

I Was Blind, But Now I See (John 9)

Pastor Deric

(1) As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. (2) And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" (3) Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. (4) We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day: 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) Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud (7) and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

(8) The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" (9) Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." (10) So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" (11) He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." (12) They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." (13) They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. (14) Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. (15) So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." (16) Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. (17) So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

(18) The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight (19) and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" (20) His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. (21) But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." (22) (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) (23) Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

(24) So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." (25) He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." (26) They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" (27) He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" (28) And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. (29) We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." (30) The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. (31) We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. (32) Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. (33) If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." (34) They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

(35) Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" (36) He answered, "And who is he, sir; that I may believe in him?" (37) Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." (38) He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. (39) Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind." (40) Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, "Are we also blind?" (41) Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains. [John 9:1-41 ESV]"

1. We are all born spiritually blind.
2. Because of our spiritual blindness we make many poor choices that hurt us and other people.
3. Our spiritual blindness prevents us from seeing the world, ourselves, others, God, and everything else rightly.
4. In the same way that a person can be physically blind, a person can be spiritually blind.
5. We can have blindness of heart, soul, spirit.
6. The eyes of our hearts need to be enlightened by Jesus Christ.
7. The most transforming experience a person can have is to have the eyes of their hearts opened by God and to God.
8. Only Jesus can heal heart blindness.
9. Do you see Jesus? Can you see? If not, ask Him to heal your vision today.
10. Jesus is here. Jesus sees you. Jesus can heal you. Cry out to Jesus.
11. All human brokenness is ultimately because of satan, the fall of humanity into sin at the beginning of history, and the effects of this fall.
12. Human suffering is not always tied to specific human choices and decisions in the present.
13. The works of God can be displayed in response to deep human suffering.
14. The works of God will eventually eradicate all suffering for God's people (Christians).
15. The works of God are works of life, light, and love.
16. Jesus removes darkness with His light, through His life, and for His glory.
17. Today is the day for you to come to Christ for salvation if you have not already.
18. God (Jesus) created the world by His supernatural power. Jesus can create sight through His supernatural power.
19. We all need the powerful touch of Jesus, the anointing of Christ, the healing hand of God.
20. Obedience to God should be our first priority. Do exactly what He tells you today. His instructions are best, and they are good for you.
21. Jesus can take us from beggars to blessed.
22. Jesus can change your heart, identity, status, and future with one touch.
23. Others will marvel at what Jesus does in your life.
24. Don't let those who put misguided religion over mature relationship control, manipulate, or corrupt you.
25. Sadly, some people will refuse to believe no matter who tells them the truth about Jesus. Lovingly tell them anyway. He has given us a testimony to share with others. It is a great privilege and honor to tell others about Him.
26. Don't let those who seem to have power control you with fear. Do God's will no matter what. Love God, love people, and revere Him above all. The fear of man is slavery, but the love of God is liberty.
27. If it comes down to it, Jesus is worth more than the acceptance of the spiritually blind.
28. Giving glory to Jesus is giving glory to God, because Jesus is God.
29. "I was blind, now I see." Is that your testimony too?
30. Everyone is a disciple/student/follower of someone. Jesus is the only one worthy of your total discipleship.
31. Jesus is greater than Moses. Moses led people out of slavery under Pharaoh in Egypt, but only Jesus can lead you out of slavery to satan, sin, and death. Moses was not able to enter the Promised Land and died on the outside because of his sin, but Jesus is the Promised One who leads us into the Promised Land of God's blessing forever through His death, resurrection, and empowerment.
32. Jesus was from heaven.
33. God the Father listens to God the Son. Pray to the Father in the name of the Son and He will hear you in a special way.
34. The humble are willing to learn truth from anyone, but the prideful won't even listen to Jesus.
35. If you have been kicked out, abandoned, rejected, or overlooked Jesus will take you in and take you up.
36. Do you believe in the Son of Man (Jesus Christ)? If not, trust Him today with all your heart.
37. Only God is worthy of your worship. Jesus is worthy of your worship. Worship Jesus today.
38. Pride will keep you blinded and in the dark forever. Humble yourself before the Lord today. Only Jesus can take away your guilt.

Announcements

1. Mission Trip Fundraiser! There will be a fundraiser event for Caleb Burke and his mission trip to India. HMC is hosting a luncheon on March 12th from 12:00 pm- 2:30 PM, to help raise funds for this mission trip. Come out and support one of our own young men who has begun the process of fulfilling his desire to become a full-time missionary.
2. HOPE BLAST! Join us for a night of fun, food, games, fellowship, and worship! The Hope Blast will be March 18th, 4pm-6pm. Invite friends and family! We are also looking for volunteers to help with the event. If you have questions, please contact Diane Davis.
3. The Men's Ministry Group will meet again on March 26 after church service. Join the men from HMC to fellowship and worship the Lord! If you or someone you know is interested in joining this group of God loving men, contact Brad Vick.
4. Join us for a Family Baby Shower for Davia O'Neal and Kortlin Zeigler Sunday 3/19/23 right after service. Come and celebrate the upcoming additions to the HMC family with a pot-luck style lunch and baby shower!
5. EASTER: Sunday, April 2nd (9am), we will be having an Easter Egg Hunt for all the kids at Hope Mountain please bring your basket and be ready for some fun. There will be snacks, a picture booth, and more. Please invite your friends and family. If you could bring eggs or candy to donate that would be amazing! There will be a bin in the lobby. Please email Tiffany Vick at bwvick@yahoo.com if you have any questions.
6. Did you miss Pastor Deric's sermon last Sunday? The sermons are available in video and audio format along with the outline in PDF. <https://hopemountain.church/resources/sermons/>