life

- Jesus: L.8:43-48 Woman with hemorrhage healed by touching Jesus' garment
Peter: A.5:15-16 People healed by Peter's passing shadow
Paul: A.19:11-12 People healed by handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched Paul

Although we can't be certain, it seems Luke wants us to understand that the same God who worked in Jesus is also at work in Peter and Paul, and by extension, to any of the new community of believers who were empowered by God's Spirit.

7. How to respond to the gospel and saving benefits for responders (3:17-21)

- a. How do you reconcile Peter's comment that the audience, including the rulers, "acted in ignorance"? (Gen. 50:20; Lk. 23:34; 1 Cor. 2:8). What was revealed by "all the prophets"? (Isa. 52:13-53:12)

- b. What is the audience called to do? What blessings will they receive? What is the "times of refreshing"?

¹ Used with permission from Curtis Byers

- c. What is the "time for restoring all things"? Why would Peter make a reference to "times of refreshing" and "times of restoring all things" in light of healing the lame man (Isa. 35:5-6)?
8. Testimony of the prophets (3:21-26)
- a. What three prophets spoke of the coming Messiah, according to Peter?
 - b. What was their testimony of the coming Messiah in the following prophecies?
 - i. Deut. 18:15-16, 19
 - ii. 2 Sam. 7:11
 - iii. Gen. 12:1-3
9. Compare and contrast this sermon with Peter's Pentecost sermon.

The Response (4:1-4)

10. What was the response of the audience? Where does Peter end up after his sermon, and how does this compare to Lk. 22:54-62?