

KINGDOM POWER, KINGDOM CALL

Episode 11: THE BLIND AND MUTE...

August 11, 2024

¹⁸ "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me..."

Matthew 28:18 (NIV)

PREDICTED BUT UNPRECEDENTED...

⁴ "...say to those with fearful hearts, 'Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.' ⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. ⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy."

Isaiah 35:4-6

(NIV)

- **MIRACLES WITH OLD TESTAMENT PRECEDENT:**
 - RAISING THE DEAD (Elijah) – 1 Kings 17:17-24
 - CONTROLLING THE WEATHER (Elijah) – 1 Kings 17:1, 18:1, James 5:17
 - HEALING LEPROSY (Elisha) – 2 Kings 5:1-19

THE SCENE:

²⁷ "And as Jesus passed on from there..."

Matthew 9:27 (ESV)

- **CHARACTER #1: THE BLIND MEN**

²⁷ "And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, 'Have mercy on us, Son of David.'"

Matthew 9:27 (ESV)

- **PHYSICALLY BLIND MEN WITH SPIRITUAL SIGHT.**

²⁸ "When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, 'Do you believe that I am able to do this?' They said to him, 'Yes, Lord.'"

Matthew 9:28 (ESV)

- **JESUS REQUIRED FAITH THAT PERSEVERES.**

²⁹ "Then he touched their eyes, saying, 'According to your faith be it done to you.'"

Matthew 9:29

(ESV)

³⁰ "And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, 'See that no one knows about it.'"

Matthew 9:30 (ESV)

- **JESUS REQUESTED SILENCE REGARDING HIS IDENTITY.**

³¹ "But they went away and spread his fame through all that district."

Matthew 9:31 (ESV)

- **PHYSICALLY HEALED MEN WITH WEAK OBEDIENCE.**

- **CHARACTER #2: THE MUTE MAN**

³² "As they were going away, behold, a demon-oppressed man who was mute was brought to him." Matthew 9:32 (ESV)

- **OPPRESSED = POSSESSED.**

²⁸ "And when he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men met him..." Matthew 8:28 (ESV)

³³ "And when the demon had been cast out, the mute man spoke." Matthew 9:33 (ESV)

THE OUTCOME:

- **THE CROWD IMPRESSED BUT UNCONVINCED.**

³³ "...And the crowds marveled, saying, 'Never was anything like this seen in Israel.'" Matthew 9:33 (ESV)

- **THE PHARISEES REJECTED CHRIST FOR TWO REASONS: A NONSENSE BELIEF, AND A BAD MOTIVE.**

³⁴ "But the Pharisees said, 'He casts out demons by the prince of demons.'" Matthew 9:34 (ESV)

- **DEMONS DON'T BLESS, THEY DESTROY.**
- **THEY WERE PROTECTING THEIR POWER RATHER THAN PROMOTING THE TRUTH.**

²⁰ "For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:20 (NIV)

BOTTOM LINE:

JESUS DISPLAYED UNPRECEDENTED POWER. WHAT WILL WE DO WITH THAT?

NEXT STEPS

- **PRAY FOR ME CAMPAIGN**
 - Join us tonight for the PRAYforME Campaign Launch, 6pm this evening.
- **CONNECT CARD**