

## I. BLIND HEALED

### A. Jesus passed by

1. There's always a difference when Jesus passed by
  - a. Here's a man blind from birth
    - i. When you were little did you ever blindfold yourself?
    - ii. Or try to walk across the room with your eyes closed?
    - iii. We even play a game – blindman's bluff
  - b. Can you imagine what it would be like to see for the first time?
  - c. The bright sun, the colors, the faces of friends and loved ones
2. The eyes do not "see" so much as they "receive"
  - a. We use words like "cast your gaze" and look over there
  - b. But they really just absorb light as it is reflected
    - i. You paint something white and ALL colors bounce off it
    - ii. You paint something black and NO colors bounce off it
    - iii. Paint it orange and it actually absorbs green light
    - iv. Ever wonder how all of that worked before the Flood?
    - v. Did God change everything when He created the rainbow?
3. This blind man was sitting and begging
  - a. We know he sat – his posture specifically remarked (vs. 8)
  - b. They had seen him before, begging near the temple
    - i. He had a spot – people would see him regularly
    - ii. These were the neighbors
    - iii. People who would walk regular routes
    - iv. But now something had changed
  - c. Often times we recognize blind people by their faces
    - i. If a person has been blind from their birth
    - ii. They never learned how to mimic a mother's smile
    - iii. Never learned how to make eye contact
    - iv. May not be able to tell if they are facing the correct way
    - v. Or if they are standing straight
  - d. But now he had met Jesus
    - i. He was standing tall
    - ii. He could meet the eyes of other people
    - iii. He could see smiles and smile in return
    - iv. Things had CHANGED!
  - e. Jude 1:3 – "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

- f. Salvation may be “common” but it is decidedly UNCOMMON to each who receives it!
- B. He is begging
  - 1. We must not overlook this.
    - a. That means probably little education (no reading or writing)
    - b. And he was begging to survive
  - 2. We notice that in the Bible all beggars were disabled
  - 3. This man was blind. Others were lame.
    - a. 2 Thessalonians 3:10 – “For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.”
    - b. But the disabled were exempted... but they still had to eat
- C. Salvation lights a life
  - 1. While we all know the look of a blind man
    - a. We can also imagine the lively excitement of one granted sight
    - b. What would it be like?
      - i. Running here, looking at this, looking at that
      - ii. Awed by the great things
      - iii. Amazed by the smallest things
    - c. His countenance changed
      - i. His stature
      - ii. His ability
      - iii. All changed
  - 2. Much like a person who is Saved
    - a. 2 Corinthians 5:17 – “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”
    - b. All things new
      - i. Running here and there in Bible
      - ii. Awed by the great things
      - iii. Amazed by the smallest things
  - 3. Jesus passed by and noticed us – let’s be excited about it!

## II. NEIGHBORS DEBATE

- A. Location not specific
  - 1. We can presume that he begged near the temple
  - 2. But that perhaps his parents lived close by
    - a. He was heading home to tell his mother
    - b. He wanted the people he loved to know what had happened
    - c. When I met Jesus, I wanted everyone to know too
  - 3. To be clear: Not saved
    - a. Look at vs. 35-38

- b. Romans 10:17 – “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
    - c. Romans 10:14 – “ How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?”
- B. Some said (vs. 9)
  - 1. There was a lot of debate
  - 2. But he gave a positive testimony (I am he)
  - 3. People didn’t know how to react to me either when I got saved...
- C. We should be ready to give our testimony too after we meet Jesus
  - 1. Psalms 107:2 – “Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;”
  - 2. 1 Peter 3:15 – “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:”

### III. QUESTIONS ASKED

- A. And questions were asked... (vs. 10)
  - 1. They wanted to know more about it
    - a. Some will seek more detail only to ridicule
    - b. Some will seek to glorify the Lord
  - 2. Let us not forget this was a great and OBVIOUS miracle
- B. The Miracles of the Lord should be looked into
  - 1. Sought out...
  - 2. Psalm 111:2 – “The works of the LORD are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.”
  - 3. 1 Peter 1:12 – “Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.:
  - 4. Be ready to answer
    - a. Be armed
    - b. 2 Timothy 2:15 – “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”
- C. People are watching
  - 1. Pastor Gray would say, “We are the only Bible some people will read”

### IV. TESTIMONY GIVEN

- A. He told them exactly what happened (vs. 11)

1. He didn't embellish or oversell it
  2. He simply gave the facts
    - a. The best witness you can ever give for Christ
    - b. Is simply tell what He did for you
  3. Later he learned more about Jesus (vs. 36)
  4. And when he knew more, he could tell more
- B. Let the Gospel light shine
1. 2 Corinthians 4:3 – "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:"
  2. People worry that they don't know enough about doctrine
  3. Or that they don't have enough Scripture memorized
  4. Or that they won't know what to say
  5. Just tell them what happened to you
- C. This is a testimony of obedience
1. The old saying is that obedience is the key to blessings
  2. This man did what God told him to do (as we discussed last week)
  3. But then he told OTHERS about the blessings of obedience to God!
  4. That's a good testimony

## V. PHYSICIAN LOST

- A. Back to the place where he used to beg
1. You can almost picture how he walked these neighbors through it
  2. And as he told the story, he returned to the spot
    - a. He knew just where it was!
    - b. I can take you to the place where I met the Lord too!
  3. He had gained his sight but lost his physician
  4. The people began asking "Where is he?" (vs. 12)
- B. Enemies of Jesus
1. We see their hearts in the next verse (vs. 13)
  2. By now more of the Jews had gathered around
  3. They wanted to take Jesus as a heretic
  4. But the blind man told the truth
  5. He did not know (but Jesus will soon find HIM)
- C. You can find Jesus today
1. If you don't know the free pardon of your sins
  2. His healing touch
  3. Come to Him today and be saved
- D. If you're here today and He has given you Salvation
1. New sight to blind eyes
  2. Let's be witnesses for Him!
  3. Let's tell others of what He's done!