

## SECOND CASE OF CONVERSION

### - At Solomon's Porch

#### Lesson Fifteen

#### INTRODUCTION:

In our last lesson we introduced a study of "THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES" as the BOOK OF CONVERSIONS. We proposed to study all the FACTS, PROMISES, WARNINGS and COMMANDS connected with each of the 11 cases of conversion, clearly described in this book. Since Acts contains ALL THE CONVERSIONS recorded in the word of God, we reasoned that if we BELIEVE the SAME FACTS, HEED the SAME WARNINGS, and OBEY the SAME COMMANDS for the SAME PURPOSES as those converted in Acts, we should thus be CONVERTED TO CHRIST in the SAME WAY and enjoy the SAME PROMISES as they.

In our INITIAL STUDY of the Book of Acts, we consider the FIRST CASE OF CONVERSION – ON PENTECOST – in Acts 2. When the multitude BELIEVED Peter's preaching (i.e., were "pricked in their heart") they asked him and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we DO?" Then Peter said unto them, "REPENT, and BE BAPTIZED everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost..."(vs.37-38) "...they that GLADLY received his word WERE BAPTIZED..." (v.41) The same day there were "ADDED" unto them "about three thousand souls." (v.41) "...And the Lord ADDED to the CHURCH daily such as should be SAVED." (v. 47)

With these details from the FIRST case of conversion refreshed in our minds, let us now direct out attention to the SECOND case of conversion – at SOLOMON'S PORCH... Read the entire account in Acts 3:1 to 4:4

#### I. PETER AND JOHN WENT TO THE TEMPLE AT THE HOUR OF THE PRAYER. (v.1)

It was the "ninth hour."

**NOTE: Please remember that the Jewish day began at 6 a.m., the way WE count time. Thus the "ninth hour" would be at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.**

#### II. A LAME BEGGAR ASKED ALMS. (v.2-3)

- A. Peter denied he had either silver or gold. (v.4-6)
- B. However, he offered to give the beggar what he had. (v.6)
- C. Then he commanded the beggar, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk." (v.6)
  - 1. Remember that this man had been "lame from his mother's womb." (v.2)
  - 2. Evidently, he had been unable to walk, for they "CARRIED... and LAID" him daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful. (v.2)
  - 3. Yet, when Peter took him by the right hand, and lifted him up, "immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength." (v.7)
  - 4. The beggar – no longer lame –
    - a. leaped up
    - b. stood

- c. walked
- d. entered the temple with Peter and John, walking, leaping and praising God. (v.8)

### III. ALL THE PEOPLE SAW THE MAN WALKING AND PRAISING GOD. (v.9)

- A. They knew it was the same man they had seen asking alms all these years at the Beautiful gate of the temple. (v.10)
- B. They were filled with wonder and amazement that he could now walk. (v.10)
- C. All the people ran together unto Peter, John and the healed man in Solomon's Porch. (v.11)

### IV. PETER ANSWERED UNTO THE PEOPLE. (v.12)

- A. He asked why they marveled at the healed man's walking. (v.12)
- B. He asked why they accredited himself and John for this miracle. (v.12) He denied it was by their own power or holiness that this healing had been preformed.
- C. He said the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob had healed the man to glorify His son, Jesus. (v.13)
- D. He identified Jesus as the one they had delivered up, denied before Pilate, and killed. (vs.13-15)
- E. He declared that God had raised up Jesus. (v.15) He said he and John were witnesses to this fact.
- F. He said that CHRIST'S NAME – through FAITH in his name – had made this man strong. (v.16)
- G. He recognized that both the people and their rulers crucified Christ through ignorance. (v.17)
- H. However, he showed that by their ignorance Jesus had been made to suffer, thus fulfilling prophecy. (v.18)
- I. To BLOT OUT their SINS, Peter commanded them to –
  - 1. REPENT
  - 2. BE CONVERTED (v.19)
- J. If they did this, not only would their SINS BE BLOTTED OUT, but "TIMES OF REFRESHING" should come from the presence of the Lord. (v.19)
- K. Christ's returned was promised. (v.20) Prophecies cited as proof. (vs.21-24)
- L. Speaking of Christ, Moses had taught, "A prophet (Christ) shall the Lord 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." (v.22-23)
- M. Peter emphasized that his listeners at Solomon's Porch were "the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with (their) fathers." (v.25)
  - 1. God had said unto Abraham, "And in thy seed shall all the kindred's of the earth be blessed." (v.25)
  - 2. Thus, unto these "children" of the prophets and of the covenant, God, having raised up his Son Jesus, had sent him to them first. (v.26)  
Jesus was sent to "bless" them, in "TURNING AWAY every one of them from his iniquities."

