

## ACTS – Lesson 3

### Acts Chapter 3

*Distributed by: KJV Bible Studies*

*Website: [www.KjvBibleStudies.net](http://www.KjvBibleStudies.net)*

*e-mail: [mailKjvBibleStudies@gmail.com](mailto:mailKjvBibleStudies@gmail.com)*

Memory verses for this week: *Eph 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ..*

**Introduction:** In Chapter 2, we saw the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit there on the church in Jerusalem as we were empowered to go forth with the gospel to the whole world. It says that on that one day about 3,000 souls were added to the church. We mentioned that the day of Pentecost came 40 days after the Passover feast and was called the feast of harvest. Bro. Charles Moore in Missouri pointed out to me that the scripture we used in Leviticus said it was 50 days, and that also coincided with the amount of time that had transpired since Acts 1:3 says Jesus appeared to them 40 days after the resurrection. With the 10 days that they had to wait in Jerusalem, this equaled the 50 days. I appreciate that correction, and have made adjustments in lesson 2 for that fact.

In this chapter a lame man is healed by the power of God thru the ministry of Peter and John. Afterwards, Peter explains who healed this man and why he was healed. Notice that Peter's sermon was addressed to Jewish hearers. These events took place a short time after Pentecost. The church was not yet prepared to present the Messiah to the gentiles. The Lord would further enlighten the church concerning the gentiles primarily thru the Holy Spirit. This sheds light on why Peter's sermon was presented largely from the perspective of Old Testament Israel and to an audience of Jews.

### I. The Healing of the Lame Man

*Acts 3:1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.*

How soon after Pentecost the events here take place is not indicated though it seems that only a short time had elapsed. Peter and John, as devout Jews, were still going to the Temple at the appointed hours to observe the Jewish prayer times. The ninth hour mentioned here would be our 3 p.m. (The hours of prayer at the Temple were, 9 a.m., noon, and 3 p.m.) The events and sermon which will unfold in this chapter are best understood when considering that there is no major outreach to the gentiles.

*Acts 3:2 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, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;*

*Acts 3:3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.*

*Acts 3:4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.*

The account unfolds how at the gate Beautiful, a cripple lay begging. This gate may have been the eastern gate of the Temple which was one of the most ornate and decorative of the Temple gates. As Peter and John approached, they were solicited by the crippled man. Peter and John directed the lame man to look at them. The beggar gladly did so, evidently hoping to receive from them.

We see the first miracle performed by the apostles after the ascension of Christ. It is important that we understand that neither the apostles nor Christ ever performed miracles to be seen by man. Their purpose was not to amaze man, but to prove that Jesus was the true and only begotten Son of God. They manifested the grace of God to needy men and women. At the end of our previous study in John, he told us why those signs and wonders were recorded.

*John 20:30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:*

*John 20:31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.*

We know from verse one that the temple was still standing in Jerusalem. Christ had prophesied how that it would be destroyed, but this did not come to pass until 70 A.D.

*Mat 24:1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to show him the buildings of the temple.*

*Mat 24:2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.*

We also from verse one can conclude that on the ninth hour of the day, they had prayer at the temple. This was the exact hour that Jesus gave up the ghost and died.

*Mat 27:45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.*

*Mat 27:46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?*

*Mat 27:47 Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said, This man calleth for Elias.*

*Mat 27:48 And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink.*

*Mat 27:49 The rest said, Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save him.*

*Mat 27:50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.*

In verses 2 and 3, we see that those who were handicapped had to beg alms to survive.

There were no special government programs to help them nor any church programs to help take care of those who had no way to provide for themselves. This would be a horrible condition to be in, but we are all in this spiritually bankrupt position. Many do not want to acknowledge that they have no ability on their own to save themselves. We must all come to Jesus if we want eternal life. In our own condition, we are just like this lame man. Unable to help ourselves on our own.

