

Focus: KINGDOM RESTORATION. In the Last Days we await the restoration of "all things". Healing in "His Name" is a preview of things yet to come.

I. A Sign of Authority & Power

A. The Occasion -

1. A Man lame from birth, begging
2. Walking and Leaping!! Luke 7:22; Isaiah 35:6

B. The Apostle's Authority

- Authentication – they speak the truth
- But all the credit goes to the Savior – to Jesus – to the Name of Jesus!

II. A Sign of the Last Days

A. 1st sign? Pentecost! – Spirit of Prophecy on all believers

B. 2nd Sign?? This too was prophesied. Isaiah 35:6; Malachi 4:2

1. Not just walking – leaping!
2. A Sign the Jews should recognize! (4:16, 22)
 - a. They know it is a "sign" but they reject what it signifies.
 - b. God has glorified His servant, Jesus. (13)
 - They dishonored Him vv.13-15
 - God honored Him
 - c. Ignorance is no excuse – v.17

III. A Sign of Restoration

A. Physical Restoration –

B. Spiritual Restoration

1. Points to inward change.
2. It starts in responding to the call to repentance.
 - a. Repent – turn to God. vv.19,26 NOTE: This is where the real healing is needed!
 - through Jesus vv.20,26

b. Repentance brings 3-fold blessing

- 1) Sins are wiped out/blotted out! Literally washed off/away. Wiped off the slate or papyrus (on which the ink did not penetrate.)
- 2) Times of refreshing may come from the Lord! God adds rest, relief, refreshment for our spirits when our sins are wiped away.
- 3) That he may send Christ appointed for you, Jesus!

3. Restoration is in Two Parts

- a. *BEGUN* with Christ's death, resurrection and ascension. The Sign of this healing *Makes Visible* the inner healing, cure that faith *In His Name*, in the Power of His Name – brings.
- b. It is *COMPLETED* - When He Returns!

IV. A Sign of the Power of The Name v.6,16 (4:9,10)

A. Peter's message is thoroughly Christ-Centered (again!)

B. He is the One whom the Scriptures foretold.

1. Three Prophetic Lines are followed.

- a. Moses vv.22, 23
- b. The Kingdom of David v.24
- c. The Abrahamic Covenant v.25

2. He brings blessing v.26

- Sent first to you! – but not only to you
- Repentance – leading to *forgiveness*
- Turning from wickedness – to *righteousness!*

We are being prepared for the eternal kingdom of God in Christ. In His name is the forgiveness of sins, his promised Spirit, and the renewal, restoration of wholeness and life – that awaits His return when he will make all things new!

Conclusion: What can we say in response to this renewing work? What must we do as we walk in His Kingdom on earth?

1. Restoration/renewal/transformation?

2. Peter would say, "Silver and Gold have I none..." What do we have?

3. The Church has power because it has faith in Him who has all power.