

Bereans Bible Institute
Module VII – The Apostolic Mission
Lesson 9 – The First Miracle by the Apostles

I. Healing of the Lame Man @ Temple Gate

A. Opportunity created by the miracle for preaching (vss. 1-11)

1. Purpose of miracles w/Apostolic preaching (Mark 16:20; Heb. 2:3-4).
2. Apostles were still observing Jewish prayer customs @ Temple (vs. 1)
3. The miracle was done “in the name of Jesus” (by the authority of Jesus)
 - a. Jesus personally gave the 12 the authority to use His name this way (Matt. 10:1-8; Luke 24:49 & Acts 1:8).
 - b. Only those personally given authority can do genuine miracles
 - c. No magical power in saying “*in the name of GEE-ZUSS*”
 1. claiming words/incantations have inherent power = witchcraft.
4. The miracle was absolutely undeniable (lame from mother’s womb)
 - a. The miracle of the man born blind (John 9)
 - b. Same result as with Jesus’ miracle – skeptics could not deny it.
 1. He was a daily fixture at the Temple gate (vs. 2).
 2. Everyone knew him (vss. 8-11).
 - c. Sharp contrast with the fake ‘miracles’ performed by the ‘Benny Hinns’ and other Christian ‘Charlatans’ on TV.
 1. Ernest Angley in Akron, OH.
 - a. Unverified claims made about those being ‘healed’
 - b. Blowing ‘baaabaaa’ in deaf person’s ear.
 - c. Hand on TV screen – ‘heeeeeeeal.’
 - d. Next episode read letters from viewers claiming healing.
 1. ‘theology’ = work up enough ‘faith’ by declaring yourself ‘healed’ while symptoms persisted! Of course people wrote letters about ‘healings’ that they HOPED would happen!
 2. Not all are ‘fake.’ Some use supernatural power of demons.
 - a. demons can make people ill (Luke 13:11; Acts 10:38)
 - b. can Satan cast out Satan? (Mark 3:22-24)
 - c. some are psychosomatic illnesses
 - d. All ‘end-time’ miracles **mentioned in the Bible** (except those from the two prophets in Rev. 11) are “lying signs and wonders” (Matt. 24:24-25; 2 Thess. 2:9-10).
 - e. Those claiming to have done miracles are rejected (Matt. 7:15-23).
 - f. This DOES NOT mean God doesn’t heal today. He does sometimes in answer to specific prayer. He does not use ‘faith healers’ all of which are either fake or using the power of ‘the dark side.’