*Acts 3:5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.*

*Acts 3:6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.*

*Acts 3:7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.*

*Acts 3:8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.*

Peter spoke concerning his willingness to share what he had but not before informing the man that he had no money, *“Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee.”* Truly, that which comes from God is better than anything money can buy. Notice by whose name Peter healed the man: *“In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.”*

Without hesitation, this cripple man immediately began to leap and walk. There was no limp or hesitation. This man was healed completely and immediately. The obvious miracle of healing performed after Peter with authority commanded the man to rise up and walk, was the work of almighty God. These gifts were given to the early church enabling them to witness effectively. More specifically the gifts were given specifically as signs to unbelieving Israel in order to demonstrate God's approval and power upon the church. (See I Corinthians 12:4-11.)

*1Co 12:4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.*

*1Co 12:5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.*

*1Co 12:6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.*

*1Co 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.*

*1Co 12:8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;*

*1Co 12:9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;*

*1Co 12:10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:*

*1Co 12:11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.*

Perhaps there was something different about Peter and John that made the lame man think they would help him. It says that he asked alms of them. We as followers of Christ should have a look about us that shows forth the love of our Saviour to mankind. If we are not known for our love, something is wrong with our spiritual position with God.

*John 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.*

*John 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*

*1 Tim 3:2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;*

*1 Tim 3:3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;*

*1 Tim 3:4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;*

*1 Tim 3:5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)*

*1 Tim 3:6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.*

*1 Tim 3:7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.*

In the qualifications of a bishop (or pastor), we see that he should have a good report of them which are without. And you and I should have that same report. Those in need should know that they can turn to us in their hour of need and not be turned away. So many times, God blesses us with much, and we tend to use it for ourselves. But all of us need to set aside some to help those in need. In verse 4, Peter called the lame man's attention and he responds expecting something of him. When he acknowledged that he had no money, it may have been a disappointment to the lame man.

But what Peter was about to do for him was something that all the money in the world could not do. And there is no price that can be put on our health. For God to give us strong and healthy bodies is a great, great blessing. It would be a great attribute to us if the world looks to us when there is a need and knows that we will be able to help. And like the apostles, we have the Word of Life that can change a man or woman's destiny forever if they will but hear, repent, and believe the Gospel. I love the words Peter used... *"Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk."*

We can see that the men who followed Christ in the early days did not do it in order to obtain riches or prestige. Honestly, a person who truly gives themselves wholly to God normally will never have much of this world's treasures. But what a great, great blessing they have awaiting them in heaven one day when they die. (Not to count all the joy and blessings God gives them while here on earth. Many would give all their money to have

the peace and comfort that we, the child of God, have each night as we lay our heads on our pillows.) These apostles had effectively taken a vow of poverty and their relationship with Christ meant far more than earthly treasures.

*Mat 8:20 And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.*

Paul told the church in Corinth what had transpired in his life, and it was a hard, hard existence. But whoever accomplished more for God except Christ in his lifetime. I thank the Lord for the example this man gave us.

*2 Cor 11:23 Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.*

*2 Cor 11:24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.*

*2 Cor 11:25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;*

*2 Cor 11:26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;*

*2 Cor 11:27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.*

*2 Cor 11:28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.*

*2 Cor 11:29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?*

*2 Cor 11:30 If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities.*

**Title:** Adam Clarke's Commentary on the New Testament

**Author:** Clarke, Adam

## **Acts 3:8**

**Walking and leaping, and praising God**—These actions are very naturally described. He walked, in obedience to the command of the apostle, rise up and walk: he leaped, to try the strength of his limbs and to be convinced of the reality of the cure: he praised God, as a testimony of the gratitude he felt for the cure he had received. Now was fulfilled, in the most literal manner, the words of the Prophet Isaiah, Isaiah 35:6: The lame man shall leap as a hart.

*Acts 3:9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God:*

*Acts 3:10 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.*

*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.*

This mighty miracle did not go unnoticed. Those who frequented the Temple were well acquainted with this crippled beggar. They now *“saw him walking and praising God: and they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple.”*

These onlookers were filled with wonder and amazement causing a crowd that gathered around Peter, John and the lame man. The “porch that is called Solomon’s” was the portico of the Temple on the eastern side. It had remnants of Solomon’s original temple which had been incorporated in the later renovations.

