

3/23/25

Sent In Order To See
Jn. 9:1-12, 35-41

Blindness has to be one of the most difficult things in life, in that you have to be totally dependent on someone else for everything.

And at the same time it would certainly be quite a challenge to see how much more a Christian would be dependent on God for everything!

* Having lost the sight of one eye it certainly crosses my mind at time, how much I would be affected if I lost my sight in the other eye!

The story of the healing of the blind man by Jesus is the sixth sign chosen by John and a beautiful picture of every person who does not know Jesus as Lord and Savior in need of spiritual sight.

* Remember it was the Holy Spirit gave to John eight signs or miracles that sinners may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name. Jn. 20:31

We want to carefully observe the four-step process that takes this man from utter physical blindness to ultimate spiritual sight.

- I. The condition of the blind man was described by the words of Jesus. vs. 1-5

- II. The condition of the blind man was healed by the works of Jesus. vs. 6-7
- III. The condition of the blind man was turned to a witness for Jesus. vs. 8-12
- IV. The condition of the blind man led him to the worship of Jesus. vs. 35-41

I. The condition of the blind man was described by the words of Jesus. vs. 1-5

- A. The focus of Jesus was on a blind man. Jn. 9:1
 1. The time of the account of the blind man is stated, "Now as Jesus passed by." vs. 1a
 - a. At first it appears the healing of the blind man took place as Jesus was leaving the temple, after the woman caught in adultery was brought to Him and His confrontation with the Jews. Jn. 8:59
 - b. But this event of the blind man took place some time after, for the simple fact that the healing of the blind man was on the Sabbath. Jn. 9:14
 2. The physical condition of the man is also stated, "He saw a man who was blind from birth." vs. 1b
 - a. Blindness was a common occurrence, due to the unsanitary conditions that existed.
 - b. Blindness in this case was congenital from birth to his present adult age.

- c. This man has never seen anything, not his parents, the sky, the city or his own face in a mirror.

B. The disciples of Jesus asked Him, who was responsible for the blind condition of the man?
vs. 2

* “And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

1. The thinking of the disciples was that there was two possibilities.
 - a. The man himself had sinned.
 - b. The parents of the man had sinned.
2. The belief of the day was responsible for their conclusions.
 - a. The Jews believed that a child could sin while in the womb, prenatal sin.
 - * Maybe the disciples recalled the words of Jesus to the lame man at the Pool of Bethesda, “Go and sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.”? Jn. 5:14
 - b. The Jews beleived in some circles in transmigration or pre-existance of the soul from Plato.
 - 1) It is known as reincarnation, Karma in Hindusim, part of today’s New Age.
 - 2) The Essense, who were another religious party during the New Testament time taught this.

- c. The Jews also knew God had promised He would visit the sins of the parents to the third and fourth generation. Ex. 20:5; 34:7; Num. 14:18-19; Deut. 5:9

- 1) The text does not teach that God will punish the children for the parents. Ezk. 18:19-23, 31-32
- 2) The text also does not teach you have to be delivered as a believer from curses, demons or spirits of your past relatives, this is taught and practiced by so called deliverance ministries in many churches today.
- 3) The context deals lifestyle of sin is passed on from one generation to the next without repenting, then naturally God’s judgment will continue.

C. The Lord Jesus corrected their wrong theology.
vs. 3-5

1. The condition of the man was the fault of no one, “Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned.” vs. 3a-c
 - a. The Scriptures teach God that does not punish children for their parents sins. Ezk. 18:20
 - b. The Scriptures do not teach pre-natal sin is possible nor the pre-existance of one’s soul.

- c. The Scriptures do teach that all corruption, deformities and abnormalities are a result of the fall. Gen. 3; Rom. 5:12
- d. This is not the world that God intended, but that which is tainted by the fall and that is in constant rebellion against God.
 - 1) Too often people want to blame God for what takes place, yet it is the result of sin and their own choices!
 - 2) For a person who does not know Jesus, this life is the best or closest thing to heaven they will ever experience, but for a believer this is the worst or closest thing to hell they will experience and will one day live in heaven forever with Jesus!
 - * No sorrows, pain or tears is in the New Heaven and earth, the Millennium there is still sin and death for those who allowed to enter it!
- 2. The condition of the man was going to be used to manifest the works of God, “but that the works of God should be revealed in him.” vs. 3d
 - a. The word But “alla” is an adversitive conjunction, on the contrary, and moves into the purpose clause by the word that “hina”.
 - b. This purpose clause is either teaching God had this man to be born blind just for this time of healing, which would

