June 9, 2019

The Body Of Christ Discovering God

The Man Who Was Blind (Continued)

Last week, Jesus encountered a blind man but this one was **<u>different</u>**.

Mark 8:22-26

Let's remind ourselves:

Jesus <u>spit</u> in his eyes, and <u>laid</u> His hands on him, and asked a question.

What do you see?

Answer was: I see men like **trees** walking

Jesus then laid His hands on him **<u>again</u>** and the blind man was restored **<u>physically</u>**.

Some would say: Even with Jesus, it doesn't work the first time.

I don't agree with that; people who teach this in this story do not understand **spiritual** things.

So we can go deeper in this story. Let's go over what we said last week:

- Every person has **two** sets of eyes:
 - A. You have a **<u>natural</u>** set of eyes
 - B. You have a **spiritual** set of eyes

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The man answered: "I see men like **<u>trees</u>** walking"

The Bible uses trees describing <u>men</u> in Psalm 1; Psalm 52; Psalm 92; Jeremiah 17; Isaiah 55

In the New Testament, Matthew 7 – speaks of a **good** tree and **bad** tree.

 Jesus opened the blind man's <u>spiritual</u> eyes first, then Jesus put His hands on him again (not because it <u>didn't work</u> the first time) and opened or healed his <u>physical</u> / <u>natural</u> eyes.

This is the wholeness progression:

- If you don't <u>see</u> spiritually, you will not be able to <u>hear</u> spiritually.
- If you cannot <u>hear</u> spiritually, then you cannot <u>understand</u> in your heart.
- If you cannot <u>understand</u> in your heart, you will or cannot <u>turn</u> so you are <u>healed</u> by the <u>power</u> of God.

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Folks if you know God has spoken to you, there are two ways to test He is:

- A. Does it agree with the **whole** Bible?
- B. Does it agree with the context?

Mark 8:1-10 Feeding of the <u>4,000</u> people

The Pharisees walk up and ask Jesus something

Mark 8:11

- Miracle of the 4,000 Pharisees say, show us a sign
 - * Jesus knows the Pharisees' hearts were <u>hard</u> and they cannot see <u>spiritually</u>.

Jesus is concerned about the disciples because He is about to leave the **kingdom** to them.

Mark 8:13-15

Mark 8:16

- They said, told you we should have brought more bread

No, Jesus is talking about **<u>spiritual</u>** blindness.

Mark 8:17-21

• Jesus gets in the boat and says, guys beware of the bread (the **doctrine** the Pharisees are teaching)

Don't eat **<u>that</u>** bread

What does bread mean?

Answer: "Man shall not live by **<u>bread alone</u>**, but by **<u>every word</u>** that proceeds out of the mouth of God."

Natural bread: <u>nourishment</u> Spiritual bread: <u>the Word of God</u>

The disciples didn't get it – He said why

Mark 8:17-18

- 2. In the spiritual, Jesus is telling them they're **blind**.
- 3. The Creator of the <u>universe</u> puts His hands on the blind man and don't you dare believe it <u>didn't work</u>.
 - It's exactly what Jesus <u>wanted</u> to happen, happened.

He laid His hands and asked, what do you see?

Mark wrote that down - he saw men like **trees**

Jesus puts His hands on him again and asks, now what do you see?

He said, now I can see in the **<u>natural</u>**.

4. The man saw **spiritually**, then he saw **physically**.

What causes spiritual blindness?

John 9 – whole chapter is healing a **<u>blind</u>** man.

• Blind man gets healed and then he gets in **trouble**.

Look at verse 39 – Jesus talks about **<u>spiritual</u>** blindness.

John 9:39-40

John 9:41 – we need to understand

- Jesus heals a <u>blind</u> man
- Then says, the real reason I came into the world is not just to heal in the <u>natural</u>, but to heal <u>spiritually</u>.

 Jesus said to Pharisees, if you would admit to Me you are blind <u>without</u> Me, I am the <u>Light</u> of the world and you say you can see <u>without</u> Me, the <u>Light</u> of the world.

Verse 41 – Jesus said if you would admit to Me you <u>need</u> Me, I would take away <u>all</u> your sin.

Because we admit we <u>**need**</u> Jesus, we have no $\underline{sin} - \underline{none}$.

What causes spiritual blindness?

Answer: **unconfessed sin**

If you're not born again, you need the Light of the world.

If you're born again, and the scripture is not jumping out at you (**unconfessed sin**)

Remember Jesus led him out of town?

The guy lived in <u>another</u> town, not <u>Bethsaida</u>

Bethsaida was not his home.

Jesus is not going to Bethsaida, but **going through** Bethsaida.

Jesus leads him <u>out</u> of the town and heals him and says don't go back in <u>that</u> town.

You know why Jesus does this?

- About a year before, Jesus was in Bethsaida and worked **great miracles** there.

Jesus shared who He was, and they rejected Him.

Luke 10:13-14

Tyre and Sidon – <u>Sodom</u> and <u>Gomorrah</u>

Bethsaida – it's too late

Don't let it be **<u>too late</u>**.