



SUNDAY MORNING

AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Title: Blind No More!

Passage: Luke 18:35-43

Speaker: Pastor Dan Preston

Introduction: Our text sheds light on a man who missed much throughout his life and who happens to reside in Jericho. Jericho marked the last stage of our Lord's journey to Jerusalem. Jerusalem is where He knew He was to suffer and die. While it was the last stage of the journey for Jesus, it was the first stage of a new journey of another man.

I. The Healing of Blind Bartimaeus

- A. The blind man could see his need.
 - This man at least knew he was blind, in perpetual darkness.
- B. The blind man recognized who Jesus was.
 - He not only knew his condition, but he believed Jesus was the Messiah and knew that he must do something.
 - The recognition of who Jesus was is the basis of everything else that happens.
- C. He realized that his greatest opportunity had come.
 - Bartimaeus may have been blind, but even he could see that, unless he took action, he was doomed to a life of misery and darkness.
- D. The blind man received a response.
 - When Jesus heard the cry of this beggar, He stopped in His tracks and called for Bartimaeus to come to Him.



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- It must have been a glorious moment for this blind beggar. His faith was honored, and he received an audience with the Lord Jesus.

Three Abiding Spiritual Truths:

1. Avoid Excuses for Why You Can Wait to Get Right With God.

“Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near.” (Isaiah 55:6)

“Three quarters of all people who have consciously, intentionally, and personally chosen to embrace Jesus Christ as their Savior did so before their eighteenth birthday.” - George Barna

- Human reasoning may tell you that you have plenty of time to be saved, but that might not be true.

2. Avoid Letting What Others Think and Say Stop You From Making Decisions.

- Situations, circumstances and people may try to stand in your way and keep you from Jesus, but you should allow nothing to keep you away from the one who can change your life from the inside out.

“Threaten others with a loud and boisterous faith, and you will be politely (at first) asked to quiet down; dance your faith instead of sitting in your pew, and you will be asked to leave; talk about your faith with passion, and you will get expressions of concern about the inappropriateness of your emotions. Allow others to see your brokenness, and you will be reprimanded for being too open” - Mike Yaconelli

3. The Reality of Faith is Seen In the Life that is Lived.

Look at the comparison of the blind beggar and the rich young ruler:



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- The blind man was poor but he became rich, the young ruler was rich but he became eternally poor.
- The blind man claimed no special merit and openly admitted his need, the rich young ruler lied to himself and others as he bragged about his character.
- The rich young ruler refused to believe, and so went away from Jesus sad; the blind man believed Jesus and decided not to go away at all.
- The former blind man felt deeply grateful, and he resolved to show his gratitude by becoming one of the Lord's followers.

Conclusion: God has no policemen that will say we must read our Bible, go to church, or give to missions. When God created man, He created man superior to all other creatures. He gave you the power and privilege of choice. He will not force us. With the privilege of choice comes the terrible responsibility of living with the results or consequences of our choices. You have a choice this morning. Don't leave today without responding. Don't let anyone affect that decision. Put your excuses aside and cry out to the God who has the power to transform your life. You can leave blind no more!



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