

**Series "God At Work" Book Of Acts**  
**"Extension Of God"**  
**Acts 9:32-43**  
**Study-18**

**John 14:12**

**Luke, the Author of the Book of Acts, describes God's power in the believers over the period of 38-40 years.**

**The Believer Is An Extension Of God!**

**Acts 9:32-43** contains a Descriptive account of Peter's healing ministry immediately following Saul's departure to Tarsus. Healing in Scripture was always for the primary purpose of witnessing to the divine and leading to salvation.

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "The Believer Is An Extension, An Instrument Of God For Healing, Life, And The Witness To Eternal Life."

**1. Verses 32-35 The Lame**

**2. Verses 36-43 The Dead**

**1. Verses 32-35 The Lame:**

**Acts 9:32 Now as... Context** – Our studies left off with the conversion of Saul/Paul. He was having such an impact that the religious leaders in Jerusalem decided to kill him. **Acts 9:30-31**

**Peter was traveling** note the abrupt transition from Paul now to Peter. We return to Peter. Paul is going to take the lead in **Acts 13** and carry the remainder of the book.

Jesus had said to Peter: **Matthew 16:19 "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven;** the term "**keys**" symbolizes "*authority, the authority to open and close doors.*"

Peter was given the privilege first of opening "*the door of salvation through faith*" to the Jews at Pentecost (**Acts 2**), to the Samaritans (**Acts 8:14**), and next to the Gentiles (**Acts 10**). But the other Apostles shared this authority (**Matthew 18:18**)

**Acts 15:7**

Paul had the privilege of "**Opening The Door Of Faith**" To The Gentiles Outside Of Israel. **Acts 14:27**

**through all those regions,** would be **Judea and Galilee and Samaria.** We last saw Peter at Samaria in **Acts 8:24.** He came to minister to the Samaritans.

**Lydda** – Today is called "*Lod*" or *Ludd.*" The area of the *Tel Aviv Airport.* This is interesting because this area was predominantly a Gentile area. About 23 miles North-West of Jerusalem. About 12 miles South-East of Joppa.

**God is in the Process of Stretching and Changing Peter.**

**Acts 9:33** he found a man named **Aeneas,** he is an Israelite.

**who had been bedridden eight years, for he was paralyzed.** He is limited to a bed.

**Paralysis** - symbolizes the outcome of sin. Sin paralyzes us and keeps us from walking and living. (*We may want to move and do the right things, but no power to perform!*) (**Romans 7**)

**Acts 9:34 Peter Was Available To Jesus: Peter said to him,** God has used Peter and the other apostles, but He has been using others as well.  
**Acts 6-8**

**The Miracle Was The Result Of The Power Of Jesus: "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you;** This is so obvious to us that it is Jesus and Jesus alone who heals.

**Peter Followed Jesus' Example: get up and make your bed."**  
**Immediately, he got up.**

similar account of Jesus with the lame man at Capernaum in **Matthew 9:6-7**

**get up and make your bed."** This was a physical healing, but has a great spiritual application.

**Acts 9:35 And all who lived at Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.** Knowing the man, as in (**Acts 3**), brought about a testimony for the Lord.

**Lydda and Sharon** This was the coastal plain. From Joppa to Caesarea.

**The Miracle Brought Glory And Faith In God: and they turned to the Lord.** "*to turn around to the Lord.*"

**Matthew 9:8**

## **2. Verses 36-43 The Dead:**

**Acts 9:36 Joppa** – “*Beautiful*” today this city is called *Jaffa*. It is a very nice town on the Mediterranean about 12 miles North-West of Lydda and about 35 miles northwest of Jerusalem.

**there was a certain disciple named Tabitha (which translated in Greek is called Dorcas); Tabitha** is her Aramaic name and **Dorcas** is her name in Greek. Both of these names mean *gazelle*.

**We don't have anything recorded as to what Tabitha said but we know a lot about what Tabitha did.**

**Romans 16:12**

**We can learn 3 things about her:**

**1. She Was A Disciple Of Jesus: there was a certain disciple named Tabitha** – She is known as a **disciple** – or follower of Jesus. “*A follower of the teacher and His teaching*” *A disciple was a learner, a follower and one who was determined to be like his or her teacher.* **Luke 6:40; Matthew 9:36**

**2. She Was A Faithful/Fruitful Servant Of Jesus: this woman was abounding with deeds of kindness** - This phrase literally means that she was “*full of good works.*”

**More people filled with words than there are people filled with works? Galatians 6:10**

**1 Timothy 2:9-10**

**3. She Had A Heart Of Compassion: and charity,** “*compassionateness as exercised towards the poor.*” She always did good and had a heart to help.

She's a picture of the **Proverbs 31** woman. **Proverbs 31:19-20**

**It was small acts of kindness that is used to comfort and evangelize: Matthew 5:16**

**The Principle: Small Things Done With Great Love Can Bring Glory To God.**

**which she continually did. Consistency is the mark of maturity in a child of God.**

**Acts 9:37** And it happened at that time that **she fell sick and died;**

**and when they had washed her body, they laid it in an upper room.**  
When a person died, there was not a large window of time.

**Acts 9:38 Since Lydda was near Joppa** it is 10-12 miles away. About three hours by foot.

**Acts 9:39 "tunics and garments"** in the original language refers to both their *undergarments and their outerwear* – Tabitha had made everything they were wearing.

**Acts 9:40 Miracle Was Through Jesus' Power: But Peter sent them all out and knelt down and prayed.**

**Peter Followed Jesus' Example:** Peter, no doubt remembers **Mark 5:41**

**And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up.**

**This is the first mention of a person in Acts being raised from the dead!** The Bible records no less than **10 Accounts**

**Ephesians 2:8-10**

**Acts 9:41 he presented her alive.**

**Acts 9:42 Miracles always magnify God and work to spread the good news of His glory.**

**It became known all over Joppa,**

**The Miracle Brought Glory To God: and many believed in the Lord.**

**Acts 9:43 tanner, Simon.** A tanner worked with animals that were considered unclean.

**This will lead us into Acts 10, where Peter will be forced to accept God's plan.**

### **Application:**

1. Jesus Is Our Example To Follow:
2. Make Ourselves Available To Jesus For His Use:
3. God Desires To Use Us, But The Power Is Always From God:
4. God's Power Should Bring Him Glory, And Salvation To Others: