

Ask The Blind Man—He Saw It All

John 9:1-7

The Booth Brothers had a popular gospel song a few years ago about the healing of this blind man in John 9. The title of the song was, “**Ask The Blind Man—He Saw It All**” (vs. 15, 19-21). I’d like to use the title of that song as the title of my sermon on this text.

As Jesus passed by He came upon a man blind from birth (v. 1).

I. **The MEANING of the handicap.** (vs. 1-3)

A. Disciple’s judgmental ATTITUDE (v. 2). The disciples were more concerned about the cause of the blindness than helping.

1. They were talking like Job’s friends when they tried to blame Job’s suffering on sin.
2. You see this same attitude in Acts 28:4.

B. Christ’s judicious ANSWER (v. 3). “Sin is not the issue.”

1. The question is not, “Who caused this blindness?” What difference does it make? The man is blind. Let’s not be concerned with who is to blame. Let’s be concerned with helping situation.
2. The question is, “How can God’s power be manifested in his suffering?” We must always remember this when misery strikes. **Misery always opens the door for ministry.** It is an opportunity for God to manifest His power (cf. 11:4).
3. Jesus statement sheds some light on the age-old question of why God allows suffering to exist in the world—ANSWER: So He might “showcase” His mercy... His compassion... and His saving grace. None of these things could be known if sin or suffering never entered the world.

II. **The Motivation of the Healer / Jesus** (vs. 4-5).

➡ Jesus was motivated by three things:

A. The SIGHT of the man (v. 1— *a a man*)

1. Jesus saw tragedy—The disciples talked theology.

2. Jesus had compassion—The disciples had contempt!

B. The SENSE of His mission (vs. 3-4).

1. His **compulsion** to work. "*I MUST work...*" — What compelled Jesus to work? He recognized the work was GOD'S WORK (Luke 2:49, "*...I MUST be about my father's business*").

a) Jesus was working "*... work of HIM...*" We're not doing church work... Bible study work... ushering/greeter work... musical work... custodial work... nursery work... lawn work... office work... visitation work... sign waving work. We are doing ***the works of Him!*** This is GOD'S work!

b) You and I will never sense the importance and imperativeness of our ministry until we see it as God's work. As Paul said, we are laborers TOGETHER WITH GOD.

2. His **calling** to work. God *en* Him—"... *en me...*" Sent implies purpose.

a) Jesus' sense of being *en* by God also made Him accountable to God. Likewise, if you are saved, you are also sent (John 20:21). And if you are sent, you will give account to God for what you do... or fail to do (2 Cor. 5:20).

b) The reason so many Christians are negligent and uninvolved in God's work is they have lost their sense of accountability to God.

C. The SHORTNESS of the moment (v. 4). Night time is a type of two things:

1. Death (Ps. 104:23)

2. The time between Christ's ascension and 2nd coming (v. 5; Rom. 13:11-12; 1 Thess. 5:2).

➡ We must make the most of PRESENT opportunities. REDEEM THE TIME

➡ WORK FOR THE NIGHT IS COMING!

III. The Miracle of the Healing (vs. 6-11).

➡ A picture of our salvation in Christ.

- A. The TIME of his blindness. We are born spiritually blind (1 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 4:18).
- B. The TRUST in his believing (vs. 6-7). He had “blind faith.”
1. There was no healing properties in Jesus spit or the clay Jesus used to anoint the blind man’s eyes. There was no healing power in the waters of the Pool of Siloam. The man was healed by believing the Lord’s command to *Go, a h — FAITH.*
 - If the blind man never went and washed his eyes in the pool of Siloam, he would have remained blind. Notice, Jesus did not say, “Go wash in the pool of your choice.” ILLUS. The healing of Naaman’s leprosy (2 Kings 5).
 2. People today are saved the same way—By BELIEVING the Word of the Gospel. We are not saved by our own plan of salvation. We must be saved God’s way, or we will remain lost.
- C. The TRANSFORMATION in his behavior (v. 7b— *He en hi a herefore, and a hed, and CAME SEEING.*) Healed instantly when he did what Jesus said — We are saved instantly.
- It was an **unmistakeable change**. People noticed (vs. 8-9)! Can you imagine the expression of joy on this man’s face after being blind and begging his whole life—Never seen a the blue sky... sunrise... sunset... or the face of his father or mother. That is, until Jesus passed by!
- D. The TESTIMONY of his blessing (vs. 10-11). Christianity is best propagated by personal testimony.
1. The **investigation** of the miracle (vs. 15-21). As often is the case when someone is saved, the unsaved will try to discredit the testimony.
 - a) Instead of investigating the miracle, the Pharisees should have been investigating the One who did the miracle and learning from Him.
 - b) When asked to describe his experience, the man simply told what had happened. All he knew about the person

who worked the miracle was He was "*a man called Jesus*." He had not seen our Lord, but he heard His voice—That is all that is necessary—Hear God's Word.

2. The **insincerity** of their motives (v. 22-27).
 - a) Pharisee's Bias (v. 22— *AGREED ALREADY* / v. 24 — *WE KNOW*). Religious bigots do not want to face the evidence. Their minds are closed.
 - b) The healed man's Assurance (v. 25 — *I KNOW*). He would not be intimidated. After all, why should he be. He could see for the first time in his life!
 - He refused to discuss the question of whether or not JESUS was a sinner. There was one thing this man knew—"*I am blind, now I see*." That is what a testimony is: Telling what you know. It is hard to refute a testimony like that!
3. The **insulting** (v. 28). When a skeptic cannot answer the evidence or logic of an argument, they attack the one who presented the evidence (v. 34).

The blind man stated a logical proposition (vs. 29-33). The Pharisees called Jesus "*a sinner*" and did not know whence He was. The blind man thought it strange someone who was going around healing blindness was unknown to the Pharisees (v. 30). If Jesus was a sinner, why did God use Jesus to open the blind man's eyes, if God doesn't hear sinners?

SUMMATION: There is a **progression** in the blind man's knowledge of Jesus.

1. First, he his **name** (v. 11).
2. Second, he recognizes Him as a **Prophet** (v. 17).
3. Thirdly, he claims Jesus to be a **man of God** (v. 33).
4. Finally, he accepts Christ as "***the Son of God***" and **Lord** (v. 35-38). It is not enough to know His name... or that He was a Prophet. Salvation comes when you believe on Him as *the Son of God*.

Four times in this chapter people asked, "How were you healed?" (vs. 10, 15, 19, 26). That was the wrong question! They should not been asking "How?" but "**Who?**" (v. 35-36). People want to know "How is happened?"—how God saves us? They want to understand the mechanic of salvation instead of simply trusting the Savior, who alone can save us.

I kno WHOM I ha e belie ed!