We see that the miracle came by the “name of Jesus Christ.” You and I who witness and pray for people today can not perform these kinds of miracles, but in this name, there is still the same ability for Christ to heal the sick. It is still in the blessed name of Jesus that we can be healed. Prayers still touch the heart of God, and if it is in the will of God for a person to be healed, they will be.

In verses 7 - 9 we see that they received strength in his feet and ankle bones, and he praised God for the healing. As in the case of all things that Jesus or the apostles were involved in, the healing was complete and total all at once. Not a partial healing or a healing over time. Even the people that saw the lame man could not deny the miracle.

## **II. Peter’s Second Message after Pentecost**

*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?*

*Acts 3:13 The God 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.*

Insight into the message that Peter preached is found in whom to which it was addressed. Notice that Peter directed his message to “ye men of Israel.” Peter began by establishing that the miracle they had witnessed was not through his own power or holiness.

The One who had healed the man was the God of their fathers. In doing so, He glorified His Son Jesus Christ. Peter was bound by the authority he exercised to remind them, that not long before, they themselves had delivered up, and denied Christ in the presence of Pilate. When he was determined to set Jesus free, they cried all the more, crucify Him!

All good preachers take their opportunities to preach, and Peter saw this as a perfect time. They have the apt attention of the whole group as they ran unto Solomon’s porch. And they came in wonder and wanted to know how this great miracle had happened. As we have said before, no one will ever be saved until they first recognize that they are lost. And the gospel and the Word of God show us how far separated we are from the righteous God of the Universe.



As any good Christian, the men first tell them that the power of healing came from God, not from them. Be fearful of any religious leader that points to himself in the accomplishments of his ministry. God takes all kinds of people to accomplish His work, but He expects the praise and glory to be given to Him. That is why few great or of notable character are chosen in the ministry.

*1 Cor 1:26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:*

*1 Cor 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;*

*1 Cor 1:28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:*

*1 Cor 1:29 That no flesh should glory in his presence.*

We see that in verse 12 that Peter begins by disclaiming any power or holiness in himself or John to do this mighty work.

*Acts 3:14 But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;*

*Acts 3:15 And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.*

As Peter powerfully and pointedly continued to remind them of their atrocity in crucifying Jesus Christ, various names and titles were ascribed to our Lord. He is called "*the Holy One, and the Just.*" He also is called "*the Prince of life.*" The depths of their depravity was revealed in that they desired a murderer to be given them instead. That, of course, is a reference to Barabbas. Notice how Peter boldly spoke the truth of the resurrection; "*whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.*"

Peter in verse 13 boldly accuses them of denying the holy and righteous One preferring a murderer instead. We all remember the scene when Pilate asked the mob whether to release Jesus or Barabbas, and the crowd cried out to release Barabbas. They delivered Jesus up to have him condemned, and killed the Prince of Life. In verse 15, he declares that the God of Abraham raised Jesus from the dead.

*Acts 3:16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.*

*Acts 3:17 And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers.*

*Acts 3:18 But those things, which God before had showed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.*

The agent of the power of God so manifested was faith in the name of Jesus. In this

case, the faith evidently was on Peter's part. He perceived that God had given him the interim gift of healing through the Holy Spirit. Peter thereby exercised faith in the name of Jesus. The principle of faith was tried and exercised as the young church grows. It should be noted, the specific gift of healing as an interim gift ceased with the completion of the canon of the scriptures. (See I Corinthians 13:8-10.)

*1Co 13:8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.*

*1Co 13:9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.*

*1Co 13:10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.*

God still has the power and prerogative to heal according to His will and as His people beseech Him in prayer.

In verse 17, Peter pointedly reminded them of their guilt in the crucifixion of Christ. He now mitigates his charge somewhat by acknowledging they did so out of ignorance. Along with the reality of the unvarnished truth, Peter speaks with grace, (that can only come from God) so as not to further harden their hearts. Peter speaks of and quotes some of the prophets who had foretold the sufferings of Christ. (See Isaiah 52:14-15, Isaiah 53, Zechariah 13:6). The Messiah in so suffering fulfilled these prophecies.

