

PETER PREACHES CHRIST – ACTS 3:11-18

¹¹Now as the lame man who was healed held on to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch which is called Solomon's, greatly amazed. ¹²So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: "Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? (Ac.3:11-12)



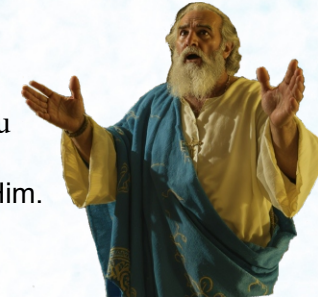
GOD: Servant



Dignified

The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go. (Ac.3:13)

- You have been looking for God's servant. There He is. This is your God and you do not know Him.
- God exalted Him as a servant. That is a paradox.



v.13



MAN: Jesus



Delivered

The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go. (Ac.3:13)

- They delivered up their own Deliverer. This is another paradox.

v.13



MAN: Holy One



Denied

But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, (Ac.3:14)

- One of the ironies of the crucifixion of Jesus is that while the crowd rejected Jesus, they embraced a criminal and a murderer named Barabbas (Lk.23:13-25, Jn.18:39-40). This is another Messianic title (Ps.16:10). This is another paradox.

v.14



MAN: The Just



Desired Not

But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, (Ac.3:14)

- They did not desire the Just, they desired the unjust. You killed the innocent one and turned loose the guilty one.

v.14



MAN: Prince of Life



Destroyed

¹⁵and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses. ¹⁶And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all. ¹⁷Yet now, brethren, I know that you did it in ignorance, as did also your rulers. (Ac.3:15-17)

- Of course, the Prince of life could not remain in the grave. To every Jew, only God was the author of life.
- The Psalmist is saying the Messiah is God, and the Jews have executed their God (Ps.36:9).
- Peter recognizes they called for the execution of Jesus in ignorance of God's eternal plan. If we sin in ignorance, it is still sin!
- Peter cracked open the door to the City of Refuge idea (Nu.35). Peter is saying, "People I know that you did this horrible crime, but God in His grace is accounting it as manslaughter (not murder).

v.15-17



GOD: Christ



Declared Messiah

But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His prophets, that the Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled. (Ac.3:18)

- Despite all the evil they did to Jesus, it did not change or derail God's plan. He is your Messiah.
- In His death He fulfilled all the prophecies of the OT concerning the Messiah. That was God declaring Him Messiah.

v.18