

John 9

Jesus Came to Save Sinners

John 8:59 [Jesus claims to be God offers Salvation] Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, **going through the midst of them, and so passed by.**

I. Man Born Blind Receives Sight: Progressive Revelation

1 Now as **Jesus passed by**....

- Passed by proud

Mark 6:11 ...whoever will not receive you nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them.

Danger of picking green fruit? May agree with you to shut you up

- Pray for them/Wait till read/**Look for Ripe fruit**

1 Now as Jesus passed by, **He saw a man who was blind from birth.**

- **Sees a man blind from birth**
 1. Never saw a sunset/sunrise/Never saw mother's face
 2. Begging/Blind: Overlooked by multitudes...

Man can't see Jesus but Jesus saw him

2 And [Jesus] disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

- False-belief that **all** infirmities/disabilities caused by sin. Name/Claim, Blab/Grab
- **Some sickness/infirmities** are caused by sin

John 5:14 [Jesus finds the one He healed in the Temple] "See, you have been made well. **Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.**"

- Un-confessed sin can cause physical issues...

Psalms 38:3 [David] There is no soundness in my flesh Because of Your anger, Nor any health in my bones **Because of my sin.** [Puke it out]

- God does sometimes punish un-repentant sin with physical sickness

Micah 6:13 "... I will also **make you sick** by striking you, By making you desolate **because of your sins.**

Many times our infirmities are simply because of the Fall of Man

- **Sin and you will surely die:** Adam/Eve/rest of us began to break down
 1. **Entropy:** 2nd law thermodynamics. Devolution.
 2. Degrassive genetic breakdown of man passed on through all generations

We are not to pass judgment. We are all born with a disability; i.e. Sin

- Did the blind man sin or his parents?

3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of **God should be revealed in him.**"

- No one's sin caused this man's blindness

He is blind/disabled that God might reveal Himself

- **Moses used his speech impediment as an excuse:** God didn't buy it...

Exodus 4:10 ... "O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue." 11 So the Lord said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or **who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the Lord?** 12 Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say."

I made you just the way I wanted to...disabilities and ALL. I don't make mistakes

Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you..."

Psalms 39:13 [David] For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.

- **Instead of asking why this/that happened ask how God will use it**

"Here is an opening for God's almighty love. Here is an occasion for the display of the grace and goodness of the Lord." [Spurgeon]



Pregnant after rape by a serial killer

Jennifer and son Oliver- "When people said we shouldn't have you we loved you louder. When people say you are a mistake we love you louder. When you will wonder if there're right...we will love you the loudest".

Jeff- "All we offer [to others] is the knowledge that God forgives and allows us to learn. It's the beauty of human experience that we can continue to make changes throughout our lives. He can make us new. All we have to do is ask."

FACT: Incredible heartbreak can bring unimaginable Spiritual Growth

Think of all the times the little blind boy asked his mother, "Why am I blind?" Perhaps she never felt she had a good answer. Jesus explained, it is because God wants to work in and through even this. Jesus pointed the question away from why and on to the idea, **what can**

God do in this? [Guzik]

- **Jesus:** I will use this situation to Glorify God...

4 I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, **I am the light of the world.**"

- **Predetermined time is coming to end:** 5 ½ months before cross
- **It has been night since the crucifixion...**

Romans 13:12 The night is far spent, the **day is at hand**. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

Notice: To a man in complete darkness "I AM the Light of the World"

6 When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. 7 And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and **came back seeing.**

He did what Jesus commanded and was made whole

- **Go wash in Pool of Siloam:**
 1. Where the priests retrieved water for Feast of Tabernacles
 2. Poured it out in Temple as picture of Holy Spirit

2 Other recorded Instances of Jesus Healing of blind

- God has no prescribed method of healing/ Heals in different ways

Mark 10:51 "What do you want Me to do for you?" The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight." 52 Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; **your faith has made you well.**" And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.

Mark 8:23 [Jesus] took the blind man by the hand and **led him out of the town**. And when He had **spit on his eyes** and **put His hands on him**, He asked him if he saw anything. 24 And he looked up and said, "I see men like trees, walking." 25 Then He put His hands on his eyes again and made him look up. And he was restored and saw everyone clearly. 26 Then He sent him away to his house, saying, "Neither go into the town, nor tell anyone in the town."

