



MESSAGE/SERIES:

Series: JESUS IN JOHN

Message: "That the Blind May See His Glory"

DATE: April 25, 2021

SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK:

(These verses will help you understand themes within as you read our core text as scripture proves scripture)

John 9:1-41, John 8:12, Exodus 20:5, Ezekiel 18:20, Job 5:6-7, 2 Kings 5:10-14 (Naaman), Acts 3:2 (Temple a place for charity), John 3:5 (Water & Spirit), John 11:4 (Resurrection for His Glory), John 6:29 (The Work Acceptable), **Mark 7:31-37 (Jesus Glorified)**, Matthew 5:14 (You are a city on a hill), **Romans 11:36**, John 14:12, 18-21, Acts 4:11-12 (Jesus revealed to sinners), John 15:22-24 (explanation of John 9:40-41)

OPENING SCRIPTURE:

[**John 9:1-41**] *"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.”

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Jn 9:1–41.

BACKGROUND:

[SUFFERING & JEWISH THOUGHT] Jewish teachers believed that suffering, including blindness, was often due to sin; one could suffer for one’s parents’ sins or even for a sin committed by mother or fetus during the pregnancy.

Craig S. Keener, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993), Jn 9:2.

[THE BLIND] Blind people could make a living only by public charity, and they could make it best near the temple, where many people passed and people would tend to think charitably (cf. Acts 3:2). The disciples see this blind man as they are leaving the temple area (8:59).

Craig S. Keener, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993), Jn 9:1.

[PROPHET] In the NT, most of the references to prophets are to figures or to their writings. These references are used primarily to authenticate the messianic identity of Jesus and his ministry (Matt 1:22; 2:23). In this sense, prophets are presented not only as people who proclaimed the divine word but also as those who foretold the coming of the Messiah. John the Baptist is referred to as a prophet (Matt 11:9; 14:5; 21:26; Luke 1:76), and this is the common opinion of the people concerning Jesus as well (Matt 21:11, 46; Luke 7:16; 24:19; John 4:19; 6:14; 9:17). The early church clearly identified Jesus with the prophet like Moses (*nābî*) foretold in Deut 18:15 (Acts 3:22; 7:37).

Aaron C. Fenlason, “Prophets,” ed. Douglas Mangum et al., *Lexham Theological Wordbook*, Lexham Bible Reference Series (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2014).

OUTLINE:

I. (v1-7) PRESUPPOSITIONS

- A. (v1-2) “Rabbi, **who sinned**, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

1. **Cultural Jewish belief** was that the sin of the mother during pregnancy was passed along to the child causing a child to be born blind/lame/deaf/etc...
2. The thought of the religious people was that sin causes suffering (which is true)
 - a) Sometimes suffering is the repercussions of Sin
 - b) Sometimes it is the sin of others that affects us
 - c) Sometimes it is just the puddle effect of Adam (the fallen world)
 - d) Sometimes an individual is vexed with suffering so that faith may come out of the suffering and that God may be glorified
 - (1) **Romans 11:36** ³⁶ *For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.*
 - (a) For the cause of Christ, we suffer as **all things point to Him as Lord**

B. (v3) "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, **but that the works of God might be displayed in him.**"

1. *Suffering is always an opportunity for God to get the glory*

C. (v4) "**We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day;** night is coming, when no one can work."

1. *Jesus had a work to do and His time [Day] was upon the world (divine appointment)...*
 - a) *Night represented the cross*
 - b) *and Jesus' separation from them*
 - c) *Jesus was placed under the wrath of God*

2. *The Disciples by their close God appointed association had a work to do (This statement is tied closely with Jesus and then His disciples in a secondary and lesser sense)*

3. (v4) "*I must work the works of the one who **sent me***"

- a) *Ironically the pool of Siloam means "sent"*
- b) *Jesus was sent to give Spiritual sight that man may see the father*

D. (v5) "As long as I am in the world, **I am the light of the world.**"

1. *JESUS- While Jesus walked this earth the Glory of the Father was perfectly shown*

2. *JESUS in US- Jesus is now the light in us shining into the dark world- John 14:12, 18-21*
3. *JESUS in US to THEM- Jesus shines through us to touch those whom He is calling*

E. (v6-7) Jesus illustrates the physical and Spiritual light by healing the blind man (Jesus created eyes where there were no working eyes)

II. (v8-12) PERCEPTIONS

- A. (v8-9) The people who knew the blind man cannot grasp the fact that the blind man can now see (all they remember is his past)
 1. *They even debated as to if the man they now see was the man who they always saw (based on their human sight and limited understanding)*
- B. (v9b) The healed man must speak/ those who have been given sight must tell what they have seen and **identify themselves**
 1. *the man identifies himself as once blind*
 2. *and once a beggar*
 - a) The world requires our testimony as to who we were (I once was blind and in need)
- C. (v9-10) The seeing man keeps testifying of how he came to see but the people wanted more details
 1. *When you have been healed to glorify God as this man was... glorify God with truth/your new insight*
- D. (v11) Jesus uses the mud here to symbolize the creation of sight
 1. *It is believed that the man did not have what he needed physically to see therefore Jesus created new eyes from nothing*
 - a) In essence, this was not healing but creating just as God creates in us a new heart with the presence of the Holy Spirit (He creates something new 2 Corinthians 5:17)
- E. (v12) The world today wants to engage Christ that they may cancel Him
 1. *They engage Christ through science*
 2. *They engage Christ through Psychology*
 3. *They engage Christ through humanism*

