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Faith in Jesus

Definitions in **bold letters** are from **Strong's** Exhaustive Concordance
Other definitions are from **Webster's** Dictionary, 1828 /1913 Edition
or Roget's Thesaurus – **December 3, 2017**

Acts 3:11-21

Introduction: In this chapter we have a miracle and a sermon: the miracle wrought to make way for the sermon, to confirm the doctrine that was to be preached, and to make way for it into the minds of the people and then the sermon to explain the miracle, and to sow the ground which by it was broken up. **I.** The miracle was the healing of a man that was lame from his birth, with a word speaking (Acts 3:1-8), and the impression which this made upon the people, Acts 3:9-11. **II.** The scope of the sermon which was preached here upon was to bring people to Christ, to repent of their SIN in crucifying him (Acts 3:12-19), to **believe in him now** that **he was glorified**, and to comply with the Father's design in glorifying him, Acts 3:20-26. The former part of the discourse opens the wound, the latter applies the **remedy**.
(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mhm/acts-3.html>)

Acts 3:1-10, Now **Peter** and **John** went up together into the **temple** at the **hour** of **prayer**, being the ninth hour (3 pm). And a **certain man** **LAME** from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask **alms** of them that entered into the temple; Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, **Look on us**. And he gave heed unto them, **EXPECTING** to **receive** something of them. Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but **such as I have GIVE I thee**: In the **NAME** of Jesus (Yahshua) Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and **immediately** his feet and ankle bones **received strength**. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and **praising God**. And all the people SAW him walking and praising God:
And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were **filled** with **WONDER** and **amazement** at **that** which **had happened** unto him.

NOTE: Christians, for some considerable time AFTER Pentecost, continued to frequent the temple, especially at the hours of prayer, NOT merely for the purpose of praying, but also, it may be supposed, for the opportunities afforded by such occasions for **preaching Christ** to the people. In time, God would remove the temple; and the separation from Judaism would become complete.

These verses report the impression the **miracle created** among the people who were **witnesses of it**, the understandable result being the wonder and amazement of all; nor is there any hesitancy on the part of this writer to use the word miracle as descriptive of what happened here. Even the **priestly enemies** of Jesus **admitted** that it was a notable miracle they could NOT deny (Acts 4:16).

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bcc/acts-3.html>)

Acts 3:11, And as the **lame man** which **was healed** HELD Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, **greatly wondering**.

NOTE: How exquisitely natural is this! And what a touching proclamation of the instrumental source of the cure would this clinging of the healed man to his benefactors be! All the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's ...greatly wondering. How vividly do these graphic details bring the whole scene before us! And thus was Peter again furnished with a **vast audience**, whose wonder at the spectacle of the **healed beggar clinging to his benefactor** prepared them to hearken to his words. (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/jfu/acts-3.html>)

Acts 3:12, And when **Peter SAW it, he answered** unto the **people**, *Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had **made this man to walk?***

NOTE: Why they were so surprised at the miracle itself: Why marvel you at this? It was indeed marvelous, and they justly wondered at it, but it was NOT more than what Christ had done many a time, and **they had NOT duly regarded it**, nor been affected with it. It was but a little before that Christ had raised Lazarus from the dead and why should this then seem so strange?

...(1) It was certain that they had made this man to walk, by which it appeared that the apostles NOT only were **SENT of God**, but **were sent** to be blessings to the world, benefactors to mankind, and were sent to heal sick and distempered (diseased in body, or disordered in mind) souls, that were spiritually lame and impotent, to set broken bones, and make them rejoice. (2.) Yet they did NOT do it by any power or holiness of their own. (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mhm/acts-3.html>)

Acts 3:13, **The God (supreme [highest] divinity) of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers**, hath GLORIFIED his Son Jesus; *whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.*

NOTE: It was important to show that it was the **SAME GOD** who had done this that had been acknowledged by their fathers, and that they were NOT about to introduce the worship of any other God. And it was especially important, because the **promise** had been **made to Abraham** that IN his SEED all the families of the earth would be blessed, Genesis 12:3. Compare Galatians 3:16.

Hath glorified - Has honored. You denied, despised, and murdered him, but God has exalted and honored him.

Ye delivered up - That is, you delivered him TO the Romans to be put to death. See the notes on Acts 2:23.

...denied him in the presence of Pilate - Denied that he was the Messiah. Were unwilling to own him as your long-expected King, John 19:15.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bnb/acts-3.html>)

John 19:15, But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, **crucify him**. Pilate saith unto them, **Shall I crucify your King?**
The **chief priests** answered, **We have no king but Caesar.**

Acts 3:14-15, *But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof WE are WITNESSES.*

NOTE: The word "**just**" here denotes "**innocent**," or "one who was free from crime." It is properly used in reference to law, and denotes "one who stands upright in the view of the law, or who is NOT chargeable with crime." In this sense, the Lord Jesus was NOT only

personally innocent, but even before his judges he **stood unconvicted of any crime**. The crime charged on him at first was **blasphemy** Matthew 26:65, and on this charge the Sanhedrin had condemned him without proof. But of this charge Pilate would NOT take cognizance, and hence, before him they charged him with **sedition**, Luke 23:2. Neither of these charges were made out, and of course, in the eye of the law, he was innocent and just.

killed the Prince of life - The word rendered "**prince**" denotes properly "**a military leader or commander**." Hence, in Heb. 2:10, it is translated "**captain**:" "It became him ... to make the "Captain of their salvation" perfect through sufferings."

