

Spiritual Blindness

John 9:35-41

By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to warn each of us of missing the big picture.

Intro:

1. Some today allow their personal dislike to blind them from the truth.
2. The Pharisees of John 9 serve as a reminder of the dangers of spiritual blindness.

I. The Situation (Jn 9:1-5)

- A. Jesus always saw those in need. (**v.1**)
 1. The blind man was not one who He tried to pretend was not there.
 2. He took notice of him and knew the length of his condition.
 3. Any long term trouble can weary a person, being blind from birth would be no exception.
- B. We see even the disciples had been poisoned by the teachings of others.
 1. Christ first says this man's condition was not fault of his or his parents. (**v.2-3**)
 2. Christ says this man's infirmity would be used to show the power of God. It doesn't necessarily mean that God caused him to be blind so that he could be healed, but since he was blind not only would he be healed but the power of God would be shown because of the healing. (**v.4-5**)

II. The healing by Christ & the following speculation. (Jn 9:6-23)

- A. Christ healed the blind man (**v.6-7**)
 1. Christ made clay that He then put on the man's eyes. He then commanded the man to wash. (**v.6**)
 2. When he obeyed, not before, he was healed. (**v.7**)
- B. The doubters doubt (**v.8-23**)
 1. His identity questioned & questions about the healing (**v.8-12**)
 2. The Pharisees question the man (**v.13-17**)
 3. The Pharisees question the parents (**v.18-23**)

III. An Attack, A Defense, & the Reality (Jn 9:24-34)

- A. Jesus is attacked by the Pharisees & the Blind man defends Christ
 1. Christ is called a sinner by the Pharisees (**v.24**), though they say they do not know Him (**v.26,28-29**)
 2. The blind man defends Christ (**v.25, 27, 30-33**)
 3. The blind man is cast out by the Pharisees (**v.34**)
 - a. This final act showcases their spiritual blindness.
- C. Jesus and the Blind Man (Jn 9:35-41)
 1. Jesus reveals himself to the blind man, who in turns worships Him (**v.35-38**)
 2. Christ reveals that He came to save people like him (the blind man) and bring them to eternal life (**v.39**)
 3. The Pharisees ask about blindness (**v.40-41**)

Conc:

1. Spiritual blindness prevents man from seeing the truth.
2. Spiritual blindness causes mankind to be separated from God, just like the Pharisees of John 9.
3. We can prevent ourselves from being spiritual blind by casting aside our preferences or comfortable truths and obey God's truth.
4. We must not allow our personal dislikes or feelings about others blind us from truth, the Pharisees did just that.

Hear

Romans 10:17

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Believe

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever + in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Repent

Luke 13:3

I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.

Confess

Rom 10:9 — Rom 10:10

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Be baptized

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 22:16

And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'

Remain Faithful

Revelation 2:10

Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.