

DO YOU SEE?
CAN YOU HEAR?
DO YOU
BELIEVE?
— Part 2 —

“Do you believe in the Son of God?”
— John 9:35 —

Do You See, Can You Hear, Do you Believe? Part 2

Scripture Reading

John 9:13-17 (NKJV)

The Pharisees Excommunicate the Healed Man

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

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.”

John 9:30-41 (NKJV)

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.”

34 They answered and said to him, “You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?” And they cast him out.

True Vision and True Blindness

35 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?"**

36 He answered and said, "Who is He, 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."**

38 Then he said, "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."**

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

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

Do You See? Can You Hear? Do You Believe?

Introduction

"Can somebody turn the lights on?!" That's usually what happens when there's a group of people crowded in a room but because of darkness, there's a level of irritation, frustration and perhaps some people bumping into things that are usually avoidable. Maybe they're bumping into each other and colliding when they should have a better sense of awareness. I certainly see that happening today. We have been shoved into a dark room with lots of voices unclear, uncertain, unhappy, unsatisfied and there's the proverbial cry "CAN SOMEONE TURN THE LIGHTS ON?!" These folks are used to being able to see and so darkness is an abnormal thing to them.

Now imagine being born in the dark, light is not something you've encountered before, never seen it, never "experienced light." To everyone else, this was an abnormal experience, a defect, a disability but for this man it was his earthly experience.

John 9:1-3 (NKJV)

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

1 Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. 2 And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

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

- Notice the disciples saw this man's blindness as a punishment for some form of sinful action.
- If hardship is only a byproduct of wrongdoing, then many people are living out a life sentence
- Sometimes the condition you are in has nothing to do with anything you did wrong or anything your parents did wrong
- Blame is easier and more convenient than the actual truth.
- The truth couldn't have been discerned by the disciples, they needed the spiritual and prophetic insight of Jesus to understand that this man was marked not for condemnation but for a miracle!

"Could it be that I'm going through this long hard season because I'm marked for a miracle?"

"Could I have been born into the rough side of life, because God has a plan to use my life for His glory?"

The Miracle No One Asked For

The interesting and unique thing about this miracle is that this blind man was oblivious to this whole conversation about him. As a matter of fact, from the beginning of G chapter to the end of it, you'll see that he has a very difficult time understanding why he was healed and secondly, why the Pharisees got upset about it and how THEY wanted him to feel about it. He was pulled into this new experience by Jesus who loved him enough to give him a miracle that didn't know he needed nor did he know how to ask for it.

We are living in an age where there a lot of people born blind.

- spirituality blind
- Unaware of the condition of their souls
- Unaware that there's salvation for them
- Their current situation has always been their situation and they've just dealt with it

- To them, the gospel message sounds crazy
 - It seems unnecessary
 - It seems far fetched
 - It sounds like we're the ones who are out of touch
- And it's easy for us to assume why they are in the spiritual condition they are in unless we ourselves are seeing through the eyes of the Spirit.

There Are Dimensions to Seeing

There are indeed dimensions to seeing. If seeing is about awareness then there are levels of awareness. John 9 shows us:

- Some people only see judgement and consequences (the disciples limited understanding of this blind man's condition)
- Jesus sees unfinished work and Glory unrevealed
 - John 9:4 **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.** 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.
- Some people only see you through the context of your condition but if your condition changes, they have a hard time recognizing you.
 - John 9:8 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." 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."
- Some people only see religious commands TO mankind and condemnations when violated.
- Jesus saw and knew religious commands were both TO us and FOR us and He provided grace for the gaps that this man's life fell into.
 - John 9:14 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.
- There was no law that could cure or heal this man. Yet there was a law against works of healing on the Sabbath?
- Some people see permanence where God sees miracles!

Do You See? Can You Hear? Do You Believe?

Grace & Miracles Disrupt the Status Quo

We must understand that John 9 took place on the same day as John 8. In the same way that Jesus' forgiveness of the woman who was caught in the act of adultery disrupted the religious order and foiled the religious traps set for Him, Jesus' healing of this blind man on the Sabbath day showed:

- Jesus operating on a higher level
 - Jesus having clear vision into the redemption of the lost and the unfinished work that He was sent for
 - Jesus clear ability to not fight the system but show its insufficiency.
 - Matthew 5:17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.
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- The systems of our world do not cater to miracles; they provide for the lack of them
 - Insurance in case of injury or death
 - Assistance in case of lack
 - Accommodations for the challenged
 - All of these provisions are exceptionally good but it speaks to a world that hasn't seen or heard of a miracle in a long time yet is crying out for one.
 - Can you imagine a time when these provisions didn't exist for the injured, disabled, the poor and the ones who fell into society's gaps.
 - These are the ones to whom the Lord was sent!

Do You See Them? Can You Hear Them? Do You Still Believe?

The Living Water that was Sent for You

- After the Creator who formed Adam out of the dust of the earth sees this man who has "unfinished eyes," He spits on the ground and creates clay and places it on the man's eyes.
- Then Jesus tells him to go and wash in the pool of Siloam.
- The name **Siloam** ("Sent") is not random—it has historical and theological roots that John intentionally highlights.

The Meaning of the Name "Siloam"

In Gospel of John 9:7, John actually pauses the story to explain it:

"Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (*which is translated, Sent*).

The word **Siloam** comes from the Hebrew **Shiloach** (שִׁלּוֹחַ) meaning "sent" or "sent out."

It referred to **water that was sent or channeled** from a spring into the city.

The Historical Reason the Pool Existed

The pool was fed by water **sent through a tunnel** from the **Gihon Spring** into Jerusalem.

That tunnel was built during the reign of **Hezekiah** (2 Kings 20:20, 2 Chronicles 32:30) to protect the city's water

supply during the Assyrian threat. So the water was literally **"sent" through the rock into the city.**

Life-giving water was supplied in a great time of need.

Why John Points It Out

In John's Gospel, Jesus repeatedly says:

"The Father **sent Me.**" The theme of **"sentness"** runs all through John:

- The Father **sent the Son—the Son obeys**
- Jesus **sends the blind man—the blind man obeys**
- The blind man goes to the pool called **Sent and the miracle obeys the Word of the Master**

Just as life-giving water once came through the rock, now **living sight comes through the One "sent by God."**

Close

There comes a time in one's life where things become crystal clear. It becomes clear to you that we need a Savior. It becomes clear to us that we've been living half of a life. It becomes clear to us that the religious system that we've lived in has too many gaps and is insufficient to meet the needs of our thirsty souls. Perhaps that time of clarity is today. The Living Water was sent for you—at a time when you didn't know you needed it until you encountered the Word Himself coming to you.

Will you be open to let the Master finish what He started in you? Will you let Him open your eyes? Will you let Him free you from the religious system so that you can walk in the newness of life?

There will be those who will not like that you are free of that Jesus set you free in a way that went against their rules. Freedom is not convenient for those who are used to a life of darkness and restrictive experiences. Yet freedom is what the soul longs for and Jesus is here to give it to you.

Acts 2:21 (NKJV)

21 And it shall come to pass

That whoever calls on the name of the LORD

Shall be saved.'

The Lord Jesus was sent for you!