

ecstasy of free motion. *The people saw . . . knew . . . it was he*; the miracle is unmistakable. *Ran together unto them*; to hear what explanation they will give. *Porch . . . called Solomon's*; on the eastern side of the temple.

III. THE MIGHT.—12-16. *Peter . . . answered.* Peter sees his opportunity to preach the truth. *As though by our own power.* Peter knows whence his power came. *The God of Abraham . . . hath glorified his Son.* God working through Jesus is the cause. *Denied . . . in the presence of Pilate.* The Jews refused to acknowledge the kingship of Jesus. *Desired a murderer*; Barabbas. *His name.* Peter presses home the startling truth that the rejected, the crucified Christ, has risen and performed this miracle. Wonder becomes dismay. Peter's accusation is piercing, but true.

Lesson Questions

What did the lame man expect from Peter and John?

What was Peter's answer?

How did the man show his gratitude?

What message had Peter for the people?

For Further Study and Discussion

1. Where do we read of ingratitude for healing? (Luke 17 : 11-19.)

2. What does Paul say is the importance of Christ's resurrection? (1 Cor. 15 : 14.)

3. Can public institutions take the place of private beneficence?

4. Is there any sufficient reason why people should be poor?

PROVE FROM SCRIPTURE—That Pilate wished to free Jesus.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Ques. 83.

THE LESSON IN DAILY LIFE (Daily Readings)

Monday—Peter and John heal a lame man, Acts 3 : 1-10.

Life is a temple with many beautiful gates which we do not seek to enter. We linger by them, seeking little doles of things that cannot satisfy. Then Jesus comes, and through him, and with him we enter the temple of a new life.

Tuesday—The power of Jesus' name, Acts 3 : 11-18.

Peter has no philosophical or theological explanations of miracle. His explanation is personal—Jesus. His explanation is dynamic—faith. "His name through faith in his name hath made this man strong." The glory of Christianity is that it crowds its explanations into a few words,—love, faith, Jesus.

Wednesday—The call to repentance, Acts 3 : 19-26.

The gospel always presents the highest possibilities of life as being within our reach. A right view of the past always means a blessing for the present. Repentance which gives us a vision of our blind and wilful past, does not fail to bring refreshing and reviving hopes for the present.

Thursday—The king's highway, Isa. 35 : 1-10.

Where there is a king's journey to make there is always a king's highway to take. God's commands never deal with destinations and goals alone. He makes provision for the way. The whole armour of God—not only weapons with which to fight the great fight, but shoes with which to make the daily march.

Friday—Healing the sick, Mark 1 : 21-34.

We see Jesus in the synagogue, the home, the crowd, and everywhere moved with pity for these sick in body, mind or soul. Jesus dealt with the matter of daily food and raiment, of daily mental worry and burden, as well as the great matters of the soul. He taught that these daily matters were not everything. He did not teach that they were nothing.

Saturday—Greater works to be done, John 14 : 8-14.

Greater works are being done. Jesus fed five thousand, but his followers crossed the seas and fed Belgium, a starving nation. He healed the sick, but his followers went to Serbia and ministered to a nation smitten with typhus.

Sunday—Strength from God, Mark 11 : 20-26.

Mountain moving is not the greatest thing in the world unless it be God's will. We may remove mountains and be nothing ourselves. To bear all things, believe all things, to hope all things, to endure all things, for love's sake are greater achievements. Faith may cast mountains down; love carries them.

A PRAYER

Help us to find every beautiful gate of life and enter in. Help us to see how beautiful is the gate of a mother's love that God has given us to see how beautiful are the gates of home, to see how beautiful are the gates of thy house, to see how beautiful are the gates of the morning that open on every common day. Amen.