- make God unjust and unfair, which I reject.
- b. Or this purpose clause is teaching that the natural deformity brought about by sin was going to be used by God to reveal His works, this I believe is the correct meaning of the passage.
 - * The punctuation makes all the difference in the world, a period should be placed after the word “sinned”, rather than a colon or comma. (Morgan)
- 3. Jesus was sent to do the works of the Father. vs. 4
 - a. The mission of Jesus is declared, “I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.” vs. 4
 - * The fact that Jesus was sent is recorded twenty-six times in John and implied eighteen other times .
 - b. The phrase of “day and night” refers to the Lord’s limited time to work, since it is six months till He is crucified.
 - 1) It implies an allotted time for His mission.
 - 2) It implies sufficient time to accomplish it.
 - 3) It is confirmed at the cross, as Jesus dismissed His spirit, It is finished. Jn. 19:30

4. Jesus was the light of the world, “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” vs. 5
 - a. Jesus is the One who provides every person with a consciousness of God, having been created after the image and likeness of God. Gen. 1:26
 - 1) But sinful man mares his conscious God endowed him with through a life of ongoing sin. Rom. 2:15
 - 2) Jesus is the true Light that gives light to every man coming into the world. Jn. 1:4-9
 - b. Jesus is the One who illuminates man’s heart spiritually to see he is separated from God and through the Holy Spirit opens up the eyes of sinners spiritually through the preaching of the gospel to be born again and guide their life.
 - c. This looks back to the second “I AM”, “Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.” Jn. 8:12
 - 1) The second I AM has the article indicating that Jesus is the light of the world forever. Jn. 8:12
 - 2) The I AM in our text has no article indicating that He was to them light throughout the remaining time of six months. Jn. 9:5

- 3) The first “I AM” is, “I am the bread of life.” Jn. 6:35

The condition of the blind man was described by the words of Jesus!

II. The condition of the blind man was healed by the works of Jesus. vs. 6-7

- A. The process is described. vs. 6
 1. Jesus did an unorthodoxed thing, “When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with His saliva.” vs. 6a-b
 - a. The Jews forbid the use of spittle on the Sabbath day, that constituted work, all a person could do on the Sabbath day was to maintain life, if in severe danger, but never to better their condition!
 - * There was a belief that the spittle of a man had beneficial power.
 - b. The people seeing Jesus make clay by adding the spit must have surprised them.
 - 1) Others must have been disgusted.
 - 2) Spitting on the ground was an act of insult and humiliation.
 2. Jesus smeared the clay on the eyes of the blind man, “and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.” vs. 6c
 - a. The manner might have seemed as mockery of the man to some.

- b. The manner to others must of seemed superstitious.
- c. The clay reminds us of the creation of man from the dust. Gen. 2:7
- 3. Jesus never healed any two people in the same manner.
 - a. At one time by the decapolis, Jesus took aside a man who was deaf and had an impediment of speech, He put His fingers in the man's ears and He spat and touched the man's tongue, healing him. Mk. 7:32-33
 - b. Another time a blind man was brought to Jesus as He came to Bethsaida and Jesus led him out of town, spat in the man's eyes, put His hands upon him and asked him if he could see? The man said, that he saw men like trees walking and once again Jesus put His hands upon the man/s eyes and he saw clearly. Mk. 8:22-25
 - c. If we are going to follow a partten then we must ask, how did Jesus spit?
 - 1) Did Jesus just use the spit in his mouth, or did He hack it up?
 - 2) Did Jesus at other times spit in the man's eyes and then throw the dirt in his eyes or the revease?
 - * Do you see how foolish formulas and pattens are for healing? The key is faith and obedience to the words of Jesus as is recorded!

- B. The proclamation of Jesus to the blind man. vs. 7
 - 1. The blind man heard the words of Jesus, "And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). vs. 7a-c
 - a. He could have said can't you see I am blind!
 - b. He could of argued to go to a nearer pool, than Siloam.
 - 2. The blind man obeyed the words of Jesus he heard, "So he went and washed." vs. 7d
 - a. Faith is always related to the word of God.
 - b. Faith, trusts and obeys.
 - 3. The blind man was healed, "and came seeing." vs. 7e
 - * Even as Elisha sent Naaman the leper to wassh in the Jordan. 2Kings 5:10-14
- C. The prophetic significance of the Pool of Siloam was about Jesus.
 - 1. The name "Siloam" means sent, even as Jesus was sent by the Father to heal the blind man, He sent him to the Pool of Siloam.
 - 2. The Pool of Siloam was also the one from which they drew water for the Feast of Tabernacles or "lights", even as the blind man would receive light into his eyes.

