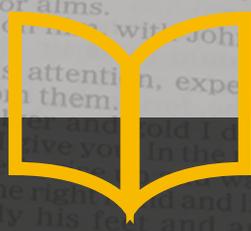


A Lame Man Healed

3 Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.
 2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms from those who entered the temple;
 3 who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms.
 4 And fixing his eyes on them, Peter said, "Look at us."
 5 So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them.
 6 Then Peter said, "Simeon and Judas, brother of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, rise up, and walk. And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.
 8 So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping, and praising God.
 10 Then they knew that it was he who sat begging alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with amazement and wonder, saying, "What sign or power is this that he does through the name of Jesus the son of Joseph, who was crucified, raised up, and seated at the right hand of God, and he is the author of life and resurrection of the dead, whom all the people of Israel are waiting for to be glorified?"



**UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE:
 10 VALUABLE
 QUESTIONS TO
 ASK ABOUT
 EVERY PASSAGE**

11 Now as the lame man who was healed held on to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them, because they were amazed at this. Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?
 13 "The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go.
 15 "And killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.
 16 "And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.
 17 "Yet now, brethren, I know that you did it in ignorance, as did also your rulers.
 18 "But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His prophets, that the Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled.
 19 "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,
 20 "and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before,"
 21 "whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since

like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you.
 23 "And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people."
 24 "Yes, and all the prophets, from Samuel and those who follow, as many as have spoken in the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed I will bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.'
 25 "You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed I will bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.'
 26 "To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities."

Peter and John Arrested

4 Now as they spoke to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,
 2 being grieved that they taught the people, and were saying that Jesus the resurrected was to reign over Israel.
 4 Now Peter, answering them, said, "Brethren, why do you marvel at this, or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?
 5 And it came to pass, that when they had seen Peter and John, who were standing and talking to the people, they asked, "By what power or by what name do you do this?"
 7 "And when they had seen them in custody until the next day, and they were gathered together at Jerusalem, the high priest, Caiaphas, and the scribes, and the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.
 7 "And when they had seen Peter and John, who were standing and talking to the people, they asked, "By what power or by what name do you do this?"
 9 "If we this day are judged for a good deed, in that we have not denied Him, by what means will we save our lives?"
 11 "This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief stone.'
 12 "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven among men by which we must be saved, except the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."
 13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled, and realized that they had been with Jesus.
 14 And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.
 15 But when they had commanded them to go away from the temple, they said, "We will not hear you, but we will hear God."

Addressing the Sanhedrin

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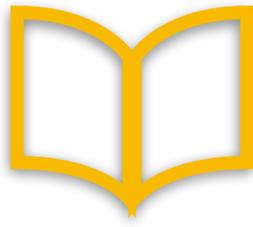
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sets up the message. we are
 asks questions
 faith required



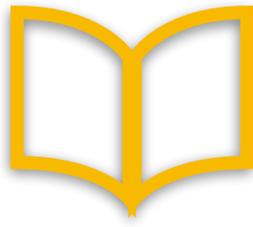
CONGRATULATIONS!

If you are reading this it means you want to learn more about God's Word, the Bible. The Bible is unlike any other book because it is God's revelation to us. It is His great story of redemption, of rescue, of how He reached out to sinful man and made a way to salvation.

The Bible contains timeless truths that gives us everything we need for life and godliness. I pray that these questions help you mine the treasure that is called the Bible.

about Jesus,

Pat Sieler



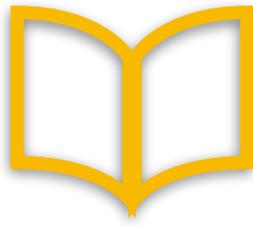
1. WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TEACH ME ABOUT GOD?

Not to over generalize, but in reality, every passage, directly or indirectly, is about God. The Bible is God’s revelation to man. In its pages, we have everything God wants us to know. Therefore, don’t rush, but spend some thoughtful moments in answering this question.

It’s always a good idea, though, to check your conclusions (especially if you are unsure) with a well-respected, solid Bible teacher or commentary. I like to use those found on blueletterbible.com.

2. WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TEACH ME ABOUT MAN?

The Bible is the story of God’s relationship to man—specifically His rescue plan. It is the story of God reaching out to rescue His creation. In its pages, we see our weakness, our vulnerability, and our value. With an open heart, allow the Lord to reveal truth about you through the mirror of the Bible.