- Humbling to hear someone spit, listen to them roll ball of mud, feel it on eyes

He did what Jesus commanded and was made whole

We do what Jesus says no matter how counterintuitive it seems

- **Naaman:** Pagan commander of Syrian army. Mighty man **but a leper**
- Israelite Servant girl tells him Prophet Elisha can heal him. Elisha refuses to see but...
- "Go wash in Jordan 7 times. **Naaman is furious...**

2 Kings 5:13 ...[Servants to Naamna]... if the prophet had told you to do something great,

would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, '**Wash, and be clean**'?" 14 So he went down and dipped seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God; and his flesh was **restored like the flesh of a little child**, and he was clean. **[Healed after humbling]** [Come to me as a little child]

- **Do you want to be well?** Don't be offended by Jesus methods of humbling you
- Came back seeing...

8 Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "**Is not this he who sat and begged?**" 9 Some said, "**This is he.**" Others said, "**He is like him.**"

- **Neighbors and friends amazed:** Is that Jim?

9b... He said, "**I am he.**" 10 Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" 11 He answered and said, "**A Man** called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So **I went and washed, and I received sight.**"

How were your eyes opened? A Man called Jesus

12 Then they said to him, "**Where is He?**" He said, "**I do not know.**"

- **NOTE:** People want to know where Jesus is.
- That's how we should leave them: Appetite for Jesus

SUMMARY Man Born Blind Receives Sight

II. Rotten Fruit

13 They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees.

- **Led him?** Did not recognize anything
- First time not led by the hand. How cool is that?

14 **Now it was a Sabbath** when Jesus **made the clay** and opened his eyes. 15 Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." 16 Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because **He does not keep the Sabbath.**" Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a **division among them.**

- **Religious Leaders split...**
 1. **Not of God:** Not keeping the Sabbath...making mud out of dirt/spit
 2. **Is of God:** How can he heal if he is not of God [minority group]

17 They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "**He is a prophet.**"

He's a prophet

- He told me what to do. I did it. I can see. **He is a prophet...**

18 But the Jews did **not believe concerning him**, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. 19 And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" 20 His parents answered them and said, "**We know that this is our son**, and that **he was born blind**; 21 but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself." 22 His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. 23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

- Jews feared being cast out of fellowship; shunned by friends, family
- **Parents don't want to incriminate themselves so...**
 1. We know this is our son
 2. We know he was born blind
 3. We don't know how he now sees

"He's old enough to speak for himself... ask him."

- If anyone calls Jesus Savior they are to be cast out Synagogue? Treated as Leper
- **Bullies Goal:** Instill fear to get people to **back down and shut up**

Outlawing Bible?

[04/26/2018] ... a California bill [will] expose counselors and other professionals who try to help people experiencing **unwanted same-sex attraction** or **gender confusion** to serious legal penalties, such as enhanced damages awards. The bill is cruising through the California legislature without meaningful opposition. It appears to be one more instance among a growing number of attacks on ordered liberty in the name of sexual-identity privileges. [Witherspoon Institute]

**If anyone mentions the only Name that can help, heal, restore, save...
They will be punished by the people who know better**

- Bullies need to be dealt with as bullies; i.e. stood up to...

24 So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner."

- **Implication:** One more chance to stay in the synagogue
 1. Give God glory [Allah Akbar?] Words to Achan before stoned him
 2. We know Jesus is a sinner and you need to agree!

**Deny Jesus or pay the price
What is Truth worth to you?**

What Jesus Means to me: Jesus is the Truth. I am nothing without Truth therefore Jesus is everything

to me; my Life, my Light and my Love. [NJC]

How to win against any bully? Consciously and deliberately place the Fear of God...
...exponentially higher/more important than fear of man...and act accordingly [NJC]

- Man formerly known as "Blind Beggar" gets that...

No matter what you do to me I will not deny the One who healed me! Period.

25 He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see."

I was blind, now I see

Psalm 14:8 The Lord opens the eyes of the blind...

- I only met Him once

Everyone's first Testimony

I know only one thing about Him. I was blind...and now I see.

