

# JESUS, THE PRINCE OF LIFE

## Acts 3:14-15

**Introduction:** Most preachers when first starting out are scared when they go to the pulpit, nervous, edgy, looking at their notes most of the time, forgetting what to say, etc. Peter and the disciples were scared and hid right after Jesus had been crucified. Could this be the same Peter who is now boldly standing before a large crowd and is preaching about Jesus? What had happened to his fear? These were some of the very ones who had helped get Jesus crucified? What did he have to say to these people anyhow?

### I. MAN IS TOTALLY DEPRAVED

1. Jeremiah tells us: *"...The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked..."*
2. Paul later declared *"...The carnal mind is enmity against God..."*
3. The degree/measure of human wickedness, sin, depravity is revealed in what people did to God's Son, Jesus Christ.

### II. GOD IS HOLY AND JUST

1. God poured out all His wrath upon His own Son, Jesus, to satisfy His infinite justice.
2. God is just and the Justifier of all who trust in His Son, Jesus.

### III. THE CONDESCENSION OF JESUS CHRIST

1. Jesus is the Prince of Life who stooped to die.
2. Jesus is Lord of all who humbled Himself to die by the hands of evil, wicked people.
3. Jesus who gives and sustains life was killed by people who lived by His own goodness.
4. Because Jesus saved others, He WOULD not and COULD not save Himself.

### IV. THE FOOLISHNESS OF REBELLION

1. Any and all rebellion against the Lord Jesus Christ is insane - foolish.
2. The very Jesus Christ whom man rebels against is the very same Jesus Christ to whom he/she will bow to and acknowledge as Lord.

## **V. THE GLORIOUS TRIUMPH OF JESUS CHRIST**

1. God the Father raised Jesus from the dead.
2. Jesus resumed His life triumphantly.
3. Jesus Christ was declared to be the Son of God with power.
4. Jesus' resurrection declared that Satan is defeated.
5. The sins of believers have been put away.
6. Believers are justified.
7. Believers shall also be raised from the dead when Jesus returns.

## **VI. THE CREDIBILITY OF THE GOSPEL**

1. It is the Word and Revelation of God.
2. Peter and many others were witnesses of the events surrounding Jesus Christ and His resurrection.

## **VII. JESUS CHRIST IS QUALIFIED TO WEAR THE TITLE "THE PRINCE OF LIFE"**

1. It belonged to Him before He was crucified.
2. It belonged to Him when He was in the tomb.
3. Now risen from the dead and living to make intercession for us, the Lord Jesus fully possess all that is implied in this title:
  - He is Author of life - all life proceeds from Him, both physical and spiritual.
  - Jesus Christ possesses life supremely - apart from Him there is no life.
  - Jesus won for people the right to live - He abolished death.
  - Jesus Christ freely gives life to dead sinners - He always triumphed over death.
  - Jesus Christ marvelously sustains life - by His grace, His word, His presence.
  - The Prince of Life is the Ruler of Life - Where Jesus Christ lives, He reigns.

## **CONCLUSION:**

1. What changed Peter from being afraid to being so bold? Could the same thing happen to any of us?
2. The words of Peter to those who were so amazed at the healing of the crippled man are full of doctrine well suited for every Christian to study today.
3. Jesus is truly "THE PRINCE OF LIFE"