

# Something Better than Gold<sup>1</sup>

Acts 3:1-11

## Introduction:

- A. Like Peter and John, we may pass people with need for help on the way to church.
- B. Like Peter and John, we have the spiritual resources to meet man's deepest need.
- C. Peter and John give us three simple rules of sharing as Christians:

## Discussion:

### I. They Gave What They Had (v. 6).

- A. This was all they *could* do.
  - 1. Their Lord was poor - yet rich (Cf. Matt. 8:20; 17:27).
  - 2. They had left all to follow Him (Lk. 18:28-30).
  - 3. Yet, they had really lacked nothing (Lk. 22:35).
  - 4. Do not have to have money to have something to share.
- B. This was no more than they *should* do.
  - 1. Had been given much, should give much (Matt. 10:8; Lk 12:48).
    - a. Not only harmless, blameless, but shine as lights (Phil. 2:15).
    - b. Must do more than refrain from evil, must do good (Jas. 4:17; Gal. 6:10).
  - 2. Cannot sit on our blessings, must return to the Lord *with interest* (Matt. 25:27).

### II. They Gave it in The Name of Christ (v. 6).

- A. Herein lies the merit of their gift.
  - 1. Things small or great rewarded if done in his name and for his sake (Mk. 9:41; 10:29).
  - 2. Giving and service that leaves the Lord out has little merit. (Matt. 6:1-4).
- B. Herein lies the power of their gift.
  - 1. Had authority or power from Christ to do the miracle "in the name of Jesus"(cf. Luke 10:17).
  - 2. Every things we do in religion must be "in His name" – by his authority. (Col. 3:17)
  - 3. To falsely claim to work "in His name" brings condemnation (Matt. 7:22-23).

### III. They Gave Something Far Better than Silver and Gold (vv. 8-11).

- A. Material and physical things are soon spent.
  - 1. If parents give best child care without spiritual care – a failure.
  - 2. If we should give food, clothing, shelter, medical care for all poor of world -- but not gospel.
  - 3. If take every filthy drunk clean him up, get him a job – but not gospel.
- B. Gospel does what silver and gold could never do.
  - 1. The gospel can save on now and for eternity. (Rom. 1:16; Heb. 7:25).
  - 2. The gospel was the real purpose behind this miracle (vv. 10-21)

## Conclusion:

- A. Peter and John shared what they had.
- B. They did it in the name of the Lord.
- C. They gave something better than gold.
- D. You can have something better than gold today:
  - 1. Obey the gospel.
  - 2. Be restored.

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from a sermon by this title in "Sermons Preached without Notes" by Charles Koller.