3. The water was sent from the spring of Gihon to the Pool of Siloam through Hezekiah's tunnel that he had carved out during the siege by Sennacherib. 2Kings 20:20;
2Chron. 32:30
* The tunnel is approximately 563 yards or about 1700 feet long, in a zig-zag shape, having excavated from both ends. We have walked through it many times in our trips to Israel.
4. The freshness of the water of the Pool of Siloam are mentioned by Isaiah. Is. 8:6
* "Inasmuch as these people refused The waters of Shiloah that flow softly."
5. This is the only record of a blind man being healed of a congenital condition.
 - a. There is also no record of a blind man being healed in the entire Old Testament.
 - b. There are more blind people healed by Jesus than any other type of infirmity in the New Testament.
* It was one of the signs of the Coming Messiah physically and spiritually, "To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the prison, Those who sit in darkness from the prison house. Is. 42:7

The condition of the blind man was healed by the works of Jesus!

III. The condition of the blind man was turned to a witness for Jesus. vs. 8-12

- A. The people who knew him witnessed in astonishment he was able to see. vs. 8
* "Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?"
1. The former blind man who was a beggar went home and his neighbors being very familiar with his blind condition were amazed will take him down to the Pharisees later probably to be examined of his healing according to the Law of Moses. vs. 13
 - a. Even as the lame man at the gate called Beautiful was known and the people were amazed at his healing. Acts 3
 - b. Beggars and disabled people are landmarks in many countries, particularly around religious sights pleading for the mercy of God and money from people.
2. Their question was, "Is not this he who sat and begged?"
 - a. The people could not believe their eyes.
 - b. The people might have thought they were making a mistake.
- B. The people as they witnessed the man healed had various responses. vs. 9
* "Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him." He said, "I am he."

1. Some were certain he was the man, “Some said, “This is he”. vs. 9a-b
2. Others were not so certain, “Others said, He is like Him” the man looked like the blind man. vs. 9c-d
3. The blind man said, “He said, “I am he”. vs. 9e-f
* Literally, it is I” and it indicates he kept saying, “It is I.”

C. The people asked for his personal witness about the manner by which he gained his sight? vs. 10-12

1. When a miracle takes place especially in a physical healing, people always ask “how” not “who” healed you, “Therefore they said to him, “How were your eyes opened?” vs. 10
 - a. We are told many of the people that saw and were following Jesus was for the miracle and food, not genuine saving faith.
 - b. We are told that those who believed the words of Jesus believed with genuine saving faith.
2. The blind man was a faithful witness. vs. 11
 - a. The blind man gave witness about the name of the man, “He answered and said, “A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes.” vs. 11a-b

- b. The blind man gave witness to the voice he heard from Jesus, “and said to me,” vs. 11b
* The blind man never saw Jesus, being blind!
- c. The blind gave witness to the authority of Jesus by obeying His command, ““Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.”” vs. 11c
- d. The blind gave witness to the power of Jesus having received his sight, “So I went and washed, and I received sight.” vs. 11d
* The blind man was healed as an unbeliever!
3. The people asked for the whereabouts of the man Jesus, “Then they said to him, “Where is He?” He said, “I do not know.” vs. 12
 - a. The name of Jesus was already marked by the religious leaders as they were seeking to arrest and kill Him. Jn. 9:22
 - b. The man did not know where Jesus was, for when he returned, Jesus was already gone.

The condition of the blind man is turned to a witness for Jesus!

IV. The condition of the blind man led him to be saved and worship Jesus. vs. 35-41

- A.** Jesus sought the blind man after he had been ex-communicated. vs. 35-36
- 1.** The blind man had told the Jewish leaders that he believed Jesus was a man, then a prophet, a man of God, like the Samaritan woman. vs. 11, 17, 38
* God initiates, sinners respond!
 - 2.** The blind man was interrogated and his parent by the Pharisees about his healing, was rejected and condemned saying he was born in sins and for attempting to teach them on spiritual matters and cast him out of the temple, excommunicating him. vs. 13-34
 - 3.** The blind man having been cast out, excommunicated, be it from the synogogue or the temple was approached again by Jesus, "Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" vs. 35
 - a.** The question is emphatic in Greek, the blind man was cast out, excommunicated from the temple or synogogue, cut off from all social life, being tied together.
 - b.** This is the first time he has seen people, the temple and now he is ostracized.
 - c.** Little did he know he would become part of the living temple of God, the church!
 - 4.** The blind man responded to Jesus, "He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" vs. 36

