



# Times of Refreshing

**Acts 3:1-4:16**

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There are incomparable blessings in this life and the life to come for those who trust in Jesus Christ. God's healing of a lame man in Acts three gave the apostles more opportunities to testify about Jesus. Peter again urged repentance and explained the blessings that belong to those who turn in Jesus Christ.

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.<sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.<sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

In Acts 3:19-21, Peter said that those who repent and turn to Jesus would find "times of **refreshing**." This rest was due to their sins being forgiven AND the future hope they now have in Christ.

The healing of a lame man and his response (Acts 3:1-10)

The functions of miracles of healing in the book of Acts:

To authenticate the messenger

To draw unbelievers to faith in Jesus Christ

What did Peter mean when he said they "acted in ignorance" in Acts 3:17? cf. to Acts 13:26-32.

For those who repent of their sin and turn to Jesus, there is:

Blotting out of sin

Times of refreshing

Hope in the coming return of Jesus

We can experience rest and refreshing today, even in the midst of a global pandemic, in the midst of a time when people are tempted toward panic, because our sins have been blotted out and because Jesus is coming back for His people. And when He does, God will restore all things – there will be a new heaven and a new earth

### **Questions to Consider**

1. Are you feeling overwhelmed by a burden you are carrying? If not, can you recall a time when you did feel under the weight of great pressure?
2. Read Acts 2:22. What a chief purpose of the signs and wonders that Jesus performed?
3. Read Acts 9:36-42. What happened and what was the aftermath?
4. Read Acts 3:13-16. What caused the healing of the lame man?
5. Read Acts 4:1-7. Based on past experience with Peter, what may the priests have hoped that Peter would do in response to their investigation? Instead, what happened and why? How should this embolden our witness for Christ?
6. Compare Acts 3:17-18 and 13:26-28. What did the apostles mean by the ignorance of their fellow Jews?
7. What has been done and what lies ahead that can give a believer in Jesus Christ rest and refreshment in the midst of times of hardship? How do you meditate on such truths to keep them in mind?