

# THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD Text: John 9

## Introduction:

1. **There Are Two Competing Belief Systems...**
  - a. **The World's System: Self Worth = Performance + Other's Opinions**
    - 1) My Value is Determined by How much I Excel in something
    - 2) and what other people's opinions are about me
  - b. **God's System: Self Worth = What God Says About You**
    - 1) Not What Others Say About You—but What God Says About You!
    - 2) My Value is from God's Love and Purpose for me
2. **This is Why So Many People Who Live For Other's Acceptance, Die by their Rejection.**
3. **We Are About to Meet a Man Born Blind...**
  - a. And Before it's all over, He Will Be Rejected by His Parents,
  - b. Mocked and Scorned by the Powerful Pharisees
  - c. And Yet He Defends Jesus Christ Against their Attacks! —In Other Words...

***In the End He Doesn't Need the Acceptance of his Parents or Approval of the Pharisees  
—> Because Jesus Had Opened His Eyes!***

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## I. THE MIRACLE

### A. BLINDNESS OF THE BEGGAR

1. **BLIND FROM BIRTH (v.1-5)**
  - a) When Faced with What We Do Not Understand—We Often Ask the Wrong Question  
"Who Sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?"
  - b) We Tend To Assign Guilt to Human Suffering (like Job's friends did)
  - c) But Jesus Opens the Eyes of their Ignorance—But then He does something about it  
**The Question is NOT Why is there Suffering—but What Will We Do About It?**
  - d) **Notice the Contrast:**
    - They are in the Dark—Jesus is the Light
    - They are Focusing on the Physical—Jesus focuses on the Spiritual
    - They are looking for Fault in the Past—Jesus looks at Opportunity for the Future!
2. **BLIND BUT HEALED BY CHRIST (v.6-12)**
  - a) He Spits on the Ground! Then Makes Mud w/ the Saliva, Then Rubs it on his eyes!
  - b) Then Sends Him to the Pool of Siloam (Without Leading Him by the Hand!)
  - c) But This Man Will TRUST and OBEY
3. **BLIND BUT NOW HE CAN SEE (v.13-17)**
  - a) There is a Great Division Among the People Over Jesus
  - b) Some Say He's a Sinner for Healing on Sabbath / Others say a sinner can't heal!
  - c) But There is Not Division in this man's heart! **He Was Blind But Now He Sees!**

## **B. BLINDNESS OF THE PARENTS**

### **1. THE BLINDNESS OF FEAR (9:18-23)**

- a) The Pharisees Were Very Powerful
  - (1) They Had the Power of Ex-Communication
  - (2) To Be Banned from the Synagogue and Temple was unthinkable for devout Jew
- b) To be Ex-Communicated was to be labeled an “Anathema” Means: Accursed
- c) Rejection of the Jewish Rulers, Rejection of Friends, Family, Community...  
Cut Off — Persona non grata — you don’t exist.

### **2. THEY FEARED RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL REJECTION...**

- a) To the Point of Rejecting The Truth that their Son was Healed by Christ!
- b) Today it is the Peer Pressure of a Woke Mob,  
Rejection of the Popular People  
The desire to be accepted by the Powerful People
- c) This Fear Causes Us to Be Blind to the Truth

## **C. BLINDNESS OF THE PHARISEES**

### **1. BLINDNESS OF PRIDE (9:24-30)**

- a) They Refuse to Believe and Are Trying to Discredit this Man
  - (1) Accusing him of Deception
  - (2) Intimidating his Family
  - (3) Dismiss Him with Insults
  - (4) They Do Not Want to Believe!
- b) Yet, The Man Healed by Christ Won’t Back Down!

### **2. THE PHARISEES ARE REVEALING HOW BLIND THEY ARE! (9:31-34)**

- a) He Points Out the Very Evidence They Are Unwilling to See!

