

## John 9.1

### Simply Jesus

#### John 9:1-43

Jesus is leaving, probably the most heated debate with the Jewish leaders in the temple, a day after the great day of the feast of the Tabernacles

They brought a woman caught in adultery,

As He is leaving the temple, they want to stone Him, but He leaves because His time had not yet come

Why did they want to stone Him?

Because darkness hates the light, **John 3:19** And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

**20** For everyone practicing evil hates the light

This is the same reason Stephen, Peter, Paul, and the early church, throughout the history of the church, men and women of God have been hated, persecuted, and killed, as the world saw last week, our brother Charly Kirk, who was killed for shining the light of the Gospel, of the Word of God, of Christian principles and values, because men love darkness and hate the light

So Jesus is leaving the temple

**John 8:1** 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?"

- Jesus walked by, and there was a man who was blind from birth
- The disciples asked Jesus who sinned for this man to be blind.
  - Jewish people associated such judgment with sin. So in their minds, someone had to sin
- In other words, they are asking **why** he is blind
  - Almost every person who has lived has asked the question of Why?
  - This is a roadblock to many people when it comes to believing in God

**It is normal to ask why.**

The bible is filled with Godly people who asked why

1. Moses asked: Why have you brought trouble to these people?
2. Gideon asked: Why then has all this happened to us?
3. Naomi said: I went out full, and the Lord has brought me home again empty. Why?
4. Nehemiah asked: Why is the house of God forgotten?
5. Job said: Why have you set me as your target?
6. David said: Lord, why do you cast off my soul? Why do you hide your face from me?
7. Many today are asking why someone like Charly Kirk would be assassinated the way He was

The greatest "**why**" was by Jesus, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me"?

When we ask why? I can be sure that what Jesus did at Calvary covers it all.

We may never know the answer, but one day, when we all unite with the Lord, we will know that He made everything work together for our good for His purpose, in His time, and for His glory One day, all of our question marks will be turned into exclamation points

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

**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."

- Jesus says that the man is blind so that the works of God can be revealed in him
- Can suffering be used by God to bring about a greater good in your life or in an entire generation?
  - Yes!! Just like Joseph, Charly Kirk, the devil meant it for evil but God turn it Good

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- There is an awakening in America like I haven't seen in my lifetime
- A young generation that is opening its ears and hearts to the message of the Gospel
- This will never be different than Jonathan Edwards, from William Seymour, from the Jesus movement, or from Billy Graham
- There is revival coming and a generation that will rise, that will have zeal for the Lord, fire in their bones, and be bold in their witness for Christ

There is suffering in the world

1. Suffering can equip us
  - We can minister to people who are suffering because maybe we have suffered the same trials and tribulations
  - It is that suffering that we may have gone through that equips us to minister to people
2. Suffering strengthens us
  - **James 1:2** *My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.*
3. Suffering can correct us
  - **Psalms 119:71** *It is good for me that I have been afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes.*

Are we willing to embrace suffering if it drives us closer to God

Are we willing to alleviate someone's suffering if it drives them closer to God

This man was a miracle waiting to happen

**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*

- Why does Jesus say this? Well, because a man was waiting for the Glory of God to be revealed in him, but Jesus had to do the work
- People are waiting for the Glory of God to be revealed in them
- So we must work while it is day, while we're alive, do the works of Him who has sent us
- Charley Kirk worked the work that God sent him to work; now He is in the presence of God

**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.*

**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."*

- Something that suffering will not do
- Suffering will never hinder the power of God
- He was there, blind maybe for over 30 years
- He later would say we have never heard of anyone whose eyes, who was born blind, were opened
- Maybe he had accepted that this was his story
- Little did he know that his story was about to be rewritten
- Let God rewrite your story
- This man's story was written **with mud** by Jesus
- People didn't believe it, but He says it's me, you better believe it

**10** *Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?"*

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**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."

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

**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."

- The blind man is brought to the Pharisees (they will determine now if this was a miracle from God or not)
- Jesus healed him on the Sabbath, and the Pharisees disapproved of it. In John 6, Jesus had healed a lame man on the sabbath, and from there, the Pharisees had determined to kill Jesus
  - Jesus did 7 miracles on the sabbath that disturbed the Pharisees
  - The Jewish Mishnah: a commentary on the law, there was a whole section on what you can or cannot do on the sabbath
    - It was forbidden to carry more than a dry fig
    - If you broke a bone, you couldn't set it back unless it was life-threatening
    - It was forbidden to heal on the sabbath. What kind of people would be outraged? Religious people
  - Jesus did this because he wanted to let the leaders understand what the sabbath was all about
  - We don't keep the sabbath because the ceremonial part of the law is part of the old covenant, and our rest is in Jesus
  - We meet on the day of the Lord, Sunday

**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." **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.**"

- There is a simplicity to His testimony
- I was blind and now I see
  - John Newton, in the 1700s, wrote Amazing Grace
- I don't know how, they keep asking how, but it's not about how; it's about **who**.
  - The answer is Jesus, it has always been Jesus, and it will never stop being Jesus
- I only know one thing
- I was blind and now I see

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

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**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?" **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." **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."

- Love this guy's theology
- There is something about the work of the Holy Spirit that just feels right in our Spirit, Romans 8:16, 1 John 5
- This Guy knew his Word, he knew his History, that no one had ever been healed from blindness like him

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

- The religious leader cast him out of the synagogue, which means he is not allowed to be a part of the Jewish fellowship
- A formal declaration

**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.

- He was cast out, but Jesus went and found Him
- He is ready to place his faith in Jesus
- We have seen this pattern of healing, and after coming to faith both in the Bible and in church History
- God is still healing today

**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.

A blind man whom even the disciples thought his blindness was a judgment from God

A blind man who never thought that he would be healed

Had a radical encounter with Jesus, and Jesus rewrote his story

He was cast out by the leaders but found by Jesus

I only know one thing: I was blind, but now I see