

JESUS OF NAZARETH PASSETH BY

LUKE 18, MARK 10

Text: Luke 18:37

(Luke 18:37) "And they told him, that Jesus of Nazareth passeth by."

Introduction:

Jesus tells His disciples that they now must go to Jerusalem and all things that had been written by the prophets concerning Himself would be accomplished.

He then begins to reveal to them what was going to happen to Him. He would be mocked, and spitefully entreated, and spit on, scourged and put to death, but on the third day would rise again.

And though His disciples didn't understand none of the things that He was saying, I glad to report to you that it all came to pass, and Jesus is sitting at the right hand of the Father today, and the blood that He shed is still there for whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord for their salvation.

Now this brings us to our text. The Bible tells us that as they were getting close to Jericho, a certain blind sat by the wayside begging. Though he was blind he could

still hear, and he began to hear the crowds move past him. He wonders what is going on and then he was told the Jesus was passing by. Let me remind you this morning ladies and gentlemen that any time that Jesus passes by there are things that are going to happen. Some will be excited while others will get upset. Some will be pleased while others will want to pout. But never forget when Jesus passes by things are about to happen.

Let me say that this was not a chance encounter. The Lord is always interested in reaching one more soul.

(Mark 10:45) "For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."

Notice:

1. THE BLIND MAN'S CONDITION (vs 35)

(Luke 18:35) "And it came to pass, that as he was come nigh unto Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the way side begging:"

(Mark 10:46) "And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging."

A. The problem he faced.

1. Couldn't see the light
2. Stumbled often along his way
3. Had to be led about by others.
4. Lived off the hand out of the world.

B. The picture of spiritual blindness of all lost people.

1. Until salvation all are spiritually blinded by Satan.

(2 Corinthians 4:4) "In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

2. Until salvation all stumble along their way.

(Isaiah 53:6) "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

3. Until salvation we live off the hand outs of the world

a. That is why after salvation that one should not live off the worldly hand outs.

b. Most of the worlds handouts are that of little value.

2. THE BLIND MAN'S CURIOSITY (36-37)

(Luke 18:36-37) "And hearing the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant. {37} And they told him, that Jesus of Nazareth passeth by."

(Mark 10:47) "And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me."

A. He inquired what was going on because this noise of the multitude was different.

1. He sensed something special was going on.

2. He was told that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by.

B. You too may be here today out of curiosity.

1. You may have wondered about this church.

2. You may have heard something about this church, or received or found a tract about this church.

3. You may sense something different about this place.

C. Let me say that the Lord is here and He makes the difference.

3. THE BLIND MAN'S CRY (VSS 38-39)

(Luke 18:38-39) "And he cried, saying, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me. {39} And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace: but he cried so much the more, Thou son of David, have mercy on me."

(Mark 10:47-48) "And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me. {48} And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou son of David, have mercy on me."

A. This cry was different today.

1. Usually a bigger crowd meant more donations.

2. But his cry was not for material but for physical and spiritual.

B. He acknowledged Jesus as the only source of mercy.

1. He came to the Lord as a beggar.

2. We too must come to the Lord for salvation as a beggar with nothing to offer but all to receive.

C. There are always those that try to keep those that would come to the Lord quiet and restrained.

1. Don't go overboard with this thing now.

2. Don't go getting religious on me.

D. But he kept crying until the answer came.

4. THE BLIND MAN'S CONVERSION (VSS 40-43)

(Luke 18:40-43) "And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him: and when he was come near, he asked him, {41} Saying, What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee? And he said, Lord, that I may receive my sight. {42} And Jesus said unto him, Receive

thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee. {43} And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God."

(Mark 10:49-52) "And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee. {50} And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. {51} And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. {52} And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way."

A. Jesus invited him to come.

1. He invites all people to come to Himself.
2. He instructed others to do their part.
3. We should be bringing people to Jesus.

B. Jesus ask him, "What wilt thou have me to do?"

1. Jesus knew what he needed and wanted.

2. But I believe that the Lord like the needy to express their need and faith in words.

C. Notice his response to the Lord's question.

1. He called Jesus Lord.

a. "Lord that I may receive my sight.

2. Such a simple childlike prayer with such super results.

(Luke 18:17) "Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein."

(Mark 10:15) "Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein."

3. His response showed his faith in Christ in bring him sight

D. Notice the response to the man's answer.

(Luke 18:42-43) "And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee. {43} And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God:

and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God."

(Mark 10:52) "And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way."

1. The Lord was more interested in his spiritual need, but not only met his spiritual need but also met his physical need as well.

E. Faith brought the blind man sight.

F. Faith saved him and brought him eternal life.

Close:

Bartimaeus knew what begging was all about, and he applied it to his greatest need. When sinners take their place as beggars and plead for mercy, they find it, and their blind eyes are made to see that Jesus in the Light of the world and the Deliver of the soul.

Are you here today spiritually blind? If so Jesus is passing by and would love to save your soul.

To those that are saved are you doing your part in bring others to the Saviour or are you keeping others from getting to the Saviour.