III. (v13-34) PROBINGS

This probing was done by the religious crowd lead by the Pharisees

- A. (v13-15) The man restates the facts for the religious crowd as they seek to explain Jesus away
 1. *They ask how Jesus gave him his sight because it did not make sense to the religious crowd*
 2. *The implication here is that the same people who were ultra focused on the man and were asking him all that he had seen*
 3. *These same people had passed by the man every day and didn't see him or his need*
 4. *Keep in mind this man had never seen anything before and He has the only view of Jesus here*

- B. (v16) The Pharisees say Jesus is not from God because He healed on the sabbath
 1. *Yet others begin to recognize and say that Jesus could not have been a sinner do such signs*
 2. *It is indicated here that those defending Jesus and the sign did not back down pointing out that maybe several eyes were benign opened by Jesus*

- C. (v17) When penned in the corner the man acknowledges Jesus as a prophet (God's tool/messenger)

- D. (v18) After they heard the testimony of the sighted man they then try to discredit him as well
 1. *The world will tear down the Christian who proclaims the truth about Jesus*

- E. (v19-20) The Pharisees question the parents of the man
 1. *They confirmed he was their son*
 2. *That he had been blind from birth*
 - a) *If the world cannot tear down Jesus through us they will try our families*

- F. (v21) The Parents do not know how their son now sees but only that he does see (representative of a personal salvation)

- G. (v22-23) The Parents remind them that their son is old enough (legally) to speak for himself
 1. *The parents make this statement because they were fearful of the Pharisees throwing them out of the synagogue (possible indication of lack of faith for parents)*

- H. (v24) The man is questioned a second time and challenged to give God the glory by the Pharisees (irony)
1. *As if Jesus was a false prophet*
 2. *And Jesus is giving God the glory the whole time*
 3. *The Man is giving God the glory by glorifying the Son*
- I. (v25) The man could not be shaken
1. *He knew what He now sees (the evidence is irrefutable)*
 2. *The sign could not be a contest as only God could create sight from nothing*
- J. (v26-27) The How Jesus did what He did was the grand question the unbelievers had
1. *Ironically the former began now has something the religious people want*
- K. (v28) “And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.”
1. *This word translate Reviled does not account for the full meaning of what is originally said in Greek*
 - a) They cursed at the sighted man and began to tell him off (very aggressive and combative term)
 - b) In cursing Him they were calling Him a Christian
 - (1) *(again Irony) How many times today do the cursed people curse us and label Christians as the bad people*
- L. (v29) They (Pharisees) knew the tradition of the forefathers, they knew God’s law, but they did not reverence God or His Word (made flesh)
- M. (v30) “The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.
1. *This man knew Jesus was from God at this point*
 2. *(summary) The sighted man says you are the blind because you cannot see Jesus as the Son of God*
- N. (v31-32) The accused man takes what they are saying it becomes the incontestable argument
1. *No one including Moses had ever give sight to someone who was blind from birth*
- O. (v33) The Man replies that if Jesus was not from God He would not have been able to do the miracle (Jesus was definitely aided by the Father at minimum)

- P. (v34) The tradition that the blind and lame were born out of sin was restated here and given as a disqualifier to speak to them
- Q. (v34) the Sighted man was cast out of the synagogues because he followed Jesus

IV. (v35-41) PRONOUNCEMENTS

- A. (v35) in the end Jesus found the man who had been rejected by man
- B. (v35) Jesus having prepared His heart for salvific faith calls the sighted man to faith= “do you believe in the Son of Man”
1. *Jesus always calls us to believe in His name alone as the only way (Acts 4:12)*
- C. (v36-37) When we are confronted with who Jesus is He will always make Himself know so that we may fully trust in Him (effectual call)
- D. (v38) The man proclaimed Proclaimed Jesus as Lord
1. *His posture confirmed his heart of worship*
- E. (v39) **For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.**
1. *Jesus came to seek and save to lost yet “The Moral effect of Jesus’ life was judgement”-Author Pink*
 - a) Jesus forces those who understand nothing to believe in Him as Lord (as the sighted man did here)
 - b) Those who think they know everything are hardened by their very religion which is their god.
- F. (v40-41) The Pharisees overheard Jesus’ statement and asked if Jesus was talking about them
1. *Jesus states to them that they have guilt therefore they know about Jesus and the things of God*
 2. *These religious people were not repentant but even more haughty*
 3. *Jesus commanded that they see and turn to Jesus as Lord*

Application:

- The Blindman was given sight from nothing and those who could see were looking through human eyes and human understanding...
- Jesus opens the eyes of the Spiritually blind and man cannot see God without Jesus
- We carry the light of the world in our heart and are vessels for the Lord to use in the world until He returns
- Has He opened your eyes to know Him?

