

# SIGHT FOR THE BLIND Text: Mark 10:46–52

## *A Faith That Could Not Be Silenced*

1. **Hellen Keller was blind—although she had no sight, she had insight...**
    - a. *“The only thing worse than being blind, is having sight but no vision” (Keller)*
    - b. She also said: *“When one door of happiness closes, another opens; be often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us.”*
  2. **Like Helen Keller, Bartimaeus is blind—**
    - a. Many Doors of Happiness have closed to Him—Finding himself poor, blind, begging
    - b. But a Door of Opportunity is about to open... Will he let it pass by?
    - c. Although He has no physical sight—You’ll Soon Discover He Does have Insight...
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## I. THE MIRACLE

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### A. THE CRY OF FAITH (v.46–48)

#### 1. **Bartimaeus was a Poor, Blind, Beggar...**

**Although he could not see—he could hear!**

- a) He Heard the Noise of a Crowd—the sound of excitement in the air
- b) He asked what it was (Lk 18:36) <sup>36</sup> And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. <sup>37</sup> So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. <sup>38</sup> And he cried out, saying, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

#### 2. **Bartimaeus was a Poor, Blind, Beggar...**

**Who Did Not Have Sight—But He Had Insight!**

- a) and He Began Crying Out For Jesus

#### 3. **But Many of the Crowd Warned Him to be Quiet**

##### a) **These Were Followers of Jesus, Trying to Keep Him Quiet...**

- (1) Did They Think He Just Wanted Money?
- (2) or Worried He was Making Jesus Look Bad?
- (3) or Ruining the Grand Moment of Jesus Entry? (How would this look to others?)

#### 4. **We Don’t Know Why—But the More They Tried to Quiet Him—The Louder He Got!**

- a) Without Realizing it—they’re Hindering this Man from meeting the Lord!
- b) But the Cry of Faith is the Cry for Mercy...
- c) He’s Not Begging for Money now—He’s Begging for Mercy!
- d) Bartimaeus had a Faith That Could Not Be Silenced!

### B. THE CALL OF FAITH (v.49)

#### 1. **Jesus Heard His Cries and Stopped Everything—**

- a) and Commanded this man to come to Him

#### 2. **Jesus Shows No Partiality with People—**

- a) He Gives the Same Full Attention to a Rich Young Ruler—as a Poor Blind Beggar
- b) The Same Attention to a Powerful Pharisee—as to a Woman Caught in Adultery

### **3. Jesus Has Compassion for You...**

- a) He Knows You as well as He knows the most Famous/powerful people in the World!

## **C. THE RESPONSE OF FAITH (v.49-50)**

### **1. He Was Give the Good News—Jesus is Calling You!**

### **2. He Didn't Hesitate...**

- a) Nothing Was Going to Slow Him Down, Not Even His Coat...
- b) He Threw Off His Outer Garment and Went to Jesus
- c) He Cast Aside Any Hinderance that Would Hold Him Back

### **3. The Lord Called—and He Obeyed!**

## **D. THE REQUEST OF FAITH (v.51) 'What Do You Want Me To Do For You?'**

### **1. Do You Realize What an Incredible Question This is?**

#### **Do You Realize the Power of this Question?**

*The Lord, in His royal majesty, asked Bartimaeus to name the gift he would like—thus suggesting the fullness of the treasury of power and grace to which He came. (J.W. McGarvey)*

- a) James and John asked to be at the Right and Left Hand of the Throne!
- b) The Disciples Were Arguing Over Who Would Be Greatest in Kingdom!
- c) But Jesus Has No Fear This Man Will Abuse the Privilege of this Question
- d) This Man Would Not Ask for Gold & Glory, or Positions of Power in Kingdom

### **2. Jesus Shows No Partiality with People—**

- a) He Gives Full Attention to a Rich Young Ruler—and to a Poor Blind Beggar

### **3. The Man Asked for One Thing—But Jesus Gives Hime Two Things**

## **E. THE REWARD OF FAITH (v.52)**

### **1. Jesus Honored This Man's Request—and Restored His Vision!**

### **2. But He Did More Than That (Luke 18:42)**

- a) When Jesus says, Your Faith has made you well,  
He is speaking of Spiritual Wellness (Salvation)

### **3. This Man was Restored Physically and Spiritually**

## **F. THE RESULT OF FAITH (v.52b)**

### **1. Can You Imagine His Enthusiasm?!**

- a) The Joy in His Heart? The Smile on His Face and Light in His Eyes?