- V. THE PRIESTS, CAPTAIN OF THE TEMPLE AND SADDUCEES WERE GRIEVED BY PETER'S AND JOHN'S PREACHING AND TEACHING THROUGH JESUS THE RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD. (vs.1-2)
- A. They laid their hands on them. (v.3)
  - B. They put them in jail overnight. (v.3)
- VI. HOWEVER, MANY WHO HAD WITNESSED PETER'S SPEECH, BELIEVED. (v.4)
- A. They "HEARD the word."
  - B. They "BELIEVED."
  - C. The number of the men who believed was about five thousand.
- VII. LATER ON – ALSO IN SOLOMON'S PORCH – "BELIEVERS" WERE THE MORE "ADDED" TO THE LORD. (5:12-14)

Those "added" were "multitudes both men and women." (v.14)

**NOTE: Compare what Peter told those on PENTECOST (Acts 2:38) with what he told those at SOLOMON'S PORCH (Acts 3:19), as follows:**

**"REPENT, and BE BAPTIZED everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS, and ye shall receive the GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST." – Acts 2:38, Peter on Pentecost.**

**"REPENT ye therefore, and BE CONVERTED, that your SINS may be BLOTTED OUT, when the TIMES OF REFRESHING shall come from the presence of the Lord." – Acts 3:19, Peter at Solomon's Porch.**

**Do you perceive that Peter was merely using TWO DIFFERENT CHOICES OF WORDS for saying the SAME THING in BOTH these passages? To both groups Peter commanded, "REPENT." On Pentecost he commanded, "BE BAPTIZED"; whereas, at Solomon's Porch, he said "BE CONVERTED" – evidently having the same thought in mind. Repentance and baptism were "FOR REMISSION OF SINS" on Pentecost; Repentance and conversion were "THAT YOUR SINS MAY BE BLOTTED OUT" at Solomon's Porch...**

### QUESTIONS ON LESSON FIFTEEN

1. What four things are we studying connected with each of the 11 cases of conversion described in Acts?

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2. If we today follow the same teaching and approved action as they followed in the Book of Acts, should we achieve the same results?

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3. How many souls joined the church on Pentecost?

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4. What time of day did Peter and John go to the temple in Acts 3?

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5. What special person saw them as they were about to go into the temple?

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6. List five FACTS you have learned from your study of Acts 3 concerning this lame man:

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7. What did the lame man ask of Peter and John?

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8. Did Peter and John give the lame man what he asked for? What did they give him?

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9. In whose name (i.e., by whose authority) did Peter command the lame man to “rise up and walk”?

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10. What happened to the lame man, after Peter said this?

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11. What effect did it have on the people, when they saw the healed lame man walking and praising God?

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12. Where did the multitude run together unto them?

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**13.** Who did Peter tell the people had made this man to walk?

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**14.** In making the lame man to walk what had God done for his Son Jesus?

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**15.** Peter said that God had done something else for his son, of which he and John were witnesses. What was it?

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**16.** What means did God use to make the lame man strong?

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**17.** Why had God permitted the people and their rulers to kill Jesus?

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**18.** Had they done it willfully or through ignorance?

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**19.** To blot out their sins, what did Peter command them to do?

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**20.** If they did this, what else did Peter promise should come from the presence of the Lord?

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**21.** How long must the heaven receive Jesus Christ before he comes again?

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**22.** What did Moses prophesy concerning Jesus?

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**23.** How did God purpose to bless the people through sending his Son?

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**24.** Why did the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees put Peter and John in jail?

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**25.** How many people at Solomon's Porch BELIEVED and were ADDED unto the Lord?

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