

Ninth hour. Three o'clock in the afternoon, as the hours were counted from sunrise. This was the time of the evening sacrifice.

2. A certain man. This miracle, perhaps not the only one wrought in that period, is related on account of its important results among the people and to the apostles. **Lame from his mother's womb.** Hence incurable except by divine power. **Was carried.** Perhaps this means "was being carried at that time." **Laid daily.** Just as in the East the deformed and poor even now throng around the doors of mosques and churches. **3. It is the worshippers who give to the needy, not those who scorn religion. At the gate.** By the law of Moses, no deformed person could enter the temple; so we see in this man a picture of the sinner, shut out from fellowship with God. **Called Beautiful.** A gate of beautiful workmanship, and the grand entrance to the Court of the Women. It was opposite the gate Shushan, which was in the outer Eastern wall. **To ask alms.** Appealing by his very appearance and by voice to the sympathy of the worshippers.

3, 4. Asked an alms. He asked for a small gift, and received a great one. **4. How little do people know their own opportunities when they appear! Fastening his eyes.** Conscious by a divine impulse which the two apostles felt at the same moment, of the willingness of God to heal and save this man. **Look on us.** The cripple must recognize the instrumentalities of his healing, and must do what he could—fix his eye, though he could not move his feet. **5. Salvation begins when the needy sinner's eyes turn toward hope.**

5. He gave heed. As the woman of Samaria came seeking water and found eternal life, so this man looked for alms and found salvation. **Expecting to receive.** Those who entered the temple carried money for the poor, or for the treasure-chests which were fastened on the walls of the court of the women.

6. Silver and gold have I none. He meant that he was not rich, not that he was absolutely moneyless; and that it was no pecuniary gift which he was about to bestow. **6. Sometimes the poor can do for their fellow-men more than the rich. Such as I have.** The possession of saving faith is one which the poorest child of God can impart to another who is willing to receive. **7. What a treasure is the ownership of salvation! In the name of Jesus Christ.** This bold sentence proclaims to all that Jesus, who had been put to death as a criminal but a little while before, is the Christ, the Messiah of Israel, and still living and possessing all

power. **The name is here invoked for the power. Of Nazareth.** The place named in scorn above the cross is here adopted as an honour. Peter was not ashamed of the lowly origin of his Saviour. **8. Let every Christian glory in the cross of Christ. Rise up and walk.** Or, as in the Revised Version, simply the command "walk!" What courage and faith this one word required! But Peter spoke with the consciousness that Christ's power was there to make good his utterance.

7. Took him. This showed the cripple that his cure came through the apostles. **Lifted him up.** The disciple aids the endeavour and faith of the man. **9. Note here is a lesson of the value of personal contact with those whom we would lead to Christ. His feet and ankle-bones.** Words showing the precision of the physician Luke, who wrote this record. **Received strength.** Literally, "were consolidated," the weak tendons and muscles becoming in a moment firm.

8. Leaping up. Springing from his sitting posture, he stood for a moment, for the first time in his life, then walked, [Rev. Ver., "began to walk"] a new experience, and a double miracle, for walking must be learned by practice and after many falls. **Into the temple.** Through the Beautiful Gate up into the court of the women, where the people were wont to worship. **10. Happy is that man who employs God's gift of strength in going to God's house. Praising God.** That showed the religious temper of the man, and his salvation accompanying bodily healing.

9, 10. All the people. The crowd who were present at the evening service of worship saw him. They had the proof of their own eyes of the miraculous work. **11. While the process of salvation is a mystery, the transforming results are visible to all men. They knew.** The man's past was well known, as he was more than forty years old. Chap. 4. **22 Wonder and amazement.** This was the design of this, as of all miracles, to call attention to the Gospel as a divine force in the world, and to make men realize its power.

11. Held Peter and John. Clung to them, in simple gratitude, while he praised God for the miracle. He continued to cling to them during the events which afterward took place, and stood at their side before the council. Chap. 4. **14. People ran together.** The crowd followed them out of the women's court (perhaps after the worship was over) into the cloister opposite its entrance. **Porch that is called Solomon's.** A double row of columns, roofed over, on the eastern side of the court of the Gentiles, so named because the foundation under its