

## THINGS THE BLIND MAN SAW

### Int.

1. Aim: To show some things this man saw [understood] even though he was blind.
2. John 9 - healing of a blind man
  - a. Blindness was very common
  - b. Jesus often opened eyes of the blind
    - (1) Two at Capernaum - Mt. 9:27-31
    - (2) One at Bethsaida - Mk. 8:2-26
    - (3) Two at Jericho - Mt. 20:29-34
    - (4) Many others - Matt. 11:4,5, 21:14 **"And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them."**
3. Jesus usually healed those who came to him or were brought to him. Here is an example of healing without being asked or desired
4. Story of the blind man -John 9
  - a. Blind from birth - Disciples question and Jesus answer
  - b. Healing = opening of his eyes
  - c. Neighbors amazement
  - d. Pharisees Doubt
    - (1) Called parents for proof
    - (2) He is our boy - blind from birth
  - e. They cast him out
  - f. Jesus comes to him - He worships Jesus
5. Jn. 9:39 **"And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind."**

6. Here are some things this blind man was able to see

### Discussion

#### I. **HE SAW THAT JESUS DID NOT SEE LIKE THE DISCIPLES**

A. Jn. 9:2 **"And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?"**

1. Doctrine of re-incarnation [transmigration] of souls = souls of men were sent into other bodies for punishment of some sin which they had committed in a pre-existent state
2. Hindu's claim they can tell the sin which he committed in other body by the afflictions which he endures in this:
  - a. Headache = irreverent to father or mother
  - b. Madness = disobedient to father and mother
  - c. Epilepsy = given poison to another person
  - d. Blindness = killing of mother
3. Some believed it possible for the infant to sin in the womb and be punished with some bodily infirmity !
4. If he did not sin then surely the parents had sinned and this was the cause of blindness at birth.

B. John 9:3 **"Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him."**

1. His sins nor his parents sins were not the cause of him being born blind
  - a. Sometimes faithful parents have abnormal children.
  - b. Sometimes sinful parents have very normal children

2. This man's blindness had nothing to do with sin on his part or of his parents
    - a. Suffering is not always the result of some sin committed by the person or his parents.
    - b. Some suffering is caused by our sins or sins of others. But it is not correct to say that all suffering is caused by sin.
  3. Jesus used this opportunity to show forth the glory of God.
- C. Blind man saw that Jesus didn't see like his disciples !
1. Christ knew the true facts of the case
  2. Christ knew that suffering was not always the result of sin
  3. God is able to make good come out of our afflictions - II Cor. 12:7-10
- D. We must see that Jesus does not see like we do.

## **II. HE SAW THAT OBEDIENCE BRINGS LIGHT**

- A. John 9:7 **"And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing."**
1. Pool of Siloam - he was sent
    - a. Jesus was sent from God
    - b. Name of water was appropriate to the purpose - blind man sent
  2. This was a miracle accomplished by Divine Power
    - a. If clay could open eyes then others would be doing the same.

- b. The waters did not open his eyes, if so all blind people today would go there.
  3. His obedience is what opened his eyes
    - a. Christ commanded - go wash eyes anointed
    - b. He obeyed
    - c. Therefore his eyes were opened
  4. The blind man knew that his obedience is what opened his eyes
- B. Baptism today is the final act of salvation
1. Faith alone or baptism alone is not what removes our sin
  2. Our obedience to God is what saves us
  3. The man's eyes were not opened until he proved his faith by going to the pool of Siloam and washing his eyes
  4. Our sins are not forgiven until we prove our faith by being baptized in water
  5. I Pet. 3:21 **"The like figure whereunto [even] baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:"**
  6. Some today would have told the blind man:
    - a. Where are you going? To the pool to wash my eyes.
    - b. Who told you to do it? Jesus
    - c. Do you have faith in Jesus? Yes
    - d. Don't you know you can see already, if you just have faith?

- C. The blind man knew and saw that obedience was what opened his eyes and brought light.

### **III. THE BLIND MAN SAW NO CONFLICT BETWEEN GRACE AND OBEDIENCE**

- A. Some say that since salvation is of grace we can do nothing for the remission of our sins

- B. This man's healing of blindness was of grace yet he had to do something

1. Grace = unmerited favor
2. His receiving of sight was grace
3. Yet for him to receive his sight he must of necessity do what Christ commanded !

- C. Application

1. We are saved by grace

a. Eph. 2:5 **"Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved:)"**

b. Eph. 2:8 **"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God:"**

(1) We must work - Illustration - Boat - Faith + Works

(2) Jas. 2:24 **"Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only."**

2. The Eunuch was saved by Grace - Saul was saved by Grace - yet they were both baptized for the remission of their sins
3. Naaman was cleansed by grace - yet he had something to do.

- D. This blind man saw obedience was necessary to receive the grace of God. Acts 2:40 "Save yourselves from this untoward generation."

#### **IV. THE BLIND MAN SAW THAT PREJUDICE WILL CAUSE PEOPLE TO DENY**

##### **FACTS**

- A. Jn. 9:13-34
1. He told how Jesus opened his eyes
  2. They called his parents
  3. They asked him to give God the praise for this man Jesus is a sinner
  4. Jn. 9:25 **"He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner [or no], I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see."**
- B. They were prejudiced and therefore denied the facts
1. They wouldn't believe that He was the man who had been blind before
  2. They knew no one could do such unless he was from God
  3. They said Jesus sinned because he violated their tradition of anointing the eyes with spittle on the Sabbath day
  4. Therefore Jesus must be a sinner, they thought, and this man's eyes were opened by God, not Christ for he is a sinner.
- C. Many today are the same way
1. They refuse to accept anything in religion different than their own thinking.
  2. They have their views about certain matters and they'll never change
  3. It makes no difference what the Bible says they will not change.

4. We should be firm in our conviction but not stubborn to our own opinion and viewpoint even when pointed out where we are wrong!

D. The blind man saw that these would deny facts because of prejudice.

### **Conclusion**

1. Stephen was the first martyr, this blind man was the first confessor
2. He confessed even at the risk of his life - Jn. 9:22 **"These [words] spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue."**
3. Even though he was blind physically he saw [understood] many spiritual things ...
  - (1) Jesus did not see like the Disciples - all suffering not caused by sin
  - (2) Obedience brings light
  - (3) Saw no conflict between grace and obedience
  - (4) Prejudice will cause people to deny facts
4. Many more people are blind spiritually than physically
  - a. Jn. 9:39 **"And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind."**
  - b. We need our eyes of understanding opened so we can know the will of God and do it.
  - c. Ignorance of God's will, will not save anyone, so let's try to stamp out ignorance of God's word.
5. Teach and learn what the Bible teaches.

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