

2/25/96

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John 9

Jesus has just left the temple in order to escape being stoned by the Jews.

It is the same day that He was teaching in the temple treasury, the day after the Feast of Tabernacles and it runs till the twenty-first verse of chapter ten.

9:1-12 The healing of the blind man born

9:1 It says continually about Jesus that he looked at the people and had compassion.

1) He is in a severe situation, fully conscience of what is happening.

2) He sees a man blind from birth in spite of His immediate need to flee and seek refuge.

* There are many accounts of blind people.

Matt. 9:27-31; 12:22; 15:30; 21:14; Mk. 7:33; 8:22-26; 10:46-52

9:2 The mistaken theology of the disciples.

1) Jews believed in pre-natal sin in the womb.

2) Greek philosophers believed in pre-existence of soul, Plato and it had influenced some Jews. (Essence believed this.)

3) They knew of God's promise of generational sin, to the third and fourth

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generation. Ex. 20:5; 34:7; Nun. 14:18; Deut. 5:9

4) But they equally knew that God did not punish the children for the parents or vice versa. Ezk. 18:19-23, 31-32

9:3 Jesus corrects their theology.

1) Neither the man nor his parents sinned.

2) I don't believe it was God who willed this man's blindness, but it was just product of sin in the world that brought disease, sorrows and tears.

3) The punctuation, verses and chapters were not a doing of the Holy Spirit, but of man

a) Put a period after parents, then begin verse four with "but that....."

b) In other words, God didn't will it, but took opportunity of the situation to work the works of God.

* Lazarus, woman issue of blood and the man who fell asleep falling off the top floor when Paul was preaching.

9:4 Jesus declares the shortness of time in His ministry.

1) It is six months to His crucifixion. Jn. 11:9

2) It is a term that is also used by Paul to indicate the shortness of time till the Lord's return. Rom. 13:12

3) Our days are numbered and we are to ask God to teach us to number our days!

9:5 Jesus is the light of the world.

1) He declared this as His second "I Am".

Jn. 8:12

2) John opens up his gospel declaring this simple truth about Jesus who lights every man that comes into the world. Jn. 1:4-9

3) Jesus exposed the self-righteous of the Jews and same light brought light and life to the adulterous woman. Jn. 8:1-12

9:6-7 The process of the healing.

1) He spat on the ground as act of insult and humiliation.

2) He made clay symbolic of the creation man.

3) He told the man to go wash in obedience.
* Like Naaman the leper who washed in the Jordan and the Shuamites son, who was revived by mouth to mouth.

4) The name Siloam meant "sent" prophetic of Christ whose water's came from spring of Gihon in Kidron Valley that Hezekiah engineered at the time when Sennecherib laid siege to Jerusalem. 2Kings 20; 2 Chron. 32; Is. 22

* About 1700 feet long.

9:8-10 The people who knew him and aware of his condition were in astonishment at his healing and asked him how his eyes were opened.

9:11-12 He gives a faithful witness to the work of Jesus but confessed he did not know His whereabouts.

9:13-34 The interrogating of the blind man

9:13-17 *The first interrogation*

9:13-14 The people brought the man before the Pharisees.

1) They were the spiritual leaders.

2) The healing took place on the Sabbath.

9:15 The Pharisees asked about his healing and he clearly communicated that Jesus healed him.

9:16 The Pharisees were divided.

1) Some said Jesus was not of God because He kept not the Sabbath day.

2) Others asked how Jesus could do the miracles if He were not of God.

9:17 They asked the man who he thought Jesus was, and without hesitation he declared God.

9:18-23 *The parents interrogated.*

9:18 The leader did not believe the man had been blind and called his parents.

9:19 They asked them three questions.

- 1) Is this your son?
- 2) Was he born blind?
- 3) How does he see?

9:20-23 His parents answered the first two, he was their son and he was born blind.

- 1) How or who healed him they knew not and this they said for fear of being excommunicated. vs. 22
 - a) Excommunication was temporary for 30 days and 60 days.
 - b) Permanent ex-communication involved being cursed before people and cut a person off from all social interaction.
- 2) They declared he was of age and that he could speak for himself. vs. 23

9:24-34 *The second interrogation.*

9:24 They attempted to interrogate the man a second time.

- 1) They said "Give God the praise" implying that he was not telling the truth.
 - * This same phrase was used of Achan when he was asked to confess his sin. Josh. 7:19

- 2) They were attempting to have him agree with them about Jesus being a sinner.

9:25 He declared that he was ignorant about the state of Jesus.

- * The one thing he did know was that once he was blind but now he was seeing.

9:26 Again they sought how Jesus healed him in attempt to find some flaw in his testimony.

9:27 In sarcasm the man reproves the Jews and asks if they want to be His disciples.

9:28-29 The Pharisees reviled the man and declared that they were disciples of Moses not Jesus.

- 1) God had spoken to Moses.
- 2) Jesus they did not know where He was from.

9:30-33 The man answered them once again in a sarcastic manner but yet instructing them.

- 1) He was amazed that they did not know where Jesus was from yet He opened his eyes. vs. 30
 - * They were the spiritual leaders who were to be looking for the Messiah.
- 2) He declares some basic truths. vs. 31

a) God does not hear sinners. Ps. 66:18;
Prov. 28:9; Is. 1:15; 59:1

* Some declare that this is not a scriptural truth yet it is verifiable throughout the Bible, the only exception is for salvation!!!

b) God hears those who worship Him and do His will. 1Jn. 5:14-15

9:34 They utterly reject his words.

1) They declared that he was altogether born in sins.

2) They rebuked him for daring to even intending to teach them.

3) They cast him out, excommunicated him from fellowship.

9:35-39 The seeking of the blind man

9:35 Jesus hearing of the injustice sought out the man.

1) Jesus found him.

a) When Adam hid himself God sought him in order to restore him through confession and repentance.

b) Do you believe in the Son of God?

* Some manuscripts have “Son of Man” focusing on His humanity, a favorite term of John which Jesus uses for Himself

2) Jesus is the Good Shepherd who seeks His own sheep and they know His voice. Jn. 10:14-16

9:36 His response is, “Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?”

* He already acknowledged Jesus was a man, prophet, from God and now Lord. vs. 11, 17, 33

9:37 Jesus reveals Himself to the man as He did to the Samaritan woman.

9:38 The man acts on the information.

1) He confesses faith, trust in Jesus.

2) He worships Jesus.

* The word “proskuneo” means to prostrate oneself before a superior and kiss the feet in adoration and reverence.

9:39 Jesus pronounces what has just taken place which affirms the purpose of His coming into the world.

1) Judgment “krima” means the result of decision made by the individual not the process.

2) Those who do not see spiritually but are open to God will see.

3) those who can see but refuse to be open to God, will remain blind.

a) This principle is found throughout the Scriptures. Matt. 11:25; 15:14; 23:16, 19

b) Say God would require his words. Deut. 18:19

4) This I believe is a better brake in the chapter.

a) It is a transitional verse that looks back as a conclusion of what has taken place.

b) It looks forward to the parabolic proclamation of the Good Shepherd and His sheep.

c) The ninth chapter is preparation for the tenth chapter, they must be seen together!

9:40 The Pharisees hearing Jesus are offended and ask Him, “ Are we blind also?”

9:41 Jesus says yes by two things.

1) if they were physically blind, they would have no sin.

2) But having seen all that happened to the blind man and having rejected it by their physical eye, they remained in their sin.