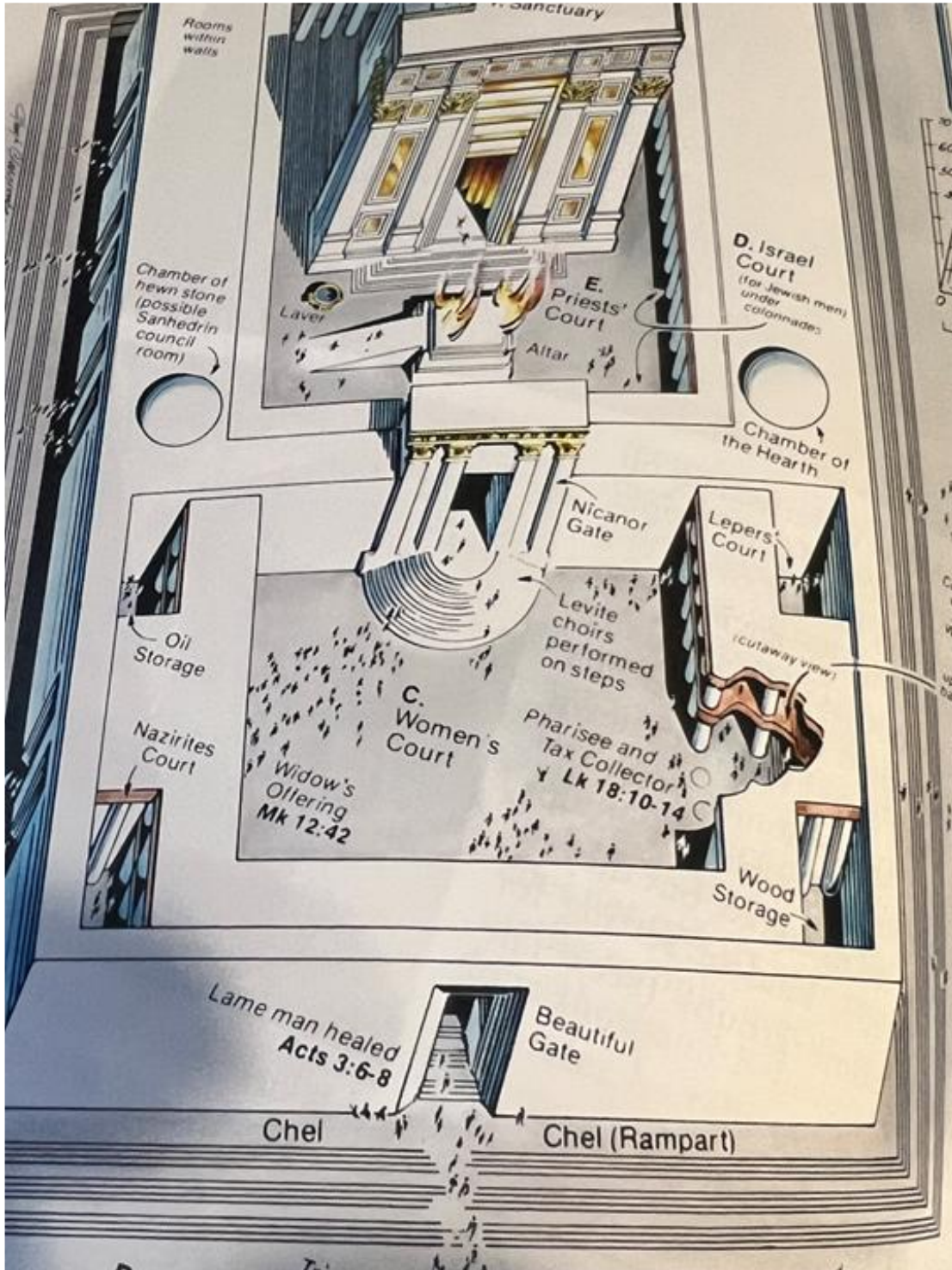


Acts 3:1-10 - Miracle Evangelism - 1/8/2023

Review: 3000 Saved / Devoted to Teaching-Fellowship-Breaking Bread-Prayer



Peter and John going to prayer (3:1)

Levites: daily sacrifice & prayer at 3pm (the 9th hour) (Numbers 28:1-8)
Peter and John participated in that daily Temple ritual (Covenant transition)

A Meeting at the Beautiful Gate (3:2-3)

The Beautiful Gate (Nicanor) = main entrance into the Temple Courtyard
Beautiful Gate: 45'x45' covered in thick Corinthian Bronze
Man born lame laid at the gate to ask for alms (4:22 - over 40 years old)
Considered most virtuous to give in that location / advantageous spot
He targeted Peter & John and beseeched them for a charity donation

Miracle Evangelism (3:4-10)

Peter directed his gaze at him (he did not look away) / Look at us!
I have no silver or gold:
In the Name... rise up and walk (Peter does not pray but declares)
Peter took his right hand & raised him up
Immediately his feet & ankles were made strong
Standing / walking / leaping (Isaiah 35:6)
He entered the Temple (likely his first time)
2nd great evangelism moment in Acts (4:4 - 5000) & 1st Apostle miracle
God again used a miracle to draw the crowd (like Pentecost)
How churches lean on other things to draw crowds

Miracles: Real Vs. Fake

I believe God did, does, and will do miracles (but I have never seen one)
But the church is often confused with 3 issues:
Some deny the possibility of any miracles after the 1st Century
Some claim events are miracles when they are not
Some purposefully fake miracles to take advantage of the naïve
Benny Hinn:
Bethel:
John 14:12 / 1 Cor 12:10, 28-29 / 2 Cor 12:12 / Acts 2:43 / Matt 24:24
Consider the Biblical pattern: Moses / Elijah & Elisha / Jesus / Apostles
God still does miracles but don't expect the same pattern with us
But: we should lean on the Lord to draw each soul that responds (John 6:44)

Application For Today:

Consider: Peter's willingness to interrupt his day to represent the Lord
Discern: the distinction between real and fake miracles (Don't settle)
Watch: for the Lord's work to signal an evangelism moment