



Dr. Jack Scott

**Study of Acts:
Chapters 3-5**

We're glad you're here!

The healing of the lame man (3:1-10)

- **A beggar, lame from birth, daily asked for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple.**
- **Peter replied, “I have no silver or gold, but I give you what I have; in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, walk” (3:6).**
- **As a result of this miraculous healing, a crowd gathered and were amazed.**

Peter addresses the crowd (3:11-26)

- **Peter cites the power of God's servant, Jesus, who has "given this man this perfect health in the presence of you all" (3:16).**
- **"You denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked for a murderer to be granted to you and killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead" (3:14, 15).**

Peter cites prophecies to prove his point

- **“Moses said, ‘The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet from your brethren as he raised me up. You will listen to him in whatever he tells you.’” (Deuteronomy 18:15, 19)**
- **God promised Abraham, “And in your posterity shall the families of the earth be blessed.” (Genesis 22:18)**



Peter's call to repentance

- **“Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.” (3:12)**



Pharisees

- **A “near enemy” of Christianity**
- **Often gave a very legalistic interpretation of the law**
- **Believed in the resurrection of the dead**

Sadducees

- **Did not believe in the resurrection**
- **Were the priestly, aristocratic party**
- **Possessed limited power granted by the Roman Empire**
- **Annas and Caiaphas mentioned as high priests**

Arrest and appearance before the Council

- **“The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came upon them, annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.” (4:1-2)**
- **Peter and John were arrested, kept in custody overnight, and then brought before the Council presided over by Annas, the high priest.**
- **Peter boldly proclaims that the lame man was healed by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, “whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead” (4:10).**

Reaction of the Council

- **“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they recognized that they had been with Jesus.” (4:13)**
- **The Council realized that a great miracle had been performed. So they chose to merely threaten Peter and John and ordered them to speak no more in the name of Jesus.**
- **Peter and John stated their refusal to obey this command: “For we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard” (4:20).**