### **2. This Poor Blind Beggar Has Joined the Joyous Crowd Marching to Zion!**

- a) He is with Jesus for his Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem!
- b) And his eyes which now see—will witness the rejection and crucifixion of Jesus in Jerusalem.

- c) I Can't Imagine What That Must've Been Like for Bartimaeus who was blind, but because of Jesus, now he can see.

### **3. Bartimaeus is One of Many—who's lives were changed by Jesus and who become the first members of the church of Christ in Jerusalem.**

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## II. THE IMPLICATIONS

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### A. HOW TO SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

1. **FIRST: HE ASKED who it was causing such a crowd, and someone told him—it is Jesus of Nazareth!**
  - a) Don't forget that person — If he had not told him, then Bartimaeus might never had known that it was Jesus who was passing by!
2. **SECOND: He Didn't Have Sight But He Had Insight!—By Faith not by Sight!**
  - He Had the Faith to Believe Jesus Could Change His Life...
  - And in His Need—He Called Out to the Lord...
3. **THIRD: They Tried To Keep Him Quiet—But He WOULDN'T BE SILENCED!**
  - He Cried Out Even Louder!
4. **FOURTH: When Jesus Called This Man to Him—HE DIDN'T HESITATE...**
  - Nothing Was Going to Slow Him Down, Not Even His Coat...
  - He Threw Off His Outer Garment and Went to Jesus
  - He Cast Aside Any Hinderance that Would Hold Him Back
5. **FIFTH: HE WASN'T AFRAID TO ASK, SEEK, KNOCK:** When Jesus asked what He Wanted He Said: To Receive My Sight  
Ask and you'll receive, Seek and you will find, Knock it will be opened!
6. **SIXTH: HIS FAITH WAS REWARDED—**Jesus Took Away His Blindness and Gave Him the Vision to See!
7. **SEVENTH: HE DIDN'T TAKE THIS GIFT FOR GRANTED—**
  - He Followed Jesus and Glorified God!
8. **Bartimaeus is an Example to Us—to Seize the Opportunity of a Lifetime!**

*“He is no fool, who gives what he cannot keep, to gain that which he cannot loose.” (Jim Elliot)*

### —Physical Blindness is Not Our Problem—Spiritual Blindness is...

- a) **The Enemy Has Us Living in a Techno-Fog of Information Overload**
- b) Like Driving in Thick Fog—or Through a Snow Storm at Night
- c) We Don't Know Up-From Down / Right-from Left
- d) We Are Living in a Techno-Fog of Information
- e) So Many Would Rather Debate than Decide...
  - They Would Rather Be Distracted than Decide
- f) Then time to act goes past and the moment of decision fades
- g) We Are Called to Make a Decision—to Seize the Opportunity of a Lifetime!
  - And Choosing Not to Choose—is a Choice.
- h) Maybe the Scariest Thing in the Universe is that God Honors Your Free-will choice!
  - In the End, it is Not God Who Chooses for anyone to be Lost—it is US!

