



The Healing Power of Jesus

Acts 9:31-43
October 11, 2026
Ken Dalton

The Big Idea: The Gospel of Jesus Christ is that Jesus' resurrection power can be unleashed **wherever** and on **whomever** God chooses. When Jesus saves us we are saved by His power, not ours. The lost will see **Christ** and His power displayed in our lives and many will be **saved**.

Acts 9 (ESV)

9 ³¹ So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had **peace** and was being **built up**. And **walking in the fear of the Lord** and in **the comfort of the Holy Spirit**, *it multiplied*.

There is a **Gospel rhythm** that opens our hearts to the work God is doing in His church:

- The fear of the Lord
- The comfort of the Holy Spirit

³² Now as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to **the saints** who lived at Lydda. ³³ There he found a man named Aeneas, bedridden for eight years, who was paralyzed. ³⁴ And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, ***Jesus Christ heals you***; **rise and make your bed**." And immediately he rose. ³⁵ And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon **saw him**, and they **turned to the Lord**.

³⁶ Now there was in Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which, translated, means Dorcas. She was **full of good works and acts of charity**. ³⁷ In those days she became ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, urging him, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹ So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him **weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them**. ⁴⁰ But Peter put them all outside, and **knelt down and prayed**; and turning to

the body he said, "Tabitha, **arise**." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. ⁴¹ And he gave her his hand and raised her up. Then, calling **the saints** and widows, **he presented her alive**. ⁴² And **it became known** throughout all Joppa, and **many believed in the Lord**. ⁴³ And he stayed in Joppa for many days with one Simon, **a tanner**.

Six Challenges from the Scripture:

1. A perfectly balanced spiritual life has 2 **constants**: You live ... in the fear of the Lord, and ... and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit
2. All Christians are "**set apart** for God and his purposes", so we live as "saints."
3. The power of Jesus is so great that it has vanquished all that seeks to destroy what God gives us. We don't have to spend life **chasing** after victory, but we live **in** and **from** a spiritual position of victory attained and given by Jesus.
4. We are not saved **by** our good works, but if we are truly saved, our lives will be **full** of good works that flow out of a life transformed by Jesus our Savior. When we die, what will those who grieve stand and hold onto as they talk about us?
5. When we live under the Lordship of Jesus God will make sure the spiritually lost will **see** the power of Jesus and many of them will turn to Jesus and also **believe** in Him.
6. Question One from the Heidelberg Catechism

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.