Scripture Readings: Exodus 20:1-17 & John 9

Singing: 76 – 69:2, 6 – 303 – 366 – 383:1, 5

JESUS HEALING A BLIND MAN

I. His action II. His command III. His challenge IV. His final question

I. JESUS' HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN BEGAN WITH HIS ACTION

- A. The lead-up to His act of healing: a spiritual riddle (vs. 1-2)
 - 1. Jesus' priority isn't answering spiritual riddles
 - 2. It is to 'shine the light of the world' into blind conditions (3-5)
 - a. this blind condition is ours (vs. 32)
 - b. the healing is Jesus' exclusively (6-7)
- B. Jesus' act pictures God's act in regeneration (John 3:3, 8)
 - 1. New birth is entirely God's sovereign act (John 3:9; Rom. 9:11-16)
 - a. His instrument: His Word!
 - b. His needed work doesn't cancel His commanded response (vs. 7)
 - 2. The New-Birth date can be hidden but the New-Birth cannot
 - a. fruits reveal the nature of the tree (Matt. 5:3-9)
 - convicting of sin brings sorrow over sin & repentance
 - discovery of God brings fondness and fear
 - beauty of righteousness and holiness brings hunger
 - revelation of Jesus brings confession of faith

II. JESUS' COMMAND IN HEALING THIS BLIND MAN

- A. Though Jesus healed, He expected the blind man to obey (vs. 7)
 - 1. His obedience was remarkable
 - a. not only was it a difficult assignment (Pool of Siloam)
 - b. it was also an unlikely prospect (vs. 32)
- B. Power of grace always brings obedience to Word of God
 - 1. We resists obedience to *change follow directions respond believe*

- 2. But God's influence brings *hearty obedience to His Word* (Act 6:7) a. he obeyed and was healed (7b)
 - b. learn to *follow Jesus' directions* in **faith** as Jesus requires (Mark. 9:22-23; Matt. 12:13)
 - c. don't cancel or ignore Jesus' commands
- C. The question to examine: am I obedient to the Word of God's Gospel?
 - 1. Salvation is **never** based on our obedience to the law or Gospel
 - 2. Yet there is no salvation without obedience to both Law and Gospel

III. JESUS' CHALLENGE OF HIS FAITH AND OBEDIENCE

- A. We would expect the healed man be a cause of awe and praise (8-34)
 - 1. Instead, Jesus allowed him to face the Jewish inquisition!
- B. His responses are a clear revelation of God's work of grace: examine!
 - 1. Am I ignorant of his confession? (vs. 17)
 - 2. Am I ignorant of his experience? (vs. 25)
 - 3. Am I ignorant of his commitment? (vs. 27)

IV. JESUS' QUESTION TO THE HEALED MAN (next sermon)

Closing: Reading of the Lord's Supper Form, first half