

Still Called, Still Sent (3)

Hope for the Weary

Text: Acts 3:1–10

Introduction: Life has a way of wearing us down doesn't it? (Someone joked that the "golden years" are named for all the gold we spend at the doctor!) Many of us can relate – waking up with new aches, feeling our strength isn't what it used to be.

But there is good news! God can still raise up what feels worn down — He delights in restoring joy and strength to the weary.

I. Worn down at the beautiful gate: (Acts 3:1–3)

A. We see two consecrated men – Set a part for God (Peter and John) going to the temple

B. One crippled man – Here a man worn down by life.

Scene of contrast: Peter and John, and a man crippled from birth, begging daily at the temple gate called Beautiful.

1. *The crippled man is a picture of weariness:* A life of dependency and discouragement. (If you feel your strength is fading as time goes by, you're in good company. Psalm 73:26; Isaiah 46:4).
2. *Like the lame man, we too can feel stuck and weary.* You may feel worn out, but you are never cast out! *God's faithfulness remains.*

II. Raised up by God's power: (Acts 3:4–7)

A. The beggar's action – He calls out to for alms (Money)

B. The Apostle's reaction - Peter and John stop and give attention to the man, offering not silver or gold but healing in Jesus' name.

1. The man gets far more than what he asked for.
2. Rather than money, he received a miracle: Immediate strength and restoration in Jesus name.
3. This is a great reminder our help comes from the Lord! (Psalm 121:1-2; Isaiah 40:29-31).

God's power is available for our inner renewal daily, even if physical healing is not immediate. (2 Corinthians 4:16)

Peter's words and God's power were witness that raised the lame man to his feet. But God's gift didn't stop at physical ability – It overflowed into joy and purpose and worship!

III. Walking and leaping in joy: (Acts 3:8–10)

A. The worship of the cripple - The healed man leaps, walks, and praises God. His joy becomes a testimony.

B. The wonder of the crowd – (v.10) The crippled man received the miracle, but the people were also impacted by this man's passionate praise!

1. In the same way, your family, friends, and neighbors can see God's reality through your joy in the Lord, even in your older age. (Psalm 92:14; Psalm 71:18).
2. Our praise and testimony, especially in older age, inspire others and glorify God. (*You might not physically jump like this man did, but your spirit can leap with hope and gratitude daily!*)
3. When God renews our strength (physically and or spiritually), it's not for our comfort, but so we can serve His purpose.

Practical Takeaways for the weary

- Draw Near to God Daily (Matthew 11:28-30)
- Lean on God's Promises (Isaiah 40:31; Psalm 73:26)
- Stay Connected and Serve in New Ways (Acts 3:8)
- Celebrate Small Victories (Philippians 4:4; 2 Corinthians 4:16)

Conclusion: Life has a way of wearing us down doesn't it?

- God can still raise up what feels worn down.
- You are still called, still sent, and still empowered by His Spirit.
- Let God refresh you and use your life as a testimony of His restoring grace.