Return to the church

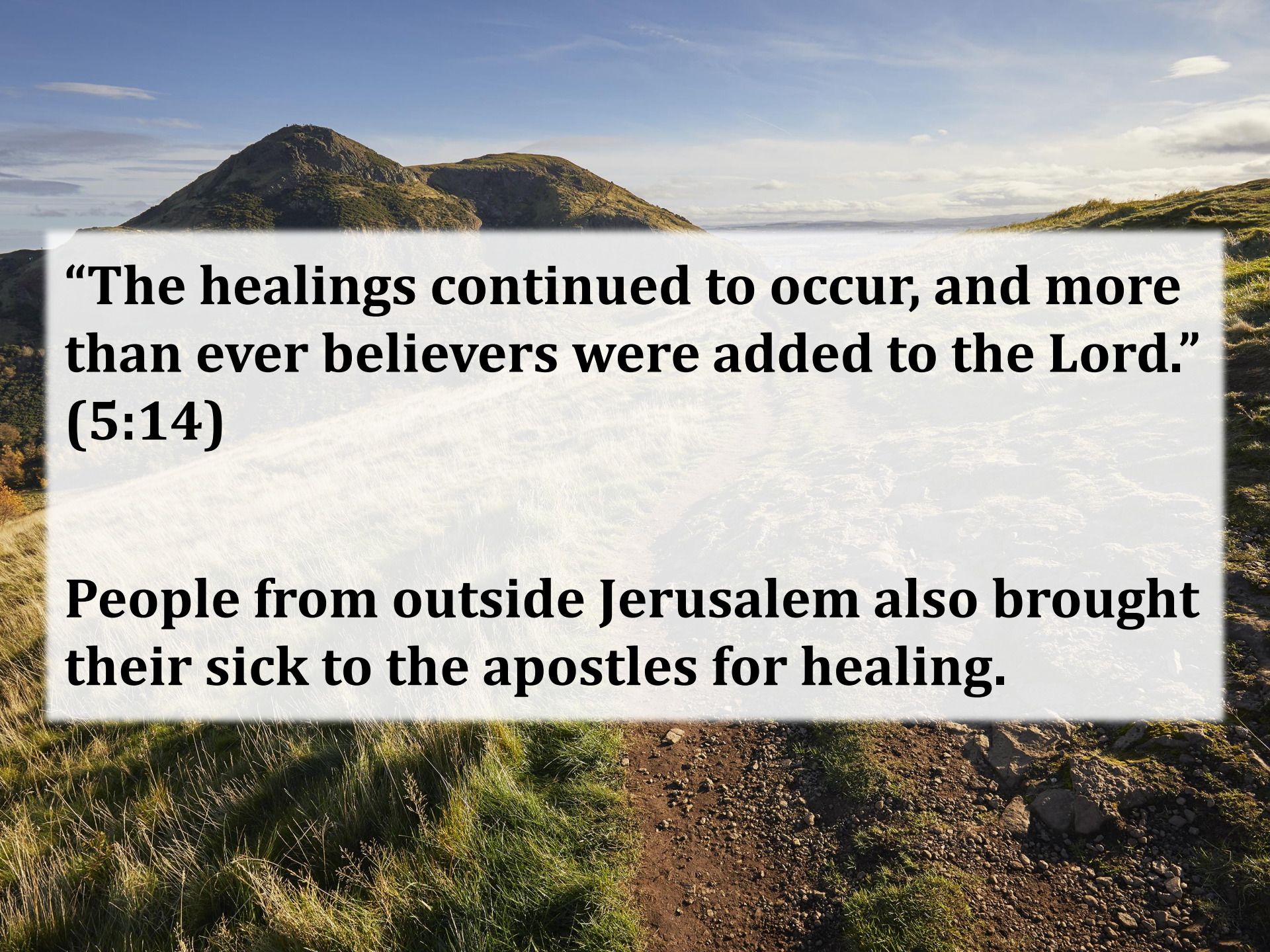
- **A joint prayer occurs. First, they point to a prophecy of David: “The rulers were gathered together against the Lord and against his anointed” (4:26).**
- **They requested that God would “grant to thy servants to speak thy word with all boldness” (4:29).**
- **At the conclusion of the prayer “they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness” (4:31).**

Sharing of goods

- **Once again, the common sharing of goods is described. Those who had land or houses often sold them, and these proceeds were distributed to those in need.**
- **One example was Barnabas, who sold a field and brought the money to the apostles for distribution (4:36, 37).**

The episode of Ananias and Sapphira (5:1-11)

- **This couple sold property and gave only a portion of the money to the church. They then lied publicly that they had given the entirety of the proceeds.**
- **Peter then stated that they had lied to God. He added, “While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal?” (5:4).**
- **Both Ananias and Sapphira fell dead after their deceit was revealed.**
- **“And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard these things.” (5:11)**