### **3. WHO IS TRULY BLIND?**

- a) They Refuse to Admit They Are Wrong...
- b) So They Do What Many People Do When Proven Wrong...
  - (1) FIRST: They Insulted Him
  - (2) SECOND: Try to Discredit Him: Accuse him of being born in sin
  - (3) THIRD: They cast him out... (9:34) **“You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?” And they cast him out.”**

## **D. BLINDNESS OF UNBELIEF**

### **1. HE IS CAST OUT BUT JESUS FINDS THE MAN HIMSELF! (9:35-41)**

**“The Jews cast him out of the Temple; the Lord of the Temple found him.” (Chrysostom)**

### **2. Jesus Asks a Simple, Profound Question:**

**‘Do You Believe in the Son of God?’**

- a) The man gives a simple & profound answer: ‘Lord, I believe’.
- b) And he fell down and worshipped Him — This is the Journey of Faith!
  - (1) The man born blind began saying “A man called Jesus... opened my eyes”
  - (2) When they asked him again, he said, “He is a Prophet”
  - (3) And now, He Truly Sees - “Lord, I believe”

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## II. THE IMPLICATIONS...

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### A. SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS IS REAL

#### 1. Many Types of Spiritual Blindness...

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|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| (1) Fear – Like These Parents... | (5) Selfishness |
| (2) Anger and Hate               | (6) Jealousy    |
| (3) Ignorance                    | (7) Ambition    |
| (4) Pride                        |                 |

#### 2. Six Days before Jesus would be Betrayed, Mary Broke open a jar of Costly fragrant oil, and she poured it on Jesus feet

- It was an Extravagant Gift—so expensive it was worth 300 Denarii (a year’s wages)
- But Judas Didn’t See the Precious Act of Giving from the heart...
- His Bitterness Had Warped His Vision so Much, that he was Angry!
- Why This Waste? Why Wasn’t This Sold for 300 denarii and given to the Poor!  
→ I’m the good person here, Mary is the one who doesn’t Care about the Poor!

#### 3. But John tells us something revealing (John 12:4-6)

- Matthew tells us Something Else Even More Revealing...
- Notice what happened immediately after this incident (Matthew 26:14–16)

#### 4. When Judas Went out to Betray Jesus it was night (John 13:30)

- It is always night when people go from Christ to follow their own purposes.
- It is always night when people listen to the call of evil rather than the call of good.
- It is always night when hate puts out the light of love.
- It is always night when people turn their backs on Jesus. (Barclay)

#### 5. Spiritual Blindness is Real—and it’s Effects Are Real

### B. SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS IS A CHOICE

#### 1. We Might Call it: BEING IN DENIAL...

- The Bible Calls it “Decieving Ourselves” — SELF-DECEPTION (1 John 1:5-7)
- The Bible Also Calls it “Willful Ignorance”

#### 2. There Comes a Point Where Spiritual Blindness Becomes a Choice...

- The Choice to Believe in God—or Not Believe in God
- To Obey God—or Reject God
- To Accept God—or Deny God

#### 3. It’s Not Intellectual—it is Moral... (2 Thessalonians 2:9–12)

- On the Surface it seems that God is Deceiving people...
- But He is Not! — They Are Deceiving themselves!
- HOW? God Has Given Us All Free-will Choice...
  - To Love the TRUTH or the LIE
  - To Love the LIGHT or the DARKNESS
  - To Love GOD or UNRIGHTEOUSNESS

#### 4. The Veil is Taken Away When a Person Turns to Christ (2 Cor. 3:14–16)

## **C. JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

39 And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind."

- 1. The Greatest Deception of Mankind Fall on Those Who Think They See but Are Spiritually Blind...**
  - a) Blind to our own Blindness...
  - b) Thinking We See, But Are Blind
  - c) Thinking we are Free, But Actually Enslaved
  - d) Thinking we are Saved, When we are actually Lost
- 2. This is Happening to People All Over the World! (2 Corinthians 4:3–4)**
- 3. In God's Wisdom, He Chose to Reveal His Message**
  - a) to those who have a humble, child-like heart
  - b) But in a way that wouldn't appeal to those who are wise in their own eyes!  
(Matthew 11:25-26)
- 4. What a Blessing That He Has Opened Our Eyes! (Luke 10:23–24)**

### **CONCLUSION:**

***In the End the Blind Man Didn't Need the Acceptance of his Parents  
or Approval of the Pharisees...  
Because Jesus Had Opened His Eyes!***

- 1. "How completely satisfying to turn from our limitations,  
to a God who has none." (AW Tozer)**

### **2. John 8:12**

*Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world.  
He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."*