### —Don't Let the Opportunity of a Lifetime Pass You By

## **B. JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD—**

### **THE ONLY ONE WHO OPENS OUR EYES TO THE TRUTH**

**No-one Really Gave This Man a Chance—Except Jesus**

**And No One Can Open the Eyes of the Blind But Jesus!**

#### **1. JESUS OPENED OUR EYES TO THE TRUTH...**

- a) To Our Own Sinful, Lost Condition—the Sins that Have Separated Us From God
- b) That Just Being a Good Person Cannot Atone for Our Own Sin
- c) WE MUST STEP OUT OF DENIAL INTO THE GRACE OF GOD TO BE SAVED

#### **2. JESUS OPENED OUR EYES TO ETERNITY...**

- a) That God is Not God of the Dead—but of the Living!
- b) That Your Should Will Live Forever!
- c) That Every Single Person Who Has Ever Lived and Died—is Still Alive Right Now!

#### **3. JESUS OPENED OUR EYES TO THE UNSEEN SPIRITUAL BATTLE**

- a) That The Enemy Wants to Infect You w/ Mind Virus of Sin
- b) Then Enslave You with the Power and Bondage of Sin
- c) Then Own You Eternally by the Penalty of Sin

#### **4. JESUS OPENED OUR EYES TO THE LOVE OF GOD**

- a) Jesus Could've Called 12 Legions of Angels!
- b) But Instead He Suffered on the Cross For You and I!
- c) He Showed Us How Much God Loves Us!

#### **5. JESUS OPENED OUR EYES TO OUR DEBT THAT WAS PAID IN FULL**

- a) You Could Not Repay Your Debt of Sin...
- b) A Thousand Spotless Lambs—A Thousand Rivers of Oil—would not be enough
- c) Even if You Gave the Whole World to God—He Owns it Anyway!

You Only Gave Him What Was His All Along!

- d) And IF You Did Everything You Were Supposed to Do—

You Only Did What Was Expected of You All Along!

- e) Only Jesus Could Pay Your Debt in Full—

By Spilling His Own Blood on the Dirty Ground of Golgotha for your sins

## **C. JESUS IS THE LIFE—THE ONLY ONE WHO**

### **REGENERATES US TO A WHOLE PERSON IN A BROKEN WORLD**

#### **1. Jesus Did Not Die To Reform Us—But to Transforms Us!**

So We Can Be Regenerated as a Whole Person in a Broken World!

#### **2. CHRIST HAS GIVE US A NEW IDENTITY...**

- a) You Are Adopted!
- b) You Are a Child of God!
- c) You Are No Longer a Stranger But a Son
- d) Your No Longer an Orphan—but a Daughter of the King!
- e) And Your Life Will Never End—You Will Be Forever Young!

### 3. A NEW LIFE OF GRACE

- a) An Abundant Life
- b) A Forgiven Life
- c) An Eternal Life

### 4. A NEW PURPOSE AND HOPE (Jeremiah 29:29)

The Blind Man's Life Didn't Start off the way he wanted...

But He Has A New Hope and New Future!

*“Although no one can go back and make a brand new start,*

*Anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.” (Carl Bard)*

### 5. A NEW FUTURE AND ETERNITY (1 John 2:15-17)

- We Don't Have to Live to Impress the World Anymore
- We Don't Have to Play the Blame Game
- We Don't Have to be Caught in the Performance Trap
- We Don't Have to be Approval Addicts
- We Don't Have to Live in a TECHNO-FOG of Constant Information Overload

#### God Has Given Us a New Status:

Reconciliation, Sanctification, Regeneration, Transformation

—All by the Blood of the Lamb

—To Be a Whole Person—in a Broken World

### CONCLUSION:

#### 1. Jesus Shows No Partiality with People—

He Gives the Same Full Attention to a Rich Young Ruler...

as He Does to a Poor Blind Beggar...

And He Offers the Same Gift to You!

#### 2. What is it You Would Like From the Savior?

- a) Would You Like ETERNAL LIFE? To Live Forever? To Be Forever Young
- b) It is Offered Freely to Those Who Believe and Obey!

**DON'T MISS THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME!**

**(John 8:12) I Am the Light of the World!**

#### 3. Use Your Life to Glorify God and Follow Him!

*“When we do the best that we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of another.” (Helen Keller)*