

Mark 8 –30 May 2021

“For We Walk By Spiritual Sight”

Introduction

- *Jesus is travelling for 3 years teaching (last wk of earthly life begins in Mark 11)
- *Preaching all should repent & prepare for the Kingdom
- *As we come to believe that Jesus is trustworthy, we begin to follow Him. IT’S A LIFE OF FAITH.
- *Read II Cor 5:7 “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”
 - *So having faith in Jesus gives us spiritual sight
 - *We’re getting a look at the eternal reality that’s around us that we can’t see with physical eyes.
- *What should we be able to see w/ spiritual eyes?
 - *Well, it starts with, ‘what things are eternal’?

So today, 5 things that spiritual sight will allow you to see

#1 – Spiritual Sight allows us to see – Jesus’ compassion for our physical needs (Vs 1-12)

Read Vs 1-3 – *Story of the feeding of the 4,000*

1. Many have been coming from all over Galilee in the north to listen to Jesus’ teaching
2. Jesus had compassion on the people b/c they have real physical needs.
3. Jesus is aware of our weaknesses & has love
 - a. Reminds me of the story of Hagar
 - i. Sent out w/ Ishmael & fell in the desert
 - ii. But God saw her, just as he did in her trouble before having Ishmael (Read Gen 16:13)
 - iii. Struggling in the desert God opened her spiritual eyes to see that He’s still w/ her & cares about her physical needs (Read Gen 21:19)

Read Vs 4-9

1. Jesus gives multiply chances for them (and us) to live by faith and WATCH what He can do.
2. Notice that Jesus does the creating of food, the disciples just have to distribute & be blessed

Read Vs 10-12 – Condemning the Pharisees – Jesus’ power is for mercy’s sake

1. No compassion for Pharisees only grief
2. Pharisees had no spiritual sight only physical
 - a. Read Matt 16:1-4
 - b. They knew all about the physical heavens but not the spiritual heavens
 - c. Jonah – Scoffers are still at step #1 – they need to see Jesus on cross & His resurrection!
3. They wanted to see power for power’s sake, whereas Jesus displayed power for mercy’s sake
 - a. Miracles the Messiah was prophesied to perform were miracles of compassion on people
 - b. Read I Cor 1:22-24 –The TRUE power, the TRUE sign is that of Jesus crucified & resurrected
4. Jesus isn’t some genie in a bottle that you can use and abuse to get your selfish needs met.
 - a. 4 times in Matt 23 Jesus calls them “blind”
 - b. He’s seeking to help those whose hearts are perfect towards him.

#2 – Spiritual Sight allows us to see – Jesus’ compassion for our mental needs (Vs 13-21)

Read Vs 13-17

1. Leaven was the yeast that’s placed in bread
 - a. It’s a biblical picture of sin spreading
 - b. What was Pharisee’s sin? (Read Luke 12:1)
 - i. Two-faced: An outward show of godliness, but inwardly it was all for selfish promotion
2. Disciples still aren’t thinking in faith spiritually but thinking by fear physically
3. They were in fear (not faith) crossing the Sea in Mark 6:52 b/c they didn’t ponder the miracle of feeding the 5,000 (Read Mark 6:52)
4. Couldn’t Jesus care for their physical problems while He teaches them of the wickedness of Herod?
 - a. Can Jesus teach you while you wait for help?
5. Notice vs 16 - Some people think they know Bible but they’re just thinking physically, not spiritually
 - a. Scoffer said, “Eve didn’t eat an apple, it was a pomegranate”! (Don’t know what it was)

Read Vs 18-21

1. Jesus knows how to handle the physical, He's wanting them to think spiritually about the Pharisees and Herod's problem
 - a. He wants us to put the physical issues in check long enough to look at the spiritual
 - i. Witnessing: Get over your physical fear & go for it gaining the eternal value
 - ii. Living pure: Get over the short-term pleasure of sin & go for it gaining the eternal value
 - b. Let your spiritual faith in Jesus swallow up your physical fear in these temporary things
2. Pharisee's problem is that they seek the power that helps self instead of the power that helps others
3. Pharisees aren't ready to be taught of God b/c they're living a two-faced hypocritical life
4. Jesus wants to take us beyond self.

