

Acts 3: You Acted in Ignorance

Acts 3:13-19 (with Luke 22:31-34 and 22:54-62) · For posting on YouTube & Facebook. Use the overview for the description; add the prompt and links wherever they fit.

VIDEO OVERVIEW (post-ready)

Peter is standing in Solomon's Portico, and he doesn't soften a thing. "You denied the Holy and Righteous One... and you killed the Author of life." Then in verse 17 he says, "I know that you acted in ignorance," and two verses later, "**Repent therefore, and turn back**, that your sins may be blotted out." Ignorance doesn't get them off the hook. What it does is leave the door open. And think about who's preaching. Not long before, Peter stood by a fire and denied Jesus three times. That same night Jesus had told him, "**when you have turned again**, strengthen your brothers." Now here's Peter, a forgiven denier, telling a crowd of deniers to turn. He isn't preaching down at them. He's telling them where he found mercy, and that the same risen Jesus is offering it to them.

GO DEEPER, STUDY PROMPT FOR VIEWERS

Read **Luke 22:31-34** and **Luke 22:54-62**, then read **Acts 3:13-19**. Watch for the words "deny" and "turn." Ask who taught Peter this sermon. Then read **1 Timothy 1:13-16** and notice that Paul says almost the same thing about himself.

KEY PASSAGES REFERENCED

Elsewhere in Acts: **Acts 13:27-28** (they didn't recognize him, yet fulfilled the prophets) · **Acts 17:30** (the times of ignorance are over; God commands all people to repent) · **Acts 2:23** (God's plan and human guilt together)

Luke's Gospel: **Luke 22:31-34** ("when you have turned again") · **Luke 22:54-62** (Peter's three denials) · **Luke 23:34** ("they know not what they do")

Rest of Scripture: **Numbers 15:27-31** (sins of ignorance still needed atonement) · **Psalms 51:1, 9** ("blot out my transgressions") · **1 Timothy 1:13-16** (Paul "acted ignorantly" and received mercy)

RESOURCES & FURTHER READING

Sons of Covenant

R.C. Sproul · Ligonier Ministries (sermon)

<https://learn.ligonier.org/sermons/sons-covenant>

Sproul on Acts 3:17-26: why the crowd's ignorance didn't excuse them, and why Peter's answer is "repent."

Times of Refreshing and the Restoration of All Things

John Piper · Desiring God (sermon)

<https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/times-of-refreshing-and-the-restoration-of-all-things>

Piper on Acts 3:17-21: God fulfilling his plan through human sin, sins wiped away, and the restoration still to come.