

Rise and Walk

Acts 3:1-11

Acts 2:43 states that “many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.” Now Luke proceeds to give one example to illustrate this point and at the same time show how the miracle brought both persecution and further growth of the Church.

Matthew 10:1 (NKJV) And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.

6 Aspects of The Church's Ministry:

1. The **Region**: Beyond the Church (Acts 3:1-2)

¹ Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth *hour* [3PM – the Jewish day began at 6AM and ended 6PM].

² 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 [a gate made of silver and gold, costing more than if it was a gate made of gold alone], to ask alms from those who entered the temple;

2. The **Reason**: Lame Humanity (Acts 3:3-4)

³ who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms.

⁴ And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, **"Look at us."**

3. The **Remedy**: Life from Jesus (Acts 3:5-6)

⁵ So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them.

⁶ Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."

4. The **Resource**: Authority In the Name of Jesus (**Acts 3:6**)

- The name of Jesus carries all authority in heaven and on earth. It is the only name by which people can be saved, healed, and made whole (**Acts 4:12**). The church's confidence is not in its programs, buildings, or resources—it is in the name of Jesus.
- As Acts 5:12 reminds us, *"By the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people."* These miracles authenticated the gospel message and demonstrated the power of Jesus.

5. The **Reach**: The Hand of Peter (**Acts 3:7**)

⁷ And he took him by the right hand and lifted *him* up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

6. The **Response**: A Miracle (**Acts 3:8–11**)

⁷ And he took him by the right hand and lifted *him* up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

⁸ So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God.

⁹ And all the people saw him walking and praising God.

¹⁰ Then they knew that it was he who sat begging alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder [*GK: astonishment, awe*] and amazement [*confused, bewildered amazement – they were in a state of shock*] at what had happened to him.

¹¹ Now as the lame man who was healed held on [*kept holding their hands*] to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch which is called Solomon's, greatly amazed.

Extra: Historical Testimonies of Divine Healing in the Church

1. **Justin Martyr (A.D. 165)**: *The Second Apology of Justin, Chapter 6.*
2. **Irenaeus (A.D. 200)**: *Irenaeus Against Heresies, Book I, Chapter 32, Section 4.*
3. **Origen (A.D. 250)**: *Origen Against Celsus, Book III, Chapter 24.*
4. **Clement (3rd Century)**: *The Homilies of Clement, Homily IX, Chapter 23.*
5. **Gregory of Nazianzus (4th Century)**: *The Ecclesiastical History of Sozomen, Chapter 5.*
6. **Augustine (A.D. 424)**: *The City of God, Book XXII, Chapter 8.*
7. **Martin Luther (16th Century)**
8. **Count Nicolaus Zinzendorf (18th Century)**

God Heals **By Miracle** and **By Medicine**

Acts 28:8–9 (NKJV) - ⁸And it happened that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and dysentery. Paul went in to him and prayed, and he laid his hands on him and healed him [*Gk. "iaomai" - miraculous healing*].

⁹So when this was done, the rest of those on the island who had diseases also came and were healed [*Gk. "Therapeuo" - "practices medicine"*].