

## Acts 3:11–26 — Seeing Jesus for Who He Truly Is

### Opening Thought

After the miracle, the crowd gathers in amazement...

- ...but Peter doesn't focus on the miracle.
- Instead he points them to Jesus...
  - and he does it by using **very specific names and titles**.
- They are confrontational... direct... they aren't up for interpretation..
  - They are meant to show us exactly who Jesus is.

### 1. “The Holy and Righteous One” (Acts 3:13–14)

**Acts 3:13–14 – “The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you,”**

#### Peter calls Jesus:

- **The Holy and Righteous One**

#### What does this mean?

These are not titles used lightly in Scripture.

- *Holy* → completely set apart, without sin
- *Righteous* → perfectly just, perfectly pure
- *The “HOLY ONE” is a title used frequently in scripture for YAHWEH*

#### Let this sink in:

The people rejected the only truly righteous man who ever lived.

#### Reflection:

- Do I see Jesus as morally perfect... or just “good”?
- Do I understand the weight of rejecting Him?

### 2. “The Author of Life” (Acts 3:15)

**Acts 3:15 - “and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.”**

## **This is one of the most powerful titles in the Bible**

**“Author of life”** means:

- the source of life
- the origin of life
- the giver of life

### **Connect Scripture**

- John 1:1–4 → “In Him was life...”
- Colossians 1:16–17 → All things created through Him
- Hebrews 1:2–3 → He upholds all things

**What Peter is saying:**

Jesus is not just alive. He is the One who gives life to everything.

**Implications::**

The One they killed... is the One who created them.

**Reflection:**

- Is my view of Jesus too small?
- Do I relate to Him as the source of my life?

### **3. The Cross — Not an Accident (Acts 3:17–18)**

**Acts 3:17–18 - ““And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled.”**

**Peter holds two truths together:**

- They were responsible
- God was fulfilling His plan

**Key Insight:**

The suffering of Christ was foretold by all the prophets.

**Example:**

- Isaiah 53

- Psalm 22

### Truth:

God cannot be outmaneuvered, not even by human sin.

### Reflection:

- Do I trust God even when things don't make sense?

## 4. "The Prophet Like Moses" (Acts 3:22–24)

**Acts 3:22–24 - "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. And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.' And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days."**

**Deuteronomy 18:15 - "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—"**

### What were the people expecting?

By the time of Jesus, people were asking:

- "Are you the Christ?"
- "Are you Elijah?"
- "Are you *the Prophet*?" (John 1)

### Why was this important?

**Because Moses had said:**

God would raise up a prophet **like him**

### What made Moses unique?

It wasn't just that he spoke for God.

Moses **mediated a covenant** between God and His people.

- He brought the Law
- He stood between God and Israel

### Now see Jesus clearly

## Jesus is:

- a prophet
- but more than a prophet

## What makes Him “like Moses”?

He establishes a covenant... but not like the old one

### Hebrews 8 and 9

He establishes a **new covenant in His own blood**

## Key Truth:

- Moses → covenant written on stone
- Jesus → covenant written through His sacrifice

## Why this matters

There is no need for another prophet or another covenant after Jesus... **EVER**

## Jesus:

- fulfilled the Law
- fulfilled the prophets
- completed God’s revelation

## Remember what Jesus said on the cross?:

***“It is finished.”***

## Reflection:

- Do I see Jesus as the final authority?
- Or am I still looking for something more?
- How does this truth speak to other faith systems that rely on later prophets and covenants?

## 5. The Promise to Abraham (Acts 3:25–26)

**Acts 3:25–26 - “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.’ God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness.”**

**The Promise:**

- Genesis 12

**What does Peter say?**

Jesus is the “offspring” through whom all nations are blessed

**What is the blessing?**

***“Turning you from your wickedness”***

**Key Insight:**

God’s greatest blessing is not external - it is transformation.

**Reflection:**

- Do I want God’s help... or do you want God’s transformation?

**6. Step Back: What Do We See?**

**Peter’s message reveals:**

- Who Jesus is
- What humanity has done
- What God has accomplished
- What we must do
  - What must we do?

**Final Truth”**

Jesus is not one option among many. He is the fulfillment of everything God has promised.

**Closing Reflection**

**Take a moment:**

- Do I truly see Jesus for who He is?
- Have I responded to Him fully?
- Am I trusting Him as the source of my life?

The One who is the Author of life is the One who calls you into life.