



## “Rags to Riches”

Acts 3:1-10  
June 21, 2026  
Brady Bassett

**The Big Idea:** The Lord will continue to work powerfully through the **hands** and **words** of the apostles. In Acts 3, we see a perfect illustration of how God reaches into the heart and lives of the sinner to bring them to a newness of life. The world will offer many things to us, but all that they can offer to us are temporary **alms** that will never address our real problems.

### Acts 3:1-10

<sup>1</sup> “Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the ninth *hour*, the hour of prayer. <sup>2</sup> And a man who had been lame from his mother’s womb was being carried along, whom they used to set down every day at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, in order to beg alms of those who were entering the temple. <sup>3</sup> When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he *began* asking to receive alms. <sup>4</sup> But Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze on him and said, “Look at us!” <sup>5</sup> And he *began* to give them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. <sup>6</sup> But Peter said, “I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene—walk!” <sup>7</sup> And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up; and immediately his feet and his ankles were strengthened. <sup>8</sup> With a leap he stood upright and *began* to walk; and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. <sup>9</sup> And all the people saw him walking and praising God; <sup>10</sup> and they were taking note of him as being the one who used to sit at the Beautiful Gate of the temple to *beg* alms, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

### The Man

- The temple would have a lot of **visitors** at the ninth hour.
- This beggar has been **lame** since birth.
- The beggar may have chosen this location to pull on the heart strings of those going to the temple to give and to worship.

- There is an **intentional** effort made towards this man by Peter and John.
- This beggar wasn’t just **broke**; he was **broken**.
- This beggar is a visual example of every sinner chosen and saved by grace.
- Christians are not **choice** people, they are **chosen** people.
- God **loves** us simply because He **loves** us.

### The Method

- The **power** and **work** of Jesus made this man well.
- The source of all rescue is **Jesus**.
- We do not need to possess **great** things to do **great** things for God.
- God is not dependent upon the amount that is given. What God looks to is the heart that brings what it can.
- Are you keeping Jesus to yourself?

### The Movement

- When Jesus saves a person’s soul, salvation happens **immediately**.
- The only proper response to a wonderful work of God is **praise**.
- Christ has not saved you for you to look the same as you did before.
- The world is **watching** us.
- The Church was not created to stay in; it was created to go out.

“When God by his word commands us to rise, and walk in the way of his commandments, if we mix faith with it, he will give his Spirit to take us by the hand, and lift us up. If we set ourselves to do what we can, God has promised his grace to enable us to do what we cannot; and by that promise we partake of a new nature, and that grace shall not be in vain.”

-Matthew Henry