

# Acts 3:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

## Analysis

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Peter immediately deflected attention: 'why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?' This redirection from instruments to source characterizes authentic ministry. All glory belongs to Christ, not His servants.

## Historical Context

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Peter's disclaimer prevented the crowd from attributing the miracle to apostolic merit. This contrasted with Simon Magus (Acts 8:9) who sought personal glory through spiritual power.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How do you deflect honor toward Christ when God uses you?
2. What dangers exist in accepting credit for what God accomplishes through you?

## Interlinear Text

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ἰδὼν	δὲ	Πέτρος	ἀπεκρίνατο	πρὸς	τὸν	λαόν	Ἄνδρες
saw	And	when Peter	it he answered	unto	G3588	the people	Ye men
G1492	G1161	G4074	G611	G4314		G2992	G435
Ἰσραηλῖται	τί	θαυμάζετε	ἐπὶ	τούτῳ	ἢ	ἡμῖν	τί
of Israel	why	marvel ye	at	this	or	on us	why
G2475	G5101	G2296	G1909	G5129	G2228	G2254	G5101
ἀτενίζετε	ὥς	ἰδίᾳ	δυνάμει	ἢ	εὐσεβείᾳ		
look ye so earnestly	as though	by our own	power	or	holiness		
G816	G5613	G2398	G1411	G2228	G2150		
πεποιηκόσιν	τοῦ	περιπατεῖν	αὐτόν				
we had made	G3588	to walk	this man				
G4160		G4043	G846				

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Corinthians 3:5** (Parallel theme): Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God;

**Genesis 41:16** (Parallel theme): And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.

**Acts 2:22** (References Israel): Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

**Romans 9:4** (References Israel): Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises;

**Acts 13:26** (Parallel theme): Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent.

**Romans 11:1** (References Israel): I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.

**John 7:18** (Parallel theme): He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.

**Genesis 40:8** (Parallel theme): And they said unto him, We have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter of it. And Joseph said unto them, Do not interpretations belong to God? tell me them, I pray you.

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