"For Judgment I Am Come" John 9:39-41

Introduction: We Had A Visitor At Our Home: 1. - Last Week - That Reminded Me: - Of Something I Did When I Was: - Back In Elementary School: - Just Like Our Visitor Was! - Our Visitor Was: - A Young Man: - Who Was Out Fundraising For His School: - By Selling - Door-To-Door: - Some Of The "World's Finest Chocolate!" - Now, That's Quite A Claim, Isn't It! Well - As The Young Man Stood There: 2. - I Remembered When I Sold: - The Same "World's Finest Chocolate" When: - I Was About His Age! - Also - Door-To-Door! - Because - When I Stood Before: - A Potential Customer: - And Gave Them My Well-Rehearsed Line: - "Would You Like To Buy Some World's Finest Chocolate?" - I Then Had To Wait: - For Their Response! - And - Sometimes That Wait: - Was Agonizing! - Even If It Lasted Only: - A Few Seconds! - Because - I Didn't Know: - What They Would Say - Or: - How They Would Respond! 3. Every Potential Customer: - Had A Choice To Make! - To Buy - Or - Not To Buy! - To Test The Claim About Being: - The "World's Finest Chocolate" By: - Buying A Bar Or Two! - Or - By Sticking With Their: - Other Brands Of Chocolate: - That Couldn't Even Compare! - OK - I Didn't Think It Lived Up To Its Claim Either! - But - I Still Sold It - And: - Just Last Week - I Even Bought Some Of It: - To Help Out The Young Man: - And His School! But - The Point If The Story Is This: 4. - When That Young Man: - Offered His Chocolate To Me: - I Had A Choice To Make! - To Buy - Or - Not To Buy! - And - If I Chose Not To Buy: - I Would Never Know If: - The "World's Finest Chocolate" Would Live Up To Its Name! 5. Well - As We Turn Back To: - John 9 - And Finish The Chapter This Morning: - We Will See That:

- When Jesus Healed The Man Born Blind: - Not Only Did The Man: - Have A Decision To Make About Jesus - And: - His Claims! - So Did The Others: - Who Were Around The Man: - When - In 9:38 - He Said To The Lord: - "I Believe" - And - "Worshiped Him!" - And - This Is What We Find Next: - In 9:39-41 - Where We Read: - "And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. / And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also? / Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth!" 6. From These Verses: - We Can See That: - Whenever A Person Came Face-To-Face With Jesus: - And His Claims: - That Person Never Left: - The Same! - Now - This Does Not Mean That: - Every Person Who Encountered Jesus: - Was Healed Or Saved By Jesus! - That's Clear From Even These Three Verses! - But - Anytime A Person: - Was Confronted With The Gospel: - They Did Not Leave: - The Same Way They Came! - Sometimes - They Left: - Healed - By The Grace Of God: - Just Like: - This Man Born Blind! - But - Other Times - They Left: - Even More Hardened: - Like The Pharisees - Who In Pride Asked Jesus: - "Are We Blind Also?" 7. The Gospel Will Never Leave You: - In The Same Way & Condition: - It Finds You! - You Will Either Move To Christ: - And - "Buy Into" His Claims: - Through Faith! Or: - You Will Move Further Away From Christ: - And Remain In Your: - Own Ignorance & Iniquity! - And - After Jesus Finished: - The Good Work He Had Started: - By Saving The Soul: - Of The Man Who He Had Already: - Miraculously Healed! - Jesus Explains To The Man: - Man - More About Himself - And: - The New Faith He Had In Him: - As The "Son Of God!" And - In 9:39 - Jesus Tells The Man: 8. - "For Judgment I Am Come Into This World!" - It Was As If Jesus Came To:

