

apostle Peter's preaching, though wanting in popularity, pleases the Disciples well, and not one fault is discovered in it. And if our contemporaries reproach us for yielding thus implicitly to the apostolic word, we find ourselves in the best of company: for Peter and the other apostles share with us all the rebuffs of opposers.

Indeed no twelve men ever suffered more for their faith than the twelve apostles of our Lord. If the Disciples in British America and in the United States are regarded as unpopular in this our own day, and suffer what persecution the times allow of, it must not be forgotten that the Disciples on first preaching a crucified Christ in Judea were far from finding favor with the populace, and were evilly entreated by their contemporaries. This however is not our present subject.

Before offering many remarks upon the apostolic exhibition of the nature, object, and scope of the new covenant, let us refer to several other of the addresses spoken by the apostles and inspired evangelists. Open to Acts, chapters iii and iv. The facts contained in these chapters are very captivating. Here are several of them:—

1st. Two of the apostles, John and Peter, go up to the temple at the usual hour of prayer—3 o'clock in the afternoon.

2nd. On entering one of the gates leading into the temple, they met one of those unfortunates who had always been deformed, never having walked. Whether some of the more benevolent placed him there to receive support from the compassionate, or some of the scheming had contrived to place him there to make money by this means, we know not; but the poor cripple asked alms of all who made their way through the gate.

3d. On seeing Peter and John, the deformed man looked up wishfully at them—expecting something from them. But they were as poor as their Master, and Peter says to him, "I have neither silver nor gold; but such as I have I give thee"—and putting out his hand to him the apostle raised him up, saying, "In the name of Jesus of Nazareth rise and walk." Quick as electricity the power of the Lord imparted strength and perfectness to his feet, and he leaped up and entered with the apostles into the temple, shouting joyful praises.

5th. Priests and people, strangers and residents crowd to the spot, filled with wonder. They gaze on the two apostles as though they had come immediately from the skies. All knew that a miracle had been performed; all realized that the now perfectly sound man was formerly the cripple at the gate. It was no twilight juggle—no midnight trick: for it was done in the middle of the afternoon in a public