

CHAPTER 25.5

ACTS

“THE SERVANT”
Acts 3:1-26
January 8, 2017

- I. Give people Jesus! (1-11)
 - A. They gave Jesus to the man.
 - 1. Jesus heals both body and soul.
 - 2. The impact of a completely transformed life is powerful! (9-11)
 - B. Peter gave Jesus to the crowd! (12-15)
 - The glorified Servant.
 - Holy (14), Righteous One (14), Author of Life (15),
Christ/Messiah (18), Jesus (21),
Offspring/seed of Abraham (25)
- II. Two Responses (16-23)
 - A. Faith (16-21)
 - Two steps of faith:
 - Step 1: Repent
 - Step 2: Forgiven
 - Two results of faith:
 - Result 1: Refreshing
 - Result 2: Restoring
 - B. Refusal to Listen (22-23)
- III. Blessing (24-26)
 - ... the kindness of God towards us.
 - A. Jews first. (26)
 - Romans 1:16
 - B. All the families of the earth. (25)
 - Genesis 12:3

How does this apply to me?

NEXT WEEK

“POWER OF THE NAME”
Acts 4:1-22

Passage Overview:

Although just a few weeks earlier, the disciples had been terrified as they hid from the authorities, the arrival of the Holy Spirit had changed everything. Now, the disciples’ worldview and personal identity was completely wrapped up Jesus. Interestingly, the Holy Spirit’s arrival hadn’t shifted their focus to wanting more and more of the Spirit’s miraculous power. They weren’t suddenly Holy Spirit centric in their teaching and preaching. They were Spirit indwelt and empowered, but their minds, lives and words were “in Jesus”.

This is what Jesus had promised when he said, “When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.” (John 16:12–15)

Peter and John healed in Jesus’ name, preached in His name, taught in His name, and spoke in His name. Their identity was fully in Jesus. Their words were about Jesus. Even when threatened by authorities, they could not and would not live or speak any other way.

We too live in a world that tells us to keep what we believe to ourselves. We are told it is fine to believe in Jesus, just don’t try to convince anyone else to do so. Our culture tells us not to “push” our beliefs on others even while that same culture relentlessly thrusts its belief patterns on us.

As you read this week, ask yourself if your identity is completely “in Jesus”. Can you carry on a conversation without mentioning His name? Do you find yourself trying to accomplish your goals, not His? Do you do things because you can, or because He can? Is your worldview “in Jesus”?

Reading for Next Week: Acts 4:1-22