

THE MASTERCRAFT:

“THE BEAUTIFUL GATE”

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THE BEAUTIFUL GATE

TEXT ACTS 3: 1- 16; 4:4

ACTS 3: “¹one day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. ² a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the **temple gate called beautiful**, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. ³ when he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money.

⁴Peter looked straight at him, as did John. then Peter said, “look at us!” ⁵ so the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. ⁶ then Peter said, “silver or gold i do not have, but what i do have I give you. in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” ⁷ taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. ⁸ he jumped to his feet and began to walk. then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God.”

Peter noticed and looked strainght at him because Peter was alart in the Spirit.

⁹ When all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰ they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Acts 4:4 “Many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.”

Double miracle: Miracle of Healing and Salvation for many

Brethren, what happened to this man presents a big lesson for us.

First this temple had always existed and none of its gates was officially called “the beautiful gate.”

But Apostle Luke (who wrote the book of Acts) must have used this term in his account because it signified the nature of the miracle that occurred here. It was beautiful - Something beautiful was about to happen to this man.

“The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.”

Our body is the temple of the Holy Ghost. Similar to every temple, our temple has gates. None of these gates can be described as beautiful gate unless it positions itself for miracle.

For the temple in Jerusalem, the lame man had always sat at that door. People have always entered the temple – but they so in ordinary way and as ordinary people.

After the Pentecost, Peter and John having received the Holy Spirit had been transformed from ordinary people to “people with the word and power of God.”

Now they are to pass through the ordinary gate and the man again came to the gate to beg. God in His infinite power decided that the passage will become the greatest miracle in Jerusalem.

God who changed Peter & John from ordinary to extra-ordinary decided to change the ordinary gate to “beautiful gate” and give miraculous healing to the beggar and salvation to many people.

As the temple of the Holy Ghost,

1. We are no longer ordinary

Peter and John were once ordinary but that changed with the power of the Holy Ghost coming into them on the day of Pentecost.

2. The ordinary things, gates, ground you stand, things you touch, words you speak etc., which we are used to - have seen, walked on, etc. - could change suddenly at any moment of miracle to become “beautiful” and result in miracle.

This is why bible tells us to be “**alert**” because things can happen very quickly.

3. Bible did not record that Peter and John previous prayed for the beggar and were, therefore, expecting healing.

Instead, having been filled with the Holy Ghost, they knew they are carrying power, which could be used by God at any time.

- Jesus did not set out to perform many of the miracles He performed but He was ready with His power at anytime and God positioned the miracles and they happened.

Mark 13: 32-33 says “No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 33Be on your guard and stay alert! For you do not know when the appointed time will come.

1 Thessalonians 5:19

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not treat prophecies (revelations you received) with contempt (disregard) ²¹ but test them all; hold on to what is good, ²² reject every kind of evil.

Exodus 3 tells us the story of Moses and the Burning Bush and how God brought miracle in the ordinary bush that has always been.

3 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

² There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. ³ So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”

⁴ When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”

⁵ “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.”

⁷ The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering.

⁸ **So I have come down to rescue them** from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ... ⁹ And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰ So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

Brethren, same road/ground that Moses has always travelled while tendering his flock. On the day of miracle, God changed it to a “holy ground.”

Moses did not expect it but thank God he was sensitive and alert in the spirit to see it.

Joshua 5 gives account of “The Fall of Jericho”

¹³ Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, “Are you for us or for our enemies?”

¹⁴ “Neither,” he replied, “but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.” Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, “What message does my Lord have for his servant?”

¹⁵ The commander of the LORD’s army replied, “**Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy.**” And Joshua did so.

Brethren this was again a ground that had always been ordinary. But now that God wants to do His miracle it is changed to a “Holy Ground”.

In conclusion, God’s miracle can occur anywhere and anytime. We need to ensure that we are prepared, are alert, expectant and sensitive to the Spirit so we catch it. The beautiful gate is a place and moment of miracle. Let us be prepared for it.

GOD BLESS YOU!