

BLIND MAN'S TESTIMONY

Wednesday, February 7

Reading: John 9:24-34

John 9:25 *He replied, "Whether He is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"*

These verses give us the heart of the former blind man's testimony. The Pharisees command him to stop lying about the fact that Jesus healed him and finally tell the truth. To do this would in fact be agreeing with the Pharisees that Jesus was a sinner.

Not to be caught up in their theological argument, the blind man simply states what he knows – "once I was blind but now I can see." This is a clear statement of what Jesus had done in his life. When he is again pressed to tell his story (probably in the hopes that he will change it), the man sarcastically asks if they want to become disciples of Jesus as well. This statement also reveals the intent of his heart – he wanted to follow Jesus himself.

This comment drove the Pharisees over the edge. They claimed that they were disciples of Moses to whom God Himself spoke. If this ignorant beggar wanted to follow a sinner like Jesus, that was his choice. They would follow Moses! The ex-blind man responded with irrefutable logic. How could they not know where Jesus was from when He did something only God could do! Therefore, Jesus must be from God and doing God's will. Unable to counter his testimony, the Pharisees revile the man and expel Him from the synagogue. Though presented with solid evidence of the divinity of Jesus, those steeped in unbelief attempt to deny the undeniable and refute the irrefutable!

LESSON ONE: "I Once Was Blind..." We should not be surprised when unsaved people refuse to listen to the evidence for our faith. Like the Pharisees, they often already have their minds made up before the conversation begins. The best evidence we can give them is a simple statement of what Jesus has done in our life – "I once was blind, but now I see." What changes in your life can help the skeptic see God's power working in you?

LESSON TWO: "In Good Company." The Pharisees call the blind man "steeped in sin." This is the same thing they said about Jesus – that He was a sinner! When the world ridicules us and persecutes us for our faith, we are in good company. They did the same to Jesus. How can this truth help you endure through times of spiritual warfare? What encouragement does Jesus' words in John 16:33 give you?

"I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble.
But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)