- The Door Of That Man's Heart: - And Made His Claims! - Claims That He Was More Than A Man / More Than A Prophet / More Than A Teacher! - Now - What Would He Do: - With Those Claims? - What Would He Do: - With Jesus? - Well - Already We Learned That: - The Man Believed In Jesus - And: - Was Saved By Jesus! - And So - With These Words: - We First See: 1. The Reality Of Jesus: - And His Coming! - Because - When Jesus Said: - "I Am Come Into This World!" - He Gave Even More: - Confirmation & Comfort To: - The Man & His New-Found Faith! - His Coming: - Was A Further Confirmation: - That He Was To That Man: - Exactly Who He Now Believed Jesus To Be! - He Was & Is The: - Eternal "Son Of God" - Who Is The Only One Who Could Say: - "I Came Into This World" From A Place: - Outside This World! - Elsewhere In John & The Gospels: - Jesus Reveals That: - He Was Even "Sent" Into This World: - By God The Father! - And So - The Man's Faith: - Truly Had Found Its Resting Place: - In Jesus Christ! - But Also - Through This Statement - Jesus Tells The Man That: - His Coming: - Was A Further Comfort: - To Him! - Because - What Happened To The Man: - Was To Be Expected! - Because - As Jesus Said: - "For Judgment I Am Come Into This World!" - And So - The Opposition He Faced: - By The Religious Leaders - And Even: - By His Own Parents: - Was Something That The Coming Of Jesus Into The World: - Would Bring About! - Division / Separation / Opposition! - And Yet - Jesus Was Still There! - With The Man & For The Man! - Proving The Truth Of David's Words: - In Psalm 27:10 - "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up!" - And - Ever Since: - Whenever Someone Is Confronted With The Gospel: - They Have To Come To Terms With:

- The Reality Of Jesus Coming!

- And - What It Tells Them:

- About Who He Really Is - And:

- Why He Really Came!

- Remember - The Gospel:

- Will Never Leave You:

- Where It Finds You!

- You Will Either:

- Accept The Reality Of Jesus:

- And His Coming - Or:

- You Will Ignore It Or Even Reject It Altogether!

- But Then - From The Rest Of 9:39:

- We Can See:

2. The Reason For Jesus:

- And His Coming!

- Again - 9:39 - "For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind!"

- Now - When Jesus Says This:

- It Seems To Contradict What He Will Say:

- Later In John 12:47!

- "For I came not to judge the world, but to save the world!"

- So - What Can This Mean?

- When Jesus Said:

- In 12:47 That He Came Not:

- To Judge The World:

- He Meant That He Did Not Come Into The World The First Time:

- To Perform The Act Of Final Judgment!

- Which Is - What Jesus Will Do:

- When He Returns:

- The Second Time - In Glory!

- So - When Jesus Says Here:

- In 9:39 That He Came:

- For Judgment:

- He Means That His Very Presence Is Setting The Stage:

- For His Final Act Of Judgment!

- So - When You - Or Anyone Else:

- Comes Face-To-Face With Jesus:

- Either Personally - Like This Man Did:

- Or - Through The Gospel:

- Like The Rest Of Us!

- You Are Brought Before:

- The Bar Of God Himself!

- And - How You Personally Respond To Jesus:

- Today - In Your Heart In This Life:

- Will Bring About The Just Judgment Of God:

- In The Final Day Of Judgment!

- So - How You Respond To Jesus Matters!

- IE: It Didn't Matter All That Much In Light Of Eternity Whether I Bought The Chocolate Or

Not! But A Person's Response To Jesus Does Matter!

- And - According To This Verse:

- There Are Only Two Results:

- That Can Spring From Your Response To Jesus Christ!

- The First Result Is:

- Healing! The Healing Of Christ:

- Upon The Humble!