#3 – Spiritual Sight allows us to see – that Jesus often has us receive in stages of growth (Vs 22-26)

Read Vs 22-26 – *Story of a blind man healed*

1. Why another story of yet another blind man?
 - a. It's placed among these other stories of spiritually seeing what God is doing
 - b. It speaks of spiritual blindness
 - c. God opens our spiritual eyes gradually
 - d. Have grace & allow each other to grow
2. Remember, Jesus heals with many methods to keep our focus on the Man not the method
 - a. He healed blindness by just touching them, by spitting and by rubbing mud
 - b. Jesus can work in many methods – my ways aren't perfect...but He is!
 - c. We fall into thinking WE HAVE IT
 - i. The denomination of the eye spitters and the denomination of the mud eyes!
 - ii. Allow each other grace to receive more sight

#4 – Spiritual Sight allows us to see – Jesus’ compassion for our spiritual needs (Vs 27-33)

Read Vs 27-30

1. Peter has faith to confess Jesus as Messiah
2. To know that Jesus is the Son of the living God & Savior of the world is your greatest spiritual need
3. Some thought of Him as a good / helpful man, but that’s not enough.
 - a. Some wanted Him to be a political revolutionary like John the Baptist, not enough
 - b. Some thought He was forerunner to God’s Messiah like Elijah, but that’s not enough
 - c. Jesus couldn’t be just a good Man
 - i. How would telling people to be nice to each other get a man crucified?
 - ii. He was either Lord, Liar or Lunatic
 1. There isn’t a 4th option!
4. Do you have spiritual eyes to see that Jesus is the only way to get to God?

Read Vs 31

1. Jesus has finally revealed the extent of His ministry and mission
2. Again, we're challenged to have faith to receive new spiritual sight as we can handle it.

Read Vs 32-33

1. Peter isn't ready to believe all of God's Word
2. If not for this hard road to the cross, we could not have our spiritual needs met.
 - a. Set up then Read Luk 24:25-26
3. Notice Jesus says that Peter is acting like Satan
 - a. We have thoughts that please God & thoughts that don't...those please Satan
 - b. We have words that please God & words that don't...those please Satan.
 - c. We do deeds that please God & deeds that don't...those please Satan
 - d. God is looking for people that will delight themselves in the plan of God (easy or hard)

#5 – Spiritual Sight allows us to see – The value of the spiritual over the physical (Vs 34-38)

Read Vs 34-35

1. The spiritual charge is to live a sacrificial life as Jesus did for us
2. You can live for the rewards of this life OR the rewards of life eternal, but you can't do both.
3. You will not live a life that promotes Jesus & eternal life unless you know how much God loves you & what good things He has awaiting you

Read Vs 36-38

1. The value of the spiritual life over the temporary physical life
2. What better example is there than Moses?
 - a. Moses put his faith & hope in God and His eternal kingdom rather than on being heir to an earthly empire
 - b. Read Heb 11:27 – Having spiritual sight to see the invisible God makes all the difference

Conclusion

In conclusion, in John 9 Jesus healed a blind man and then told him in vs 39, “for judgement I am come into the world, that they which see not might see and that they which see might be made blind.” Will you refuse sight or will you ask Jesus for spiritual eyes to see?

1. **See Jesus’ compassion for our physical needs**
 - a. Believe that, as Hagar, God sees your need
2. **See Jesus’ compassion for our mental needs**
 - a. Don’t fear the physical trials of life, free up your mind to think spiritually
3. **See that Jesus has us receive in stages of growth**
 - a. Have grace for each other as we grow in faith
4. **See Jesus’ compassion for our spiritual needs**
 - a. He’s doing everything He can to focus you on seeing that He’s met your greatest need
 - b. Have you accepted that Jesus will save you?
5. **See the value of the spiritual over the physical**
 - a. Have you seen the value of Jesus’ cross yet?