

“The Blind Meets the Light”

John 9:1-41 (1233)
East Berlin Community Church
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Introduction

- “Snellen Chart” – measure of visual acuity
- Visual blindness in our world today
- Spiritual, world-wide blindness caused by...
 - Rejection of natural revelation
 - Blinded by Satan, the prince of darkness—2 Cor. 4:3
- Jesus Christ, as the “Light of the world”
 - Personal, final revelation of God to man
 - Expresses holiness and exposes sinfulness of man

The Blind Meets the Light

A. As the “Light”, Jesus opens spiritually impaired eyes!

1. Jesus meets the congenial blind man—John 9:1-2
 - a. Blindness was common in the ancient world
 - b. Disciple’s theological problem: *Who sinned to cause blindness?*
 - 1). Did he sin while in the womb?
 - 2). Was his blindness the result of his parent’s sin?
 - c. Discussion on Sin, sickness, and human suffering
 - 1) Suffering in general caused by sin in general.
 - 2) Specific sins can cause suffering—John 5; 1 Cor. 11
 - 3) “*Sins of the Fathers*” visited upon subsequent generations?
 - 4) Children are not punished for sins of parents—Ezek. 18
 - d. Jesus’ third alternative—John 9:3 *“works of God revealed”*
 - e. Jesus’ priority: doing God’s works as the *“light of the world”*
2. Lessons from Jesus healing the congenial blind man—John 9:6-34
 - a. Opening spiritual eyes is a PROCESS with PROGRESS.
 - 1) Illustrated in the actual healing
 - 2) The progression in the man’s understanding about Jesus
 - b. Opening spiritual eyes will be opposed by others
 - 1) Questioned by the neighbors
 - 2) Interrogated by the Pharisees, the religious leaders
 - 3) Abandoned by his parents
3. The “Light Bulb” : Process culminates in saving faith. 9:35-38

B. As the “Light”, Jesus blinds the Spiritually Proud!

John 9:39-41

1. Jesus Christ blinds those who think they see!
2. Pharisees’ question: *“Are we blind also?”*
 - a. Their answer: *“Of course not!”*
 - b. Jesus calls them *“the blind leading the blind”*
3. The spiritually proud refuse to admit their condition, reject spiritual light, and thus are doomed—9:41