

## COMMENTS/QUESTIONS ON THE LESSONS FOR APRIL 14, 2024

### Acts 3:12-19

- Peter's speech is in response to the healing of the lame man at the Beautiful Gate. As others wonder what has happened, Peter explains that this has happened because God raised Jesus from the dead. In other words, the new life that came forth from the resurrection is at work now, healing this lame man.
- Verse 19 is not even the end of a sentence. Although Peter's speech continues through verse 26, it is important that we at least hear the end of the sentence that ***begins*** at verse 19:  
"Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah appointed for you, that is, Jesus, who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets."  
Considering the context of the lame man's healing, Peter is saying that the lame man represents what happens to us: his infirmity (our sin) is wiped out. He walks as a time of refreshing. as do we who are set right. He is made whole as we are – a sign of the universal restoration that is to come.
- Only here in verse 15 is a Greek word translated as "author" when Jesus is referred to as "the author of life." Elsewhere, it is translated as "leader/prince" (Acts 5:31) and "pioneer" (Hebrews 2:10; 12:2). Two other translations that are closer to its meaning are the Contemporary English Version ("and you killed the one who leads people to life") and the Amplified Bible ("But you killed the very Source (the Author) of life"). What difference does this change in wording make?

### Psalm 4

- What does the psalmist mean when he asks, "How long will you dishonor my glory?" The literal words in Hebrew say, "How long will my glory (or abundance) be for dishonor (or shame or insult)?" The Greek version asks a very different question (or is it?): "How long will you be heavy (or slow) hearted?"
- Consider what the Psalmist says in verse 2: "How long will you love illusions and seek after lies?" What illusions do we pursue or hold onto? What lies do we seek after?
- How can you incorporate the practice to "speak to your heart in silence upon your bed"?

### 1 John 3:1-7

- How do we understand the following verse: "No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him." (v. 6)? What is sin?
- This passage calls us "children of God" with the expectation that we will grow up in God, in Christ. As we do not know what a child will be like as an adult, we do not yet know what we will be.

### Luke 24:36b-48

- When Jesus asks to eat, he is showing to the disciples that he is indeed a real, living body. Once again (like last week), this is a body with wounds as he shows them his hands and his feet. How do we show our own wounds before others?
- What does it mean to you to be a witness?

**Acts 3:15:** and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

**Acts 5:31:** God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

**Hebrews 2:10:** It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

**Hebrews 12:2:** looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

ἀρχηγός ,

**A.** *beginning, originating; primary, leading, chief .*

**II.** as Subst., *founder*, of a tutelary hero; as fem., *ancestral heroine; founder of a family.*

**2.** *prince, chief; chief captain, leader.*

**3.** *first cause, originator; the originating power; primary, fundamental.*