**“The healings continued to occur, and more than ever believers were added to the Lord.”
(5:14)**

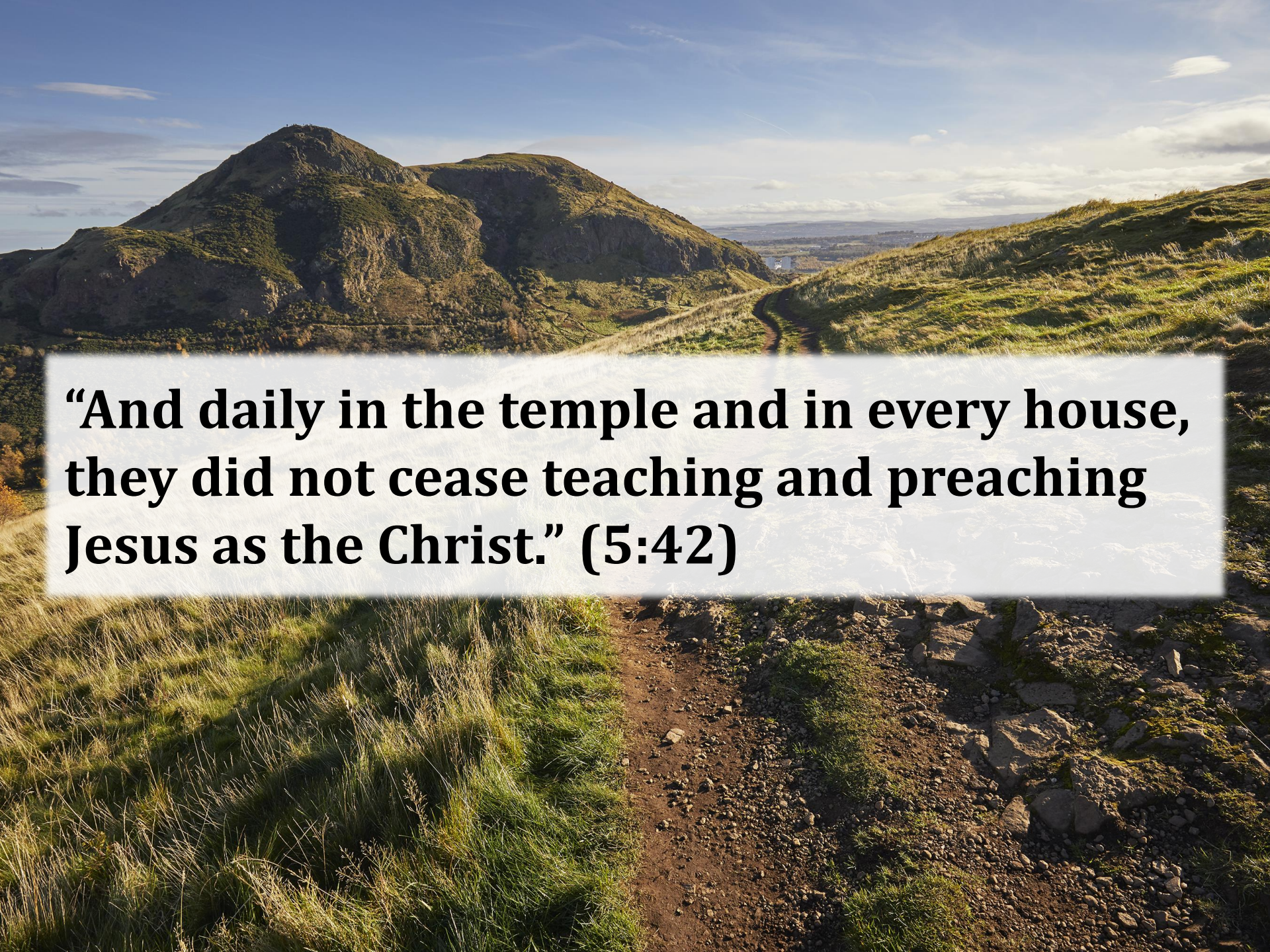
People from outside Jerusalem also brought their sick to the apostles for healing.

The apostles arrested again

- The high priest and his companions are indignant and place the apostles in prison. They are miraculously released but are re-arrested and brought before the Council.**
- The Council remind the apostles they had strictly charged them not to teach in the name of Jesus. The Council added, “You have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine and intend to bring this man’s blood on us!” (5:28).**
- Peter and the other apostles boldly reply, “We must obey God rather than men” (5:29).**

Results of the trial

- **The Council was so enraged that they took counsel to kill the apostles.**
- **However, Gamaliel, a rabbi of great reputation, advised them to go more slowly. He cited examples of two men: Theudas and Judas, who led rebellions that utterly failed. He said if the work of these apostles is of men, it will come to nothing. “But if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it—lest you even be found to fight against God.” (5:39)**
- **The Council took Gamaliel’s advice. They called in the apostles, had them beaten, charged them again not to speak in the name of Jesus, and released them.**



**“And daily in the temple and in every house,
they did not cease teaching and preaching
Jesus as the Christ.” (5:42)**



**Sunday
Mornings
10:00am**

You're always welcome!