

Lesson IV.

THE LAME MAN HEALED

January 24, 1909

BETWEEN THE LESSONS—Last Lesson speaks of many miracles ("wonders and signs") which were wrought by the apostles (ch. 2: 43). This Lesson relates one of these miracles in detail.

GOLDEN TEXT—And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know.—Acts 3: 16.

Memorize vs. 9, 10.

THE LESSON PASSAGE—Acts 3: 1-16.

Study Acts 3: 1-26.

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

2 And a certain man ²lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the ³gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked ⁴an alms.

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

5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something ⁵of them.

6 ⁶Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but ⁷such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth ⁸rise up and walk.

7 And he took him by the right hand, and ⁹lifted him up; and immediately his feet and ¹⁰anle bones received strength.

8 And ¹¹he leaping up stood, and ¹²walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

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

10 And they ¹³knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful ¹⁴gate of the temple: and

Revised Version—¹were going up into; ²that was; ³door; ⁴to receive; ⁵from; ⁶But Peter; ⁷what I have, that give I thee; ⁸Omit rise up and; ⁹raised; ¹⁰his ankle-bones; ¹¹leaping up, he stood; ¹²began to walk; and he; ¹³took knowledge of him, that; ¹⁴Gate (large G); ¹⁵as he held; ¹⁶man; ¹⁷fasten ye your eyes on us; ¹⁸godliness; ¹⁹him to walk; ²⁰Servant; ²¹before the face of; ²²had; ²³release him; ²⁴Holy and Righteous One, and asked for; ²⁵Omit hath; ²⁶by faith in his name hath his name made; ²⁷behold; ²⁸through.

Daily Readings—(Courtesy, I.B.R.A.)—M.—The lame man healed, Acts 3: 1-11. T.—The lame man healed, Acts 3: 12-26. W.—The word of power, Luke 5: 17-26. Th.—Power to heal, Matt. 10: 1-15. F.—A vision of joy, Isa. 35. S.—Sin and repentance, 1 John 1. S.—Life by faith, John 3: 9-21.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

I. THE CURE.—1-5.

Peter and John; close companions before Pentecost (John 18: 16; 20: 3-10), and to be constantly together in the early church (see Acts 5: 14, Gal. 2: 9). Went up; from the lower part of the city to the temple hill of Moriah. Hour of prayer . . . ninth hour; three o'clock p.m., the time of the evening temple sacrifice. The third (9 a.m.), sixth (12 noon), and ninth hours were observed by the Jews as hours of prayer (compare Ps. 55: 17; Dan. 6: 10). A certain man; well known, both from the place, and from his infirmity: he had been lame from his birth. At the gate of the temple. It was a common practice for maimed beggars to be set at the temple approaches (John 9: 8), as is still the case in regard to Mohammedan mosques in the East, and churches throughout Europe. Called Beautiful. See Geography Lesson. Asked an alms; a gift of money. Fastening his eyes upon him; perhaps to excite in him the expectation of some greater blessing than the usual alms. Look on us; the representatives of Jesus. To Him the man's attention must be turned, as the Source of healing from his lifelong infirmity.



THE SANHEDRIN

6-8. Gave heed unto them; gave attention. Expecting . . . something; still thinking of alms, with the cure just at hand. Silver and gold . . . none. The apostles made no private gain from the common funds (see ch. 2: 44) of the church. Such as I have give I. Peter was eager to use the power received at Pentecost, to bless others.

In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth; by His authority. It was as if Jesus Himself, the great Healer (see Matt. 21: 14), were present again, speaking through the disciples. Rise up and walk. The command is a test of the man's faith (compare Matt. 12: 10-13). Feet and anle bones; a doctor's words: Luke, the writer of the Acts, was a physician. Received strength; literally, became firm or solid. Leaping up, stood . . . walked . . . walking, and leaping. Lame from birth, he did not know how to walk; he began by a jump, then a walk, and so on. Praising God; his heart overflowing with gratitude.

II. THE CROWDS.—9-11. All the people saw him (v. 9) . . . ran together (v. 11). "Miracles were the bells by which God drew the people together to hear the sermon concerning Jesus." The porch . .