

From DARKNESS to LIGHT ~ John 9:1-41

→ Scripture Reading Jeremiah 18:1-6

Born BLIND for God's GLORY ~ John 9:1-12

¹ As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, **who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?**" ³ "NEITHER this man NOR his parents SINNED," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. ⁴ As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ While I am in the world, **I AM the light of the world.**"

⁶ Having said this, **He spit on the ground**, made some **mud** with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷ "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

⁸ His **neighbors** and those who had **formerly seen him begging** asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some claimed that he was. Others said, "No, he only looks like him." But **he himself insisted, "I am the man."**

¹⁰ "How then were your eyes opened?" they demanded. ¹¹ He replied, "The man they call Jesus **made some mud and put it on my eyes**. He told me **to go to Siloam** and wash. So I went and washed, and then **I COULD SEE.**" ¹² "Where is this man?" they asked him. "I don't know," he said.

IMPLICATIONS

Romans 5:2-5 (NIV) ² ...And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that SUFFERING produces perseverance; ⁴ PERSEVERANCE, character; and CHARACTER, hope. ⁵ And **hope does not disappoint us**, because **God has poured out his love** into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. ⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

Paul tells us to Rejoice in our Suffering...

- it produces PERSEVERANCE
- it produces CHARACTER
- it produces HOPE

Trying to DISHONOR Jesus ~ John 9:13-23

→The Pharisees Question The Blind Man

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. ¹⁴ Now **the day on which Jesus had made the mud** and opened the man's eyes **was a Sabbath**. ¹⁵ Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "**He put mud on my eyes,**" the man replied, "**and I washed, and now I see.**" ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others asked, "How can a sinner do such miraculous signs?" So they were divided. ¹⁷ Finally they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened." The man replied, "**He is a prophet.**"

→The Pharisees Question the Parents of the Blind Man

¹⁸ **The Jews still did not believe that he had been blind** and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. ¹⁹ "Is this your son?" they asked. "Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?" ²⁰ "**We know he is our son,**" the parents answered, "**and we know he was born blind.**" ²¹ But **HOW he can see now, or WHO opened his eyes**, we don't know. **Ask him. He is of age;** he will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because **they were afraid** of the Jews, for already the Jews had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Christ would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ That was why his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

Luke 6:22 (NIV) Blessed are you when people **HATE you** and when they **EXCLUDE you** and **REVILE you** and **SPURN your name** as evil, **on ACCOUNT of the Son of Man.**

Once I Was BLIND but Now I SEE ~ John 9:24-34

→The Pharisees Question the Blind Man a SECOND Time

²⁴ A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God," they said. "We know this man is a sinner." 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!"

One thing I do KNOW - ONCE I was BLIND - but NOW I SEE

²⁶ Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" ²⁸ Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses!" ²⁹ We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from."

³⁰ The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. ³² Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could DO nothing." ³⁴ To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

I Believe in Jesus the Son of Man ~ John 9:35-41

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶ "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." ³⁷ Jesus said, "You have now seen Him; in fact, He is the one speaking with you." ³⁸ Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will SEE and those who see will become blind." ⁴⁰ Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?" ⁴¹ Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains."

→Jesus asked him to make a Commitment right after he had been Persecuted.

The physical blindness of the man born blind was treatable by the power of God's Son. But the Pharisees, unwilling to acknowledge their own spiritual blindness, placed themselves beyond the realm of His healing power. HNTC

IMPLICATION

→There are None so BLIND as those who WILL NOT see

What Things Do We REFUSE To See?

- That God's Forgiveness and Grace Really APPLY to us
- That God is GOOD during Times of Hardship, Suffering, or Pain

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Be joyful always; ¹⁷ pray continually; ¹⁸ give thanks IN ALL circumstances, for this IS God's WILL for you IN Christ Jesus.

TAKE AWAY ??

2 Corinthians 4:6-7 (ESV) But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to SHOW that the surpassing power belongs to God and NOT to us.

2 Timothy 2:20 (NIV) In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble.

My FAITH has founded a Resting Place - not in device nor creed;
I trust the ever Living One - His wounds for me shall plead.

Enough for me that Jesus saves - this ends my fear and doubt;
A sinful soul I come to Him - He'll never cast me out.

My heart is leaning on the Word - the written Word of God;
Salvation by my Savior's Name - salvation through His blood.

I need no other argument, I need no other plea;
It is enough that Jesus died, and that He died for me.