

Calvary Chapel Viewpoint

H.I.S. Men

(Honor – Integrity – Service)

Study in John

Jesus The Healer

John 9:1–41 (ESV)

¹ As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth.

² And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

³ Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.

⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.

⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

⁶ Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud

⁷ and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?”

⁹ Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.”

¹⁰ So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?”

¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.”

¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.

¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.

¹⁵ So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.”

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them.

¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight

¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”

²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind.

²¹ But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.”

²² (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.)

²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.”

²⁵ He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”

²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”
²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?”
²⁸ And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.
²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”
³⁰ The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.
³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him.
³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind.
³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”
³⁴ They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.
³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”
³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?”
³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.”
³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.
³⁹ Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”
⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?”
⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.

Note: Of all the miracles of Jesus recorded in the Bible there are more miracles of giving sight to the blind (4) than healings in any other category.

Note: This man doesn't ask to have his eyes opened. There is no mention of his faith or lack thereof. That tells us that God alone determines who, how, and when He will heal. He heals on the basis of His sovereign design and for His purposes.

What is the thinking of the disciples behind the question in verse 2?

How does Jesus answer their question?

Verse 5 Jesus states again, “I am the light of the world.” What does light do?

Four times Jesus opens blind eyes, and He does it a unique and different way each time. What does this tell us about Jesus?

Verses 6 & 14 What is the concern of the Pharisees?

Note: The Pharisees distort the whole concept of the Sabbath by their man made laws. Jesus clears up the concept in Mark 2:27 “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.” The Sabbath is given to us to rest, worship, enjoy. We rule over the Sabbath.

What effect does Jesus have on the Pharisees in verse 16?

Verse 18 Why are the Jews so unwilling to believe that a miracle has occurred?

Why do the Pharisees call for the man’s parents?

What do you make of the parents’ comments in verse 20?

How would you characterize the blind man’s testimony in verses 11, 15, and 25

Application: Isn’t that our testimony? “I was blind but now I see.” Everyone is spiritually blind until we encounter Jesus and He opens our eyes to the truth. The irony is that we don’t even realize we are blind until after we are saved. We think we are really “living it up,” enjoying life to its fullest, we are free. But we are really enslaved. We are in bondage to sin and don’t even know it. After encountering Jesus we are truly free.

Note: The former beggar’s personal testimony settles the debate. No one can argue with that.

Application: No one can disprove your testimony. Your testimony is unique, important, and effective. Regardless of your level of understanding of the Bible, you can always testify to the change that Jesus Christ has affected in your life.

Verses 28-34 What character traits of the Pharisees are revealed here?

What are the steps the blind man goes through in his increasing awareness of who Jesus is?

This man’s progress from dark unbelief to the light of faith shows that this process usually involves stages of illumination.

As the confrontation escalates, what do you think of the man’s comments in verses 30-33?

What do the Pharisees mean by “steeped in sin at birth”?

How does Jesus describe Himself in verse 35?

Verses 35-41 What is Jesus’ intention in finding the man and speaking to him?

How do you reconcile verse 39 with John 3:17?

What does Jesus mean in verse 41?

Application: Who are the (spiritually) blind people in your path today?