

# Peter's 'Arresting' Sermon

Acts 3:22-26

PART THREE

## Introduction

*"And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong...the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health" (v16).*

Jesus Christ, all that He is as the God/Man, is the source of power that made the lame man walk.

**Faith is a *channel*, so the power we receive is proportional to the strength of our faith.**

**Strong faith is a *contagion*. Others will catch it when they see it in you.**

1) *metanoeo*, a strong change of mind; and,

2) *epistrepho*, a turning away from former ways and turning back toward God.

2 Corinthians 5:16-17

"Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand"

*The day of visitation has come. The kingdom of God has come near. Repent.*

**The offer: their sins "blotted out," all sin literally wiped away forever!**

Hosea 10:12

Isaiah 55:6-7

Isaiah 46:13

2 Corinthians 6:1-3

## I. The Encouragement (vv22-26)

**Encouragement** = 'the action of giving someone support, confidence, or hope.'

*"Moses said, 'The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you.'" (v22)*

"The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen." Deuteronomy 18:15

*"you shall listen to him"*

"And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!" Luke 9:35

John 10:16

John 10:3-4

John 10:19-21

**The Messiah has come – and His winnowing fork is in His hand!**

*“And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.”*  
(v23)

Deuteronomy 18:18-19

John 8:28

John 12:49-50

In his gospel account, Luke frequently gives the title “prophet” to Jesus: Luke 4:24; 7:16, 39; 24:19

Stephen in Acts 7:37

*“raise up”*

Hebrews 2:3-4

*“And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days.”* (v24)

*“You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.’”* (v25)

*“You are”* is a present active imperative.

**God has not abolished His covenant with His people Israel.**

Zechariah 8:1-8, 12-13, 20-23; 12:10-13:1;

Ezekiel 37:21-28; 43:1-5;

Jeremiah 30:16 - 31:1-14, 38-40;

Revelation 20.

John the Baptist: Luke 3:8

*Destroy Him* (Matthew 12:14).

*“Jesus, aware of this, withdrew from there”* (Matthew 12:15).

“Can this be the Son of David?” (Matthew 12:23)

“It is only by Beelzebul the prince of demons, that this man cast out demons” (Matthew 12:24).

“if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you” (12:28).

“the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit” warning (12:31-32).

Jesus clarifies who His real family members are (12:46-50).

“For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.” (12:50)

*“God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness.” (v26)*

It’s important to note that Peter’s encouragements never depart from the whole truth.

*“to you first”* implies there is a second, namely, Gentiles.

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.” Romans 1:16

And we, all believers everywhere, are the beneficiaries of this worldwide missionary imperative:

*‘And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.’ (v25)*

“The Parable of the Wedding Feast” Matthew 22:1-10.

*“turning every one of you from your wickedness”*

### **But how does He do that?**

- † It is the irresistible magnetism of His love for us that floods our hearts and washes away the filth.
- † It is having the veil removed from our eyes and being captivated by the pure, undiminished beauty of His face.
- † It is the sound of His gentle voice calling us by name for as long as it takes to draw us near.
- † It is the unvarnished Truth that He speaks that convinces us.
- † It is the influence of His cross and the forgiveness it offers that beckons us.
- † It is the expulsive power of a new affection rising in us that compels us to shed our sins.
- † It is His kindness, His goodness toward us that leads us to *repent and turn back* to Him.

Peter is arrested: Acts 4:1-3

*“But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.” Acts 4:4*