

John 9

- I. 9:1-7 Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind
- II. 9:8-12 The Healed Man and His Neighbors
- III. 9:13-34 The Healed Man and the Pharisees
- IV. 9:35-41 The Healed Man and Jesus

- I. 9:1-7 Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind Pool uncovered in 2005: [Bible Places](#)
 - A. 9:2 *Who sinned?* The disciples were moved more by theological curiosity rather than the man's obvious need.
 - B. 9:3 *neither* The disciples weren't even asking the right questions. We may not have the right questions either. Sometimes it's better to just listen and learn from Jesus.
 - i. His blindness was not the result of his parents' sin, nor did he sin in the womb.
 - ii. He didn't sin in a previous life – no bad karma. Reincarnation is at odds with the Bible.
 - C. 9:3-4 God had a plan to reveal Himself through this man's life. Jesus, following His Father's lead, was moved by compassion for the man in his sad condition. Jesus will take the initiative. The man never asks to be healed.
 - D. Application: God would have us touch people's lives first and deal with theological riddles later. If you want to be used by God, just think of some way to be a blessing to someone. “Well done”, not “Well said, good and faithful servant.”
 - E. 9:5 *light of the world* This in the third of three recorded times that Jesus used this phrase. Previous uses are:

John 8:12 (NKJV) 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.”

Matthew 5:14-16 (NKJV) ¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. ¹⁶Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. See Point D Application above ↑

- F. 9:7 *Go, wash...* The man had to obey before he received his healing.
 - i. The man was still blind walking down the steep hill from the temple to the pool.
 - ii. Application: Conscious obedience often comes before visible transformation. We come to know the truth of Christ's words in the doing.

John 8:31-32 (NKJV) Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

II. 9:8-12 The Healed Man and His Neighbors

- A. 9:9 *I am he* you can bet this man was happy to identify himself.

III. 9:13-34 The Healed Man and the Pharisees

A. 9:13-18 Pharisees & Man (Part One)

- i. 9:15 *He put clay on my eyes...* You are the ultimate authority on what the Lord has done in your life. You don't have to know a lot about Jesus to tell someone what He has done for you. Never be deterred by not knowing the answers to the theological riddles – they don't matter anyway.
- ii. 9:17 The man's understanding of Jesus grows as he is challenged by others.
- In 9:11 it was, “A man called Jesus” and now he says, “He is a prophet.”
- iii. 9:18 *The Jews did not believe* The religious leaders were biased against the truth.

B. 9:19-23 Pharisees & Parents

- i. 9:22 *because they feared the Jews* This shows how deeply people can fear what other people think. Their blind son now sees, but they hesitate when they get questioned by the religious big shots.

C. 9:24-34 Pharisees & Man (Part Two)

- i. 9:25 Again look at the man's simple honesty.
- ii. 9:26 *What did He do? How?* They are looking at the wrong item:
- a) Their focus is on method rather than the Man, the pattern rather than the Person
 - b) The Man, the Person, who healed the blind man was Jesus. How he did it (method, pattern) is unimportant by comparison. This is the only recorded time He healed anyone in exactly this way. He is not bound by methods or patterns.
- iii. 9:34 The Pharisees resort to insults at the man's honest boldness.

IV. 9:35-41 The Healed Man and Jesus

- A. 9:38 The man has gone from “A man named Jesus” (v.11), to “He is a prophet” (v. 17), to “Lord, I believe!” and worshipping Him.
- 9:41 The Pharisees refused to see. They refused to acknowledge the truth.

Conclusions:

1. God would have us touch people's lives first and deal with theological riddles later. If you want to be used by God, just think of some way to be a blessing to someone.
 - “Well done”, not “Well said, good and faithful servant.”

2. Darkness Relates to Final State of Judgment of the Lost.
 - *outer darkness* used by Jesus as a description of the state of final judgment
 - See Matthew 8:12, 22:13, 25:30

3. Jesus Heals Us – the spiritually blind:
 - Spiritually, we are all blind from birth.
 - Jesus takes the initiative in healing us – giving us spiritual vision.
 - The work Jesus does is a *new creation, new life*, not restoration of the old.
 - Conscious Obedience is needed in order to see the finished work. We come to know the truth of Christ's words in the doing.
 - Our understanding of Jesus increases gradually. The blind man went from calling Jesus a man, to a prophet, to worshiping Him as the Son of God.
 - Finally, we never learn the blind man's name. Jesus is the important One.
 - A true disciple is content to remain anonymous if his Lord gets the glory.