*Isa 52:14 As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:*

*Isa 52:15 So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider.*

We see that Peter declares that through faith in Jesus Christ's name this lame man was made whole. Peter minced no words as he made them all realize that Jesus died because of them, and His blood was truly on their hands. After making them see their sinful condition, as any good preacher should do, he shows them the way of redemption from their sins. Peter opens for them a place of refuge. In the Old Testament, when one was guilty of manslaughter, he could flee to a city of refuge and find safety.

Since they had crucified Christ without knowing He was God's Son, they were being offered this refuge through Christ. Each of us is guilty. Our sins are what nailed Jesus to that tree on Mt. Calvary. Peter declares that they did this through ignorance. If they had truly known who Jesus was, I don't think they would have condemned Him to death.

*1 Cor 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:*



*1 Cor 2:8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.*

Jesus asked God as He was dying on the cross to forgive the people, for they knew not what they were doing.

*Luke 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.*

*Luke 23:35 And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God.*

*Acts 3:19 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;*

Two thoughts are crucial in understanding this important verse. As noted in our lessons on Acts chapter 2, repentance at times is viewed as a composite thought of turning from sin, self, and the direction one has been going and then turning to God and trusting Him. Saving faith includes a turning of one's heart from its sinful way while trusting Jesus Christ. Peter used the word "repent" as a composite term referring to turning to Christ.

Peter's audience was representative of official Israel who recently crucified Jesus Christ. They collectively had rejected their Messiah. Peter now calls upon them to repent of their evil deed. The result of such repentance would be a blotting out of their sin.

The word translated as blotted out (exaleifw exaleipho) has the sense of to 'wash away,' to 'erase,' to 'obliterate,' or to 'blot out.' The wonderful application is that when we turn to Christ, trusting Him as Savior, our sins are washed away, erased, obliterated, and blotted out. What is in view is that if Israel would repent, God would grant national deliverance. Of course, as individuals so repent and turn to Christ, there is the complete forgiveness of sin.

*Acts 3:20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:*

*Acts 3:21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.*

The greater prophetic, eschatological, and dispensational character of Peter's message to the Jews congregated at the Temple becomes evident. There is no doubt that verse 20 is a reference to the return of Jesus Christ someday as King of Israel. He presently had been received by the heavens "*until the time of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.*"

In the light of all this, Peter urges the people to repent and to turn to God. One night on visitation, we came in contact with a man that admitted he had been a member of several different denominations but had never truly accepted Christ as Savior. When I asked him if he knew what the one sin was that God could not forgive, he was not sure.

When I explained it to him (Blaspheming the Holy Spirit), he said that it did not make sense to him. We explained that if in this life we hear the gospel, are drawn by the Holy Spirit to be saved, and we do not respond, there is no hope for us in the next life.

Effectively we have ignored the one sacrifice for sins that God has provided, and counted Christ unworthy to be our Personal Savior. With all of our witnessing, and all the knowledge this many had of the Bible, he still refused to accept Christ as Savior. I pray that he won't continue to put off the decision, since none of us have any promise of tomorrow. Today is the day of salvation, now is the accepted time. Peter is telling these Jews, and some of them most likely were there when Christ was put to death, that they too can have eternal life. Even with all their sin, if they would forsake the sin and turn to Christ, they too could be saved. Just like Jesus promised, He will return soon.

*Acts 1:10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;*

*Acts 1:11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.*

J. Vernon McGee asked a good question in his commentary.

If they had accepted Jesus, would He have returned to the earth? The answer, of course, is yes. Peter says He would have. Then what would have been God's program after that? I'll tell you something today that will be a secret just between you and me: I don't know what would have happened. Does that come as a surprise to you? Well, I have news for you. No one else knows either—no one except God. We can ask innumerable "if" questions to which there are no answers. All I know is that the nation did *not* accept Jesus Christ. That is the only answer I know to the "if" question. Any other answer would be only the wildest speculation.