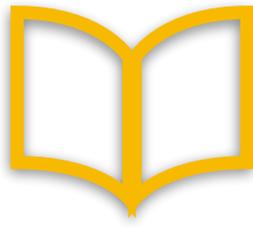


3. WHAT TYPE OF LITERARY GENRE IS THIS PASSAGE?

Is it a narrative, Hebrew poetry, letter or prophecy? Each needs to be interpreted accordingly. You also need to pay attention to any literary devices the author may be using such as figures of speech, hyperbole, or simile. Understanding the intention of the author, or what Bible scholars call “authorial intent”, is critical in order to arrive at the correct interpretation

4. ARE THERE ANY DIFFICULT WORDS OR CONCEPTS IN THIS PASSAGE?

As you read, mark any key words or major concepts that you might not completely understand. You’ll need to take note of them and look them up in a good Bible dictionary.



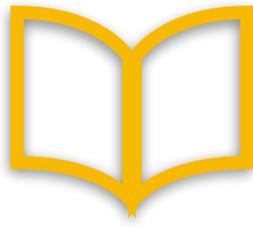
5. WHAT IS THE “FALLEN CONDITION FOCUS”? WHY WAS THIS PASSAGE ORIGINALLY WRITTEN?

This is a big question that can really shed a lot of light on any given section of Scripture.

“Fallen Condition Focus” is a term I learned from Bryan Chapell in his Christ-Centered Preaching Course. It describes the reason why a given passage was written.

Everything in the Bible was written to people who were fallen. What “fallen condition” does the passage in question address? Jealousy, idolatry, unforgiveness, love, generosity, etc?

Once you know the fallen condition focus, you are well on your way to discovering God’s message to you through the passage.

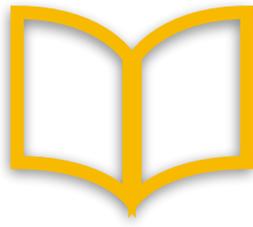


6. WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN COMMON WITH THE ORIGINAL READERS/HEARERS OF THIS PASSAGE?

This question goes hand in hands with the preceding one. Once we know the fallen condition focus of a passage, we can draw a line to our current culture and condition and begin to apply a passage to our lives.

7. ARE THERE ANY REPEATED WORDS OR PHRASES?

I like to use colored pencils and highlight repeated words and phrases in my paper bible. Here's a suggestion: try printing out a chapter (or several), double-spaced, and then highlight any related words or concepts in different colours. Try this with Psalm 107!



8. WHAT IS THE LARGER CONTEXT OF THIS PASSAGE?

Remember the phrase “Context is king!” You want to ask questions like, “What do the surrounding verses say? What about the theme of the chapter? The book?”

This question is key to staying on track with your Bible study. You are not going to discover some hidden meaning that has never been seen! This question helps you not to go off on bad interpretations that could lead to false teaching.

9. WHAT STANDS OUT TO ME IN THIS PASSAGE? WHAT REALLY IMPRESSED ME?

This is the heart of Bible reading and study. We want to discover what the Holy Spirit is speaking to us. We want to use wisdom. We look at Scripture, but we also look at our own heart. We should never read the Bible only to get information; we should read it seeking transformation. Always be looking for application.

10. ARE THERE ANY OTHER BIBLE PASSAGES ABOUT THE SAME TOPIC?

After looking at your principal passage, go through three steps to deal with any difficult passages, words, or topics.

First, ask yourself if there are any other Bible passages dealing with the same topic written by the same human author? For example, if you're looking at a word used by Paul in Romans, you should look to see how he uses it in his other letters before you look to see how Peter or John use it.

Second, take a look throughout the same testament (old or new) for parallel passages dealing with the topic you're studying.

Third, look in the other testament to see how the word or concept is being developed or has been used.

REPRODUCIBLE WORKSHEET

Passage:

Date:

1. What does this passage teach me about God?
2. What does this passage teach me about man?
3. What type of literary genre is this passage? Is it a narrative, letter, Hebrew poetry, prophecy?
4. Write down (or mark in your Bible) any difficult words or concepts in this passage?
5. What is the “fallen condition focus”? Why was this passage originally written?
6. What do you have in common with the original readers/hearers of this passage?
7. Are there any repeated words or phrases?
8. What is the larger context of this passage? What do the surrounding verses say? What about the theme of the chapter? The book?

9. What stands out to me in this passage? What really impressed me?

10. Are there any other Biblical passages about the same topic?

- written by the same human author?
- Written in the same testament (Old or New)?
- Written in the other testament? Are there any other passages in the Bible about the same topic?