- a.** The blind man never saw Jesus.
 - b.** The blind man was sent to wash the mud.
 - c.** Jesus revealed that it was He who had seen and spoken to him, "And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." vs. 37
* Jesus is referring to the very moment He is speaking to the blind man that can now see! Dan. 7:13
 - d.** The blind man's response was two-fold, "Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him." vs. 38
 - 1)** He called Jesus Lord and confessed that he believed.
 - 2)** He commenced to worship Jesus.
* The word worship "proskuneo" means to kiss after the custom of prostrating oneself before a person and kissing their feet.
 - e.** The blind man was one of the sheep who responded to the voice of Jesus as He sought him out as the "Good Shepherd", in order to bring him into the fold. Jn. 10:14-16
- B.** Jesus proclaimed the purpose of his coming. vs. 39
- 1.** Jesus came into the world for judgment not condemnation, "And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world." vs. 39a-b

- a. The word judgment “krima” means the result or decision against evil and ungodliness, not the process of judging.
 - b. The word of God reveals the will and standard of righteousness.
 - c. The word of God is the final standard and plumb-line to measure truth and what is pleasing to God.
2. Jesus came into the world for those who are blind spiritually may see by believing in Jesus, like the blind man. “that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind.” vs. 39c-e
- a. Those who see physically are blind spiritually. do not receive, believe, see or understand the things in the word of God.
 - b. Those who see physically, but refuse to see spiritually by not believing in Jesus, will be blinded further to the truth about Jesus through the gospel, the result is the each person’s decision, like the Jews and Pharisees.
 - c. Matthew quoting Isaiah says, “And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive; For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest

they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.”
Matt. 13:14-15; Is. 6:9-10

- C. Jesus pronounced to the Pharisees their spiritual blindness. vs. 40-41
- 1. The response of the Pharisees to the words of Jesus, “Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, “Are we blind also?” vs. 40
 - a. Their question is not as sincere seekers, but in ridicule and mocking of the words of Jesus.
 - b. Their assessment of themselves was based on the natural and physical, that they were the descendants of Abraham and the appointed religious leader of the nation of Israel and children of God.
 - 2. The response of Jesus to the words of the Pharisee, “Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, ‘We see.’ Therefore your sin remains.” vs. 41
 - a. Jesus said they certainly were not blind, if they were, there would be hope for them that they might come to Jesus, be forgiven of their sins and see spiritually.
 - b. Jesus said that by their own words they say “We see” they have condemned themselves for rejecting the words of Jesus, the light of the gospel and their sin

remained in them and would die in their sins. Jn. 8:21, 24

D. Jesus wants us to see some basic truths in the story of the blind man.

1. The congenital blindness of the blind man from birth represents the spiritual blindness of every person that is born into this world.
 - a. The entire human race is dead in trespasses and sin and children of wrath by nature. Eph. 2:1-2
 - b. The entire human race are sinner and fall short of the glory of God. Rom. 3:23
2. The only hope for the blind man was the words of Jesus that manifested in His work of a miracle to gain his physical and spiritual sight.
 - a. "I am the way the truth and the life and no man comes to the Father but by me. Jn. 14:6
 - b. There is no other name given under heaven whereby man must be saved, except Jesus Christ. Acts 4:12
 - c. There is one mediator between God and man, the Man Christ Jesus. 1Tim. 2:5
3. The witness of each of us will be tested as to whether we will be a faithful witness and give Jesus the glory without compromise.
 - a. Preaching the gospel.
 - b. Pointing sinners to Jesus.

- c. Pronouncing to them their sins are forgiven, if they have genuinely repented of their sins and accepted Jesus as their Savior and Lord.
4. The cost may be great, but we will never be alone, for He is always with us!
 - a. All the apostle died for their faith, except John.
 - b. All the history of man tells us the world hates and persecutes Jesus and Christians.
 - c. All we can do is trust Jesus and obey, He will be faithful in our sufferings. 1Pet. 4:19

The condition of the blind man led him to be saved and worship Jesus!

Conclusion

The story of the blind man that Jesus healed is a beautiful picture of every person who does not know Jesus as Lord and Savior, in need of spiritual sight.

- I. The condition of the blind man was described by the words of Jesus!
- II. The condition of the blind man was healed by the works of Jesus!
- III. The condition of the blind man was turned to a witness for Jesus!
- IV. The condition of the blind man led him to be saved and worship Jesus!