As a **captain** or **commander leads on to victory** and is said to obtain it, so the word comes to denote one who is the "**cause**," the "**author**," the "procurer," etc. In this sense it is used, Acts 5:31, "Him hath God exalted to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to **GIVE repentance to Israel**," etc. In Hebrews 12:2 it is properly rendered author, "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our FAITH." The word "**author**," or "**giver**," would express the meaning of the word here. It also implies that he has dominion OVER LIFE... (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bnb/acts-3.html>)

Acts 3:16, And his **NAME** through **FAITH in his NAME** hath made this man STRONG, whom ye SEE and KNOW:

Name defined 3686. onoma pronounced on'-om-ah, a "name" (literally or figuratively) (AUTHORITY, character).

yea, the **FAITH** which is **by him** hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

Thought 1. Many Christians believe that this verse, among others where the phrase, "In the name of Jesus" is written, is telling us that we MUST say his NAME in order to comply with scripture. And in most cases, they believe his name is "Jesus", or "Jehoshua", which is what I believed until about two years ago. Strong's Concordance shows "Jesus" is the English word translated from the Greek word for his name, which also is "Jehoshua."

After a number of hours searching on the Internet, I came across a teaching done on his name that tracked the History of how his Hebrew name, "**Yahshua**", eventually came to be translated "Jesus", from the Greek to English. The amazing thing is there are billions, and trillions, etc., of people who have been born again, used to work miracles, and received blessings IN HIS NAME, but do NOT know his Hebrew name is Yahshua! What happened was Yahweh, our Father, rewarded "our FAITH" IN him and the "**AUTHORITY**" he gave his Son. The fact that he did so, confirming his word with "SIGNS following", proves that it's FAITH in HIM, the PERSON, and FAITH in his Son that fulfils his requirement for what's provided, even if we don't know his Hebrew NAME. Peter, John, and the man had FAITH.

John 3:16, For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever **BELIEVETH IN HIM** should NOT perish, but have everlasting life.

Believeth defined 4100, to have FAITH (IN or with respect to, a PERSON), by impli., to ENTRUST (especially one's spiritual well-being to Christ).

1 John 5:10-11, He that **believeth ON** the **Son of God** hath the **witness** in himself: he that believeth NOT God hath made (determine) him a liar; because he believeth NOT the record that God gave of **his Son**. And this is the record, that God **hath given** to us **eternal life**, and this **life** is IN his **Son**.

Hebrews 11:6, But without FAITH it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must BELIEVE that he IS (*God*), and that he is a REWARDER of them that diligently seek **HIM**.

Thought 2. Notice scripture doesn't say, "that KNOW his Hebrew name is **Yahweh**."

Mark 16:17, And these SIGNS shall follow them that **believe**; In my **name (authority)** shall they cast out devils (demons); they shall speak with new tongues...

Acts 3:17-18, And now, brethren, *I wot (know)* that through **ignorance** ye did it, as did also your rulers. But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of **all his prophets**, that **Christ SHOULD suffer**, he hath so **fulfilled**.

NOTE: This was the language of **Peter's charity (LOVE)**, and teaches us to make the best of those whom we desire to make better. Peter had searched the **wound** to the bottom, and now he begins to think of **healing it up**, in order to which it is necessary to beget in them a good opinion of their physician and could any thing be more winning than this? That which bears him out in it is that he has the example of his Master's **praying** for his **crucifiers**, and pleading in their behalf that they **KNEW NOT** what they did. And it is said of the RULERS that **IF** they had known they would NOT have crucified the Lord of glory. (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mhm/acts-3.html>)

1 Corinthians 2:6-8, Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet NOT the wisdom of this world, nor of the **princes (ruler)** of this **world**, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the **hidden wisdom**, which God ordained BEFORE the world unto our glory: Which **NONE** of the **princes (ruler)** of this world knew: for HAD they KNOWN it, **they would NOT have CRUCIFIED** the Lord of glory.

Acts 3:19-21, REPENT ye therefore, and **be converted**, that your **sins** may be **blotted out**, when the **times (season)** of **refreshing (revival [awakening of men to their spiritual concerns])** shall come from the presence of the Lord; And he shall send Jesus (Yahshua) **Christ (Messiah)**, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven **MUST** receive until the times of **restitution (reconstitution [reconstruction])** of ALL things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy **prophets** since the world began.

NOTE: He tells them what they must believe. **(1.)** They must believe that Jesus Christ is the promised SEED, that SEED in which God had told Abraham *all the kindreds of the earth should be blessed*, Acts 3:25.

... **(2.)** They must believe that Jesus Christ is a prophet, **that prophet LIKE unto Moses** whom God had **PROMISED** to raise up to them from among their brethren, Acts 3:22.

... **(3.)** They must believe *that times of refreshing will come from the presence of the Lord* (Acts 3:19), and that they will be the times of the restitution of all things, Acts 3:21. There is a future state, another life after this those times will come from the presence of the Lord, from his glorious appearance at that day, his coming at the END of time.

...The presence of the Lord will introduce, [1.] *The restitution of all things* (Acts 3:21) **the new heavens, and the new earth**, which will be the product of the dissolution of all things (Revelation 21:1), the **renovation of the whole CREATION**, which is that which it grieves after, as its present burden under the sin of man is that which it groans under.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mhm/acts-3.html>)

Acts 3:22-26, For **Moses** truly said unto the fathers, A **PROPHET** shall the Lord (Yahweh) your God raise up unto you of your brethren, **like unto me**; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will NOT HEAR **that prophet**, shall **be destroyed** from among the people.

Yea, and ALL the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise **foretold of these days**.

Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the **COVENANT** which God made with our fathers, saying unto **Abraham**, And in **thy SEED** shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. Unto you first God, having RAISED UP his Son Jesus, **SENT him to bless you**, in **turning away** every one of you **from his iniquities**.