- **Mystery in the way God changes us:**

John 3:8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

- Move from glory to glory but...
- We all began spiritually blind...

2 Corinthians 4:3 [Satan blinds people's eyes to the truth of Jesus]

Acts 26:18 [Apostle Paul sent to Gentiles that God would] ... open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God...

1. I used to be blind but now see.
2. I used to hate but now I love
3. I used to be perverse now I'm holy and clean
4. I used to be a fool but now I'm wise
5. I used to be weak but now I walk in his strength
6. I used to be defeated but now I walk in victory

26 Then they said to him again, "**What did He do to you?** How did He open your eyes?"

v. 15b... He said to [Pharisees] "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

- How did He open your eyes? **Did he do work on the Sabbath?**

27 He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? **Do you also want to become His disciples?"**

- Fierce Godly Boldness comes from truly understanding what Jesus has done for us

28 Then they **reviled him** and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. 29 We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from."

- **Reviled him...**

Matthew 5:11 Blessed are you **when they revile and persecute you**, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

2 Timothy 3:12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus **will suffer persecution**. [...not persecuted?]

- **Religious Leaders to man**

1. You follow Him/We follow Moses
2. We don't even know where He is from

New Convert now gives Religious Leaders an impromptu Bible Study:

30 The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! 31 Now **we know** that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, **He hears him**. 32 Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. 33 **If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing.**"

- **I don't know much but this is incredible!**

1. You Religious Leaders don't know where He comes from...yet He healed me
2. We all know God listen to those in sin...but God listened to Him
3. By the way...has this ever happened before?
4. **Summary:** He must be from God

34 They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?"

- **Ad Hominem:**

1. You were completely born in you sins
2. **Translation:** You were born blind because you sinned in your mother's womb

34b...And they cast him out.

- **Pharisees get rid of evidence**

1. After Lazarus was raised from the dead they sought to kill him again
2. **Incredible illogical reactions of evil men:** Cast healed man out of church

SUMMARY Rotten Fruit

III. Ripe Fruit

35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when **He had found him**

- **Jesus hears and goes to find him**

Matthew 18:11 ...the Son of Man has come to **save that which was lost.** 12 "What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying? 13 And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray.

- Jesus looked for and found the man

35b...He said to him, "**Do you believe in the Son of God?**" 36 He answered and said, "**Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?**"

- **Ripe fruit**
 1. Disillusioned by Religion
 2. Shunned/Rejected by Religious
 3. **Prepared to leave Religion for Relationship with Living God**

"Who is the Son of God, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"

37 And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you."

- You see Him because HE first saw you. We love Him because He first loved us.

38 Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" **And he worshiped Him.**

Progressive Revelation

- **Man** v10
- **Prophet** v 17
- **Lord** v38 "Lord I believe!" **And he worshiped Him**

39 And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind."

Test for Eternal Destination

- **Heaven:** Those who realize blindness will see. Those who admit to being sick healed
- **Hell:** Those who think they see made blind. Those who refuse admit sick stay sick

40 Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, "**Are we blind also?**"

- Are you talking about us?

Cults/Ism's/works-based Religions dig in confronted w/ Truth of Salvation by Grace alone.

More meetings, more service, more blindness...

41 Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains.

- If you would admit you are blind I could forgive and heal you
- Because you think you can see and need nothing... I can do nothing. Sin remains

Matthew 22:1 [Read] ...Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: 2 "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a **marriage for his son**, 3 and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. 4 Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. **Come to the wedding.**" ' 5 But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. 6 And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and **killed them**. 7 But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. 8 Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were **not worthy**. 9 Therefore go into the highways, and **as many as you find, invite to the wedding.**' 10 So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, **both bad and good**. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. 11 "But when the king came in to see the guests, he **saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment**. 12 So he said to him, '**Friend**, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was **speechless**. 13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into **outer darkness**; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 "For many are called, but few are chosen." **15 Then the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Him in His talk.**

We must be clothed in garments provided by the Father; i.e. Clothed in His Son Jesus Christ

- **Religious:** Instead of repenting hammer in another nail. Their sin remains.
- Man formerly born blind now frolicking/ kicking feet in the freedom of the Lord

I was blind but now I see