*Acts 3:22 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet 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.*

*Acts 3:23 And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.*

*Acts 3:24 Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.*

In verses 22-23, Peter quoted from Deuteronomy 18:15, 18-19, which is an early prophecy of the coming of the Messiah. There, He was alluded to as a prophet. Here is the additional warning for those who would ignore the voice of that prophet—they would be destroyed. The fulfillment of that probably came to pass in A.D. 70 when Titus destroyed Jerusalem.

All the prophets from the time of Samuel likewise foretold of the momentous events which they had all witnessed: the advent of their Messiah, His rejection, and His eventual return.

Reference is made of Samuel who was the first of the 'writing prophets.

*Acts 3:25 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.*

*Acts 3:26 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.*

The key to understanding Peter's message is contained, in large part, in this verse. His audience was the "children of the prophets, and of the covenant." Though the New Testament had already dawned and the church had recently been commissioned, Peter was speaking to those who only understood the Old Testament perspective which resulted in their spiritual blindness. The Jewish message that was understood as one solely of repentance is in the process of becoming understood as one of faith and grace and repentance.

There is profound wisdom in that turning away from sin is a great blessing indeed. That blessing was offered to the Jews first, as God's covenant people. Peter once again reminded them of the resurrection of Christ and that it was God who so raised Jesus from the dead.

Christ is the prophet of whom Moses penned the words about mentioned here in verse 22. He declares that whosoever would not hear this prophet would be cut off from Israel. In verse 24, he goes on to tell them that Samuel and all the succeeding prophets foretold these things. These Jews, as sons of the prophets and of God's great covenant of Abraham's seed, were being blessed.

It was promised that through him, all nations of the earth would be blessed. And because the Jews were God's chosen nation, they were offered the Gospel first. How sad that so few accepted the message in Peter's day, and even today the vast majority of the Jewish nation is blinded to the truth of Jesus Christ.

Matthew Henry pointed out that Christ came first to the Jews.

We are here told whence Christ had his mission: *God raised up his Son Jesus, and sent him.* God raised him up when he constituted him a prophet, owned him by a voice from heaven, and filled him with his Spirit without measure, and then sent him; for to this end he raised him up, that he might be his commissioner to treat of peace. He sent him to bear witness of the truth, sent him to seek and save lost souls, sent him against his enemies, to conquer them. Some refer *the raising of him up to the resurrection*, which was the first step towards his exaltation; this was, as it were, the renewing of his commission; and though, having raised him up, he seemed presently to take him from us, yet he did really send him afresh to us in his gospel and Spirit. [2.] To whom he was sent: *"Unto you first. You of the seed of Abraham, you that are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant, to you is the tender made of gospel grace."* The personal ministry of Christ, as

that of the prophets, was confined to the Jews; he was not then *sent but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel*, and he forbade the disciples he then sent forth to go any further. After his resurrection, he was to be preached indeed to all nations, but they must *begin at Jerusalem*, Lu. 24:47. And, when they went to other nations, they first preached to the Jews they found therein. They were the first-born, and, as such, had the privilege of the first offer. So far were they from being excluded for their putting Christ to death, that, when he is risen, he is first sent to them, and they are primarily intended to have benefit by his death. [3.] On what errand he was sent: "*He is sent to you first, to bless you; this is his primary errand, not to condemn you, as you deserve, but to justify you, if you will accept of the justification offered you, in the way wherein it is offered; but he that sends him first to bless you, if you refuse and reject that blessing, will send him to curse you with a curse,*" Mal. 4:6.

*KJV Bible Studies are prepared and distributed free of charge. The lessons may not be sold without consent. If you have questions or wish to discuss the lessons, or possibly need help in finding Jesus Christ as your Personal Lord and Savior, contact us at the email below.*

*Prov 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.*

*Website:* [www.KjvBibleStudies.net](http://www.KjvBibleStudies.net)

*e-mail:* [mailKjvBibleStudies@gmail.com](mailto:mailKjvBibleStudies@gmail.com)

**Practice Random Acts of Kindness. Each act spreads, and many will be blessed.**