- So - Jesus Tells The Man - And Us - That:

- Part Of His Purpose In Coming Was:

- So - "That They Which See Not Might See!" - And - This Was Certainly The Case: - With That Blind Man! - And - The Healing Of His Two Blind Eyes Was Just An Object Lesson: - About The Healing Jesus Would Bring About In His Heart! - But - In Order To Experience: - This Kind Of Healing: - You First Have To Realize That: - You Are Completely Blind: - To The Things Of God! - Only Then Can You Receive: - His Healing! - By Grace Through Faith! - But - There Is Also Another Result: - That Jesus Tells Us About In This Verse! - The Second Result Is: - Humbling! The Humbling Of Christ: - Of The Haughty! - So - Part Of His Purpose In Coming: - Was So - "That They Which See Might Be Made Blind!" (9:39b) - And - Though This May Be Difficult: - For Us To Understand & Accept: - This Too Is Part Of The Purpose: - For Jesus' Coming Into This World! - It Was So That Those Who: - Feel Like They Can Already See: - The Things Of God: - All On Their Own: - Might Have Their Eyes Closed & Blinded! - And - When This Happens: - The Conditions For Final Judgment: - Are Set! - Those Who Recognize: - Their Blindness Before God: - Will Be Judged According To: - The Righteousness Of Christ! - But Those Who Ignore: - Their Blindness Before God: - As If They Could See! - They Too Will Be Judged: - But - According To Their Own Self-Righteousness! - And So - When You Are Confronted With: - Jesus - And The Truths Of The Gospel: - How You Respond Today Matters! - Because - You Will Either: - Desire More Of The Light Of Jesus - Or: - You Will Despise It! - Either His Light: - Will Be Bright & Beautiful: - To You - When You Realize: - That Without Christ, You Are Blind & Living In Darkness! - Or - His Light Will Be Too Bright & Painful: - To You - Because You Think: - That You Can See Just Fine Without Christ! - This Was The Very Reason: - For Jesus' Coming Into This World! - To Set The Stage & Conditions: - For His Final Judgment!

- And That Is Why:

- The Gospel Will Never:

- Leave You:

- Where It Finds You!

- The Gospel Will Either:

- Heal You & Give You Spiritual Sight:

- When God Graciously Himself Convinces You About & You Humbly Accept:

- The Blindness Of Your Heart!

- Or - The Gospel Will:

- Harden You & Leave You In Spiritual Darkness:

- When, In Pride & Stubbornness, You Think That You Are:

- Walking In The Light!

- So - What *Will* You Do:

- With Jesus? What *Have* You Done:

- With Jesus?

- Then - We See:

- From 9:40:

3. The Response To Jesus:

- And His Coming! That Is - The Response Of The Pharisees:

- 9:40 - "And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also?"

- Now - We're Not Sure Where These Pharisees Came From!

- Perhaps - They Followed The Blind Man:

- To See Where He Would Go!

- Or - Perhaps - They Followed Jesus:

- To See What He Would Do!

- Either Way They Were:
 - Up To No Good!

- But - When They Were Confronted:

- By Jesus - With These Words:

- They Became A Living Example:

- About The Kind Of Response Jesus Was Just Talking About:

- "That They Which See Might Be Made Blind!" (9:39)

- So - There Was Great Disgust:

- In The Pharisees' Response To Jesus!

- "Are We Blind Also?"

- Or - To Put It Another Way:

- "We're Not Blind – Like This Man Was – Are We?"

- So - They Had A Sense That:

- Jesus Was Talking About Them!

- And - Of Course - They Were Right!

- But - Jesus' Words:

- Became Fighting Words:

- And - They Were Offended & Put On The Defensive!

- Because They Refused To Admit:

- Any Blindness On Their Part:

- To The Things Of God!

- And - In Their Disgust:

- They Closed Their Own Eyes - And:

- Hardened Their Own Hearts:

- Even More - To:

- The Light Of Jesus!

- There Was Also Great Denial:

- In The Pharisees' Response To Jesus!

- They Refused To Even Consider:

- What Jesus Was Saying!

