

THE GOSPEL *of* JOHN

CHAPTER 9:1-41

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Once We Were Blind”

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

TOPICALLY SUBJECT SEARCH KEYWORDS:

Salvation, Deity, Healing, Forgives, Blindness

INTRODUCTION

to the text

John 9:1-41

Once We Were Blind

There are a lot of things that challenge our sight in this life. There are things like our view or maybe our perception. Many people today are challenged by biases or assumptions...

but the worst type of blindness today is that type that has always been, and that is the cause of spiritual blindness. Don't get me wrong, physical blindness would be very hard to cope with, but you can succeed. But those who are spiritually blind are in great danger

The Bible is Clear

Regarding man's true blindness – a blindness toward God

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Ephesians 4:17-19

Regarding the unconverted... 18 having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardening of their heart; 19 who, being past feeling,

1 John 2:9-11

But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

Once We Were Blind

1.) *But now we see the love of God*

vv. 1-7

a.) *By His Compassion*

vv. 1

Now as Jesus passed by,
He saw a man who was blind from birth

The Compassion of God

(As seen through Jesus Christ)

Matthew 8:14-15

Now when Jesus had come into Peter's house,
He saw his wife's mother lying sick

Matthew 9:36

But when Jesus **saw** the multitudes, He was moved with **compassion** for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

Like Sheep Having No Shepherd That is an impossibility

Sheep Must Have A Shepherd or Else They Die

God's Love is Seen by His Compassion

Mark 1:40-41

40 Then a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, "If You are willing, you can make me clean." 41 And Jesus, moved with compassion, put out His hand and touched him, and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed."

Daily Jesus is Compassionate Toward Us

But now we see the love of God

b.) Opposite of Human Perceptions

vv. 2

And His disciples asked Him, saying, "**Rabbi, who sinned,** this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

The Conventional Wisdom of the Day Was
that all sickness was evil and a result of sin

The Rabbis Believed that you could sin prenatally

GENESIS 25

In the War Womb - the ambition of Jacob and Esau

How Evil Can a Person Be?
PRETTY EVIL *and very arrogant*

Human Love is Faulty at Best
It has motives and conditions attached

But now we see the love of God

c.) *In the Issues of Life Itself*

vv. 3-5

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

I Confess,
I Do Not Understand How This Works

Exodus 4:11-12

So the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the LORD?"

But I Know What I Believe
And it's based upon His nature and mode of operation

Genesis 18:25

far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

There is a specific problem here with sickness

But it is not related to sinning

NOT ALL SICKNESS IS DUE TO PERSONAL SIN

Exodus 34:6-7

keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."

Verse 4

I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.

A PROFOUND TRUTH AND A CALL TO URGENCY

Verse 5

As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

John 8:12

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life."

But now I see the love of God

d.) Through the Act of Obedience

vv. 6-7

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.

Why Siloam?
((The Pool of Bethesda was Closer))
THERE IS A DIRECT CHALLENGE GOING ON HERE

Why Siloam?

Isaiah 12:2-3

Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. 3 Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

John 7:37

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. (The well of salvation)

SALVATION WAS HAPPENING HERE

And the Jews knew what was going on

He spat on the ground and **made** clay with the saliva;

*According the Written Traditions of the Jewish Leaders,
It was not even lawful for a person to mix dirt and water together
On the Sabbath.*

Once We Were Blind

2.) *But now we see Changed Lives*

vv. 8-12

a.) *A Changed Life is a Powerful Witness*

vv. 8-9

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."

**Is not this he who sat and begged?"
Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him."
He said, "I am he."**

When God heals
it's all out and complete

**HE WAS SO HEALED
THAT HE LOOKED DIFFERENT**

What a Difference a "New Life" can Make!!!

Acts 4:13

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

John 17:23

I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me,

Now we see a Changed Life

b.) A Changed Life Demands Explanation vv. 10-12

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

#1

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

#2

A Man called Jesus **made clay** and **anointed my eyes** and **said** to me,

#3

Then they said to him, "Where is He?"

Acts 4:6-8

many as were of the family of the high priest, were gathered at Jerusalem. 7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, "By what power or by what name have you done this?" 8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them...

Acts 1:8

8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Once We Were Blind

3.) But now we see the Reality of God vv. 13-16

a.) In all that He does vv. 13-15

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

**He put clay on my eyes,
and I washed, and I see**

“Situations Always Speak”

**There is nothing that is an accident to the
Christian**

1 Corinthians 2:10-11

For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God...
...Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

Romans 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good...

- to those who love God,
- to those who are the called according
- to His purpose.

Now I see the Reality of God

b.) By What People Say

vv. 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.

“The Cons”

Therefore some of the Pharisees said,
"This Man is not from God,

“The Pros”

"How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?"

“The Drummed-Up Issues”

“He does not keep the Sabbath”

Where Truth Is, There Will Be Controversy

**What People Say
Often Speaks Louder Than What Is Being Said**

Psalm 2:1-4

Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, 3 "Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us." 4 He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The LORD shall hold them in derision.

Once We Were Blind

4.) *But now we see for Ourselves*

vv. 17-25

Acts 26:18

It is God's mission to open your eyes, in order to turn you from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that you may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.'

a.) *Being Personally Convinced*

v. 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.**"

"He is a prophet."

>>> Hello <<<

**It's With Conviction
He knows what He knows**

1 Peter 3:15

sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and respect.

Acts 18:4

PAUL'S CUSTOM

And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and **persuaded** both Jews and Greeks.

2 Timothy 1:12

For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

But now we see for Ourselves

b.) And Publicly Confessed

vv. 18-23

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."

To be put out Meant

You could not buy or sell anything; you could not worship nor attend fellowship. You were black-balled at your business.

THE Steps to Rabbinical Discipline

1. Rebuked - Corrected - Lasted for a period of days
2. Cast Out - Cursed - Lasted for a period of months
3. Cutting Off - Damned - Lasted for Eternity

But now we see for Ourselves

c.) *Become Absolutely Certain*

vv. 24-25

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.**"

**One thing I know,
So, Deal with It**

**No Matter What People Say
Now I Can See**

Once We Were Blind

5.) *But now we see the Miracles of God*

vv.26-34

a.) *Now we want to follow Jesus*

vv.26-29

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

This Guy is Spirit-Filled

we want to follow Jesus

We were once aliens toward God

Ezekiel 18:30-31

Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit.

Ezekiel 36:25-27

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

But now we see the Miracles of God

b.) *Now we see marvelous things*

vv.30-34

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

John 6:36-37

All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

John 14:12

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Once We Were Blind

6.) *But now we see our salvation*

vv.35-41

a.) *Because He has found us*

vv.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?**"

#1

when He had found him,

A Crusade to Reach the Broken

Would be a crusade to end all crusades

#2

"Do you believe in the Son of God?"

You do believe in the Son of God?"

There is a Value Placed Upon Your Life

Matthew 13:45-46

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, 46 who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

But now we see our salvation

b.) Because He has spoken to us

vv.36-38

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.

THE MARK OF TRUE CONVERSION

Acts 3:6-9

In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. 7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. 8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God:

But now we see our salvation

c.) Because He has opened our eyes

vv.39-41

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.

The Issue is This.

Do You Believe That Jesus Christ is The Messiah - Christ - Savior?