



March 31, 2024 | Pastor Clay Carlson

Title: "I Once Was Blind"

Text: Matthew 20:29-34

Today we remember and celebrate that Jesus, who willingly gave his life for us so that we can be saved, rose from the dead! **Jesus is alive!**

And now 2,000 years later, we must ask this question:

Can Jesus Really Change My Life?

Let us examine a story of two men whose lives were forever changed by Jesus:

1. Their _____ (vs. 30a)

Blind, hopeless, unable to go where they wanted to go

Ephesians 2:12 "That at that time ye were without Christ... having no hope, and without God in the world:"

Without Christ we are lost in our sin!

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

2. Their _____ (vs. 30b, 31, 32)

"Have Mercy" -They cried out asking for undeserved compassion.

We need mercy! We are sinners! We don't deserve to be healed.

Isaiah 64:6 "But we are all as an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; And we all do fade as a leaf; And our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."

"O Lord" -They admitted that Jesus was God!

We must believe that Jesus is Lord!

Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

“that our eyes may be opened” -They asked for healing

-Ultimately, this cry was a call of faith!

“I believe you have the power to make us whole!”

We need faith! Without faith there is no salvation!

Galatians 3:26 *“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.”*

3. The _____ (vs. 31a)

-**The multitude rebuked them.** “Hold your peace!”

- “Jesus doesn’t care/can’t heal/isn’t here for you”

-Truth will always have critics.

-Salvation by faith in Jesus will always have deniers

Don’t allow the critics to stop your call to Jesus!

1 Corinthians 1:18 *“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”*

Salvation is by faith alone! Don’t allow any critic to convince you otherwise.

Ephesians 2:8–9 *“8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.”*

4. The _____ of Christ (vs. 31b-34a)

“So Jesus had compassion on them”

Jesus loves you!

Oh what a wonder, that Jesus loves ME!

Revelation 1:5 *“And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. **Unto him that loved us**, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,”*

Jeremiah 31:3 *“The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, **Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love:** Therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.”*

5. The _____ (vs. 34b)

“Jesus...touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight,”

- It's one thing to have compassion on someone, but another thing entirely to act on that compassion!
- Jesus not only had compassion, but He went to where they were and touched them.
- He knew exactly how to heal them, after all, He had designed and created their eyes.
- He brings His hands up and touches their diseased eyes and immediately they were healed!

Jesus proved 2 things when he cured these blind men:

1. He truly did love them
2. He truly was the Son of God

-2,000 years ago Jesus acted on His great love for humanity and **came to where we were**....a fallen world, born of a woman, and he made contact with our world.

- Then on the cross, the same hands that touched the eyes of the blind men were pierced through with nails.
- He was touched with our sin, mine and yours. The sin of the world was placed in His body and He became sin for us!

Jesus died for you!

John 15:13 *“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”*

Conclusion

“and they followed him.”

-No doubt they would tell others, “Once I was blind...but now I see! Jesus healed me!”

After death, Jesus rose from the dead!

- Jesus offers you something far greater than eyesight.
- He offers you a gift of eternal life; forgiveness of your sin.

Can Jesus Change Your Life? Yes, He Can!

Acts 16:30 *“Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.”*

**Consider coming back
next week for another
special service.**

***Can Jesus Really Change
Your Life?***

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