

Jesus Gave Sight to a Blind Man
(John 9:1-7)

Introduction:

1. According to Luke 4:1-13, Jesus went through a 40-day period of temptation after He was baptized.
2. Following His temptation, Jesus returned to Galilee where He taught in the synagogues (Luke 4:14-15).
3. We learn from Luke 4:16-21 that something interesting occurred in Nazareth where Jesus was raised.
 - a. On the Sabbath Jesus went to the synagogue, and He was given an opportunity to read Scripture.
 - b. Jesus read from the writings of Isaiah (61:1-2).
 - c. Jesus pointed out from Isaiah's prophecy that He had come to accomplish several important objectives.
 - d. One objective was to give "*sight to the blind.*"
4. With this information before us, let us turn our attention to an occasion when Jesus gave sight to a blind man (John 9:1-7).
5. The first observation we need to make is that . . .

Discussion:

- I. JESUS SAW THIS MAN AS HE "*PASSED BY*" (vs.1)
 - A. (8:20) Jesus had been teaching in the temple, and He called upon people to believe on Him.
 - B. (8:30) As a result of the Lord's teaching, "*many believed on him.*"
 - C. (8:31-32) Jesus showed them how they could be His disciples and be free.
 - D. (8:33-58) A very heated discussion followed.
 - E. (8:59) The Jews attempted to stone Jesus, but He escaped and "*passed by.*"
 - F. As Jesus "*passed by,*" He saw this blind man.
 1. This man did not suffer blindness because of some accident.
 2. He was born blind.
- II. (vs.2) THE LORD'S DISCIPLES SAW THIS MAN'S BLINDNESS AS PUNISHMENT FOR SIN
 - A. The disciples wanted Jesus to tell them whether the man was born blind because of his sin or the sin of his parents.
 - B. The Bible tells about a number of people who were influenced by this belief.
 1. Eliphaz, Job's friend (Job 4:7-8; 5:17-18)
 2. People living on Melita (Acts 28:3-4)
 3. The Pharisees who questioned the man healed by Jesus (John 9:34)
- III. (vs.3-5) JESUS SAW THIS MAN'S BLINDNESS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO THE WORK OF GOD
 - A. (vs.3a) Jesus first answered the disciples' question.
 - B. (vs.3b) Jesus said "*that the works of God should be made manifest in him.*"
 - C. Jesus reacted as He did because:
 1. He realized that He was personally responsible for doing the work God had given Him to do (vs.4a)
 2. He realized that His time to accomplish His work was limited (vs.4b).
 - D. (vs.5) Jesus also talked about being "*the light of the world*" (see Matthew 5:16).
- IV. (vs.6-7) JESUS GAVE SIGHT TO THE MAN
 - A. (vs.6) Jesus made some clay and placed it on the man's eyes.
 - B. (vs.7a) Jesus told the man what to do.
 - C. (vs.7b) The man followed the Lord's instructions, and he was able to see.
- V. THESE VERSES TEACH US SOMETHING ABOUT JESUS
 - A. According to the man who received his sight, this had never been done (vs.32).
 - B. By performing miracles such as this one, Jesus proved that He is God's Son (John 20:30-31).

- VI. THESE VERSES ALSO TEACH US SOMETHING ABOUT THE MAN WHO RECEIVED HIS SIGHT
- A. Let us contrast his response to the Lord's will with the response of the people in ch.8 -- he obeyed the Lord while they tried to kill the Lord.

 - B. This man could have:
 - 1. resisted when Jesus put the clay on his eyes
 - 2. questioned why Jesus would do such a thing
 - 3. resisted when Jesus told him to wash in the pool of Siloam.
 - a. He could have said that he had already washed that day.
 - b. He could have tried to substitute some other body of water.
 - c. He could have acted like Naaman (2 Kings 5:10-14).

 - C. This man did not argue with Jesus, and he did not try to devise his own way to gain his sight -- he simply did what Jesus told him to do.

Conclusion:

- 1. The Bible teaches us how to receive a greater blessing -- "forgiveness."
- 2. Listen to:
 - a. Mark 16:16
 - b. Acts 2:38, 41, 47
 - c. 1 Corinthians 12:13.
- 3. Will you comply with the Lord's instructions as the man born blind did?