

Series: Hope For Hard Cases

# A MAN ... BLIND FROM HIS BIRTH

## JOHN 9:1-41

Text:

Introduction:

John records the 7 “I Am’s” of the Lord.

- The Bread of Life
- The Light of the World
- The Door
- The Good Shepherd
- The Resurrection and the Life
- The Way, The Truth, and The Life
- The Vine

When the Lord made some of these statements, He demonstrated its truth by a miracle to verify it. With the bread statement, He fed 5,000.

With the Life statement He raised Lazarus from the dead.

With the light statement He opened this blind man's eyes.

Let us see how the Lord dealt with this hard case and the hope this man received and how the man reacted.

Note:

## **1. THE DARKNESS THAT OVERSHADOWED HIM (VS. 1)**

### ***John 9:1***

*<sup>1</sup> And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.*

Born Blind

We are not told how long that he had been blind, only that he had been blind from his birth.

Naturally we are born spiritually blind and lack understanding of spiritual things.

### ***1 Corinthians 2:14***

*<sup>14</sup> But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

## **2 Corinthians 4:4**

<sup>4</sup> *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.*

## **Ephesians 4:18**

<sup>18</sup> *Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:*

## **1 Peter 2:9**

<sup>9</sup> *But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:*

Notice not only “The Darkness the Overshadowed Him” but also:

## **2. THE DELIBERATION THAT SURROUNDED HIM (VS. 2)**

### **John 9:2**

<sup>2</sup> *And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?*

Pessimists have been around for a long time.

For some reason, it is easier to jump to negative conclusions about people than it is to assume the best about them.

We judge other people for a reason.

There is something in us that fuels this unbiblical response – pride!

Pride wants to look down upon others.

Pride wants to dethrone others to make ourselves appear more spiritual.

Pride wants to have others answering to us.

Pride wants other people admiring our actions.

Pride wants to prioritize self over the value and dignity of another individual.

So in an effort to justify ourselves, we find it very easy to condemn others.

We must remember:

***Matthew 5:3***

*<sup>3</sup> Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

This speaks of brokenness.

It is impossible to be broken in spirit and judge others at the same time.

The disciples assumed that this man or his parents

Notice not only “The Darkness the Overshadowed Him” and “The Deliberation that Surrounded Him” but also:

### **3. THE DEED THAT CURED HIM (VS. 6-7)**

#### ***John 9:6-7***

*<sup>6</sup> When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, <sup>7</sup> And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.*

- What Jesus did. (vs.6,7) (put clay on his eyes)
- What Jesus said. (vs.7) (“Go wash in the pool”)
- What the man did. (vs. 7) (obeyed the Lord)

So what was it that cured him?

Was it the clay?

Was it the pool of water?

It was because He took the Lord at His word and obeyed Him.

We too need to take the Lord at His word and obey Him.

The song writer stated it this way: “Trust and Obey for there’s no other way to be happy in Jesus but to Trust and Obey”

Notice not only “The Darkness the Overshadowed Him”, “The Deliberation that Surrounded Him” and The Deed That Cured Him” but also:

## **4. THE DENUNCIATION THAT ASSAILED HIM (VS. 8-23)**

- His neighbors doubted him. V.8-12

### ***John 9:8-12***

*<sup>8</sup> The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged? <sup>9</sup> Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he. <sup>10</sup> Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened? <sup>11</sup> He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed,*

*and I received sight. <sup>12</sup> Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not.*

- The Pharisees openly opposed him. V.13-18

### ***John 9:13-18***

*<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind. <sup>14</sup> And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup> Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see. <sup>16</sup> Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them. <sup>17</sup> They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet. <sup>18</sup> But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight.*

- His family was afraid to stand with him. V.18-23

### ***John 9:18-23***

*<sup>18</sup> But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. <sup>19</sup> And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see? <sup>20</sup> His*

*parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: <sup>21</sup> But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself. <sup>22</sup> These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> Therefore said his parents, He is of age; ask him.*

Often this is the case with those around us.

Notice not only “The Darkness the Overshadowed Him”, “The Deliberation that Surrounded Him”, “The Deed That Cured Him” and the “Denunciation that Assailed Him” but also:

## **5. THE DECLARATION THAT WAS HEARD FROM HIM (VS. 24-25)**

### ***John 9:24-25***

<sup>24</sup> *Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give God the praise: we know that **this man** is a sinner. <sup>25</sup> He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.*



- They saw the Lord as a man. V.16

### **John 9:16**

<sup>16</sup> *Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This **man** is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a **man** that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them.*

- He saw the Lord as a prophet. V.17

### **John 9:17**

<sup>17</sup> *They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, **He is a prophet.***

- He saw Him as one worth of having disciples.  
V.27

### **John 9:27**

<sup>27</sup> *He answered them, I have told you already, and ye did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? **will ye also be his disciples?***

- He saw Him as one who had God's blessing on Him. V33

### **John 9:33**

<sup>33</sup> *If this man were not of God, he could do nothing.*

- He saw Him as the Son of God. V.35

**John 9:35**

<sup>35</sup> *Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God?*

- He saw Him as Lord. V. 38

**John 9:38**

<sup>38</sup> *And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him.*

Close:

Look up the seven questions asked in this incident, and look at them in the following order.

(1) vs. 10

**John 9:10**

<sup>10</sup> *Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?*

(2) vs. 36

**John 9:36**

<sup>36</sup> *He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him?*

(3) vs. 26

**John 9:26**

<sup>26</sup> *Then said they to him again, What did he to thee? how opened he thine eyes?*

(4) vs. 12

**John 9:12**

<sup>12</sup> *Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not.*

(5) vs. 17

**John 9:17**

<sup>17</sup> *They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet.*

(6) vs. 35

**John 9:35**

<sup>35</sup> *Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God?*

(7) vs. 40

**John 9:40**

<sup>40</sup> *And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also?*

What would your answer be to this final question?