

THE HEALING OF A MAN BORN BLIND

(Part 34 – series *The Miracles of Jesus*)

TEXT: John 9:1-7, 30-38

INTRODUCTION: Christ and His disciples are now back in Judaea. Upon His return from Galilee, He further infuriates the scribes and Pharisees by forgiving the woman taken in adultery that they had flung at His feet (Jn. 8:1-11). Then He makes the claim to be “*the light of the world*” (8:12). To add insult to injury, He indicts them as having the devil for their father (8:44). They respond by accusing Christ of being demon-possessed (v. 48), and finally, erupting in blind rage, they take up stones to kill Him (v. 59).

Jesus eludes His persecutors once again, and though “on the run” from them, He takes the time to help and heal a needy soul who didn’t even ask for help! This is the sixth miracle that John records, a “sign” of Jesus’ deity. His is the only gospel account of this miracle of healing a man blind from birth, and he furnishes many interesting details. This was a marvelous miracle – one of a kind.

OUTLINE: As notable as this miracle itself is, there is tremendous spiritual truth in three related matters that John includes.

I. The Disability evidenced

(v. 1)

A. His blindness caused deep poverty (v. 8).

B. His blindness magnified Christ as “the light of the world” (v. 8, 8:12).

II. The Discussion elicited

(vv. 2-5)

A. Jesus corrected His disciples (vv. 2, 3).

B. Jesus challenged His disciples (vv. 4, 5).

III. The Disbelief evoked

A. His neighbors didn’t recognize him (vv. 8, 9).

B. The Pharisees refused to believe on Christ (vv. 39-41).

1. They tried to discredit the miracle (v. 18).

2. They tried to separate the miracle from the Miracle-worker (v. 24).

3. They retreated into tradition (vv. 28, 29).

CONCLUSION: Perhaps the greatest lesson that can be taken from this miracle – since we are already convinced that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God – is that we need to get busy and work with Christ in bringing sight to those who are spiritually blind. We cannot give men eyes – only Jesus can. But we can bring them light. In

His absence, we are the *“light of the world,”* Jesus said in Matt. 5:14.

We can put the Word into the hands of people in darkness. *“The entrance of thy words giveth light”* (Ps. 119:130). The blindness of prejudice, unbelief, tradition, and even nature can be removed only when a man is “born again.” Then for the first time, he will “see” the kingdom of God.

Do we share Christ’s sense of urgency?