- Not Even For The Benefit:

- Of Their Own Souls! - And Yet - Isn't This: - The Kind Of Response That: - So Many Still Have: - When They Are Confronted With The "Good News" Of The Gospel? - The Good News Is That: - There Is Help For The Helpless! - There Is Healing For The Humble! - There Is Hope For The Hopeless! - But - There Is No: - Help Or Healing Or Hope: - If You Do Not See That: - You Need Them! - If You Do Not See That: - You Are Helpless & Humble & Even Hopeless: - In And Of Yourself! - And So - The Pharisees Only Did: - What All Sinners Do: - When Confronted With The Gospel: - Without The Touch Of God's Grace Upon Them! - And So We See That: - There Was Also Great Doubt: - In The Pharisees Response To Jesus! - "Are We Blind Also?" - They Asked? - Because Of: - The Defensive Nature: - Of Their Response: - The Pharisees May Have Said: - "Also" In: - A Sarcastic Way! - Implying That They: - Still Did Not Believe That: - Jesus Gave Sight To The Blind Man! - And - They Would Not Believe: - In The Healing Power Of Jesus: - In Spite Of: - All The Evidence To The Contrary, Provided At The Hearing! - And So - Even Though These Pharisees: - Were *Right There* - To: - See His Works - And To: - Hear His Words! - They Still Responded To Jesus: - Out Of Hearts: - Filled With Pride! - They Just Would Not & Could Not Accept: - That They Were As Blind Spiritually: - As That Man Had Been: - Physically! - Proving Once Again That: - The Gospel Will Never: - Leave You: - Where It Finds You! - It Will Either Soften: - Your Heart - So That It Becomes: - Humble & Pliable: - To The Work & Word Of God! - Or - It Will Harden: - Your Heart!

- So That - In Pride:

- You Will Become Even More:

- Defiant Against The Truth!

- So - What Are You Doing:

- With Jesus Today?

- What Are You Doing:

- With His Words Of Grace And Truth?

- "Harden Not Your Heart!"

- As These Pharisees Did:

- In Jesus Day!

- "Harden Not Your Heart!"

- As The Children Of Israel Did:

- "In The Day Of Temptation In The Wilderness!"

- "Harden Not Your Heart!"

- As You Have Done:

- So Many Times In Your Life Before - When God's Grace Flowed Down To

You Like A River!

- "Harden Not Your Heart!"

- Because - If And When You Do:

- What Jesus Says Next In 9:41 May Be True About You!

- Because There We Find:

4. The Revelation By Jesus!

- 9:41 - "Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth!"

- In This Verse - Jesus Reveals:

- What Their Admission:

- *Could* Do - If They Just: - Humbled Themselves:

- Humbled Themselves:

- Before Him!

- And - Jesus Reveals:

- What Their Arrogance:

- Did Do - Since They:

- Hardened Themselves:

- Even More Against Him!

- Because:

- If The Pharisees:

- And Just Admitted:

- That They Were Spiritually Blind - And:

- In A Helpless Condition!

- Then - They Could Have Been:

- Helped By Jesus - And:

- Healed By Jesus:

- Spiritually!

- "If Ye Were Blind, Ye Should Have No Sin!"

- Because - Their Sins Would Be Forgiven!

- Just Like The Blind Man!

- But Instead:

- Since They Resisted:

- The Truth - In Arrogance:

- And Hardened Their Hearts:

- Even More!

- They Were Without Hope!

- Because - "Now Ye Say, We See; Therefore Your Sin Remaineth!"

Conclusion:

1. And So - This Remains:

- One Of The Main Reasons Why Jesus:

- Came Into The World! - So That - When You Are Confronted: - With The Gospel: - It Will Not Leave You: - Where It Found You! 2. Jesus Came: - To Set Things Up: - For The Final Judgment! - And - How You: - See Yourself - When: - You Are Exposed To: - The Light Of Christ: - Will Determine How: - You Will Then Be Judged! 3. And - The Only Way: - To Lasting Hope & Healing - Is: - Humbling Yourself Before The Lord: - When He Opens Your Eyes: - To Your True Condition! - Before You Can Say: - "But Now I See!" - You First Must Admit: - "I Once Was Blind!" 4. So - Whenever: - You Come Face-To-Face With: - Jesus And His Gospel: - It Will Never Leave You: - Where It Found You! - So - Today: - Let It Move You: - Closer To The Lord! - And - Closer Than You've Ever Been Before! Grace Baptist Church

Stephen Elmer, Pastor 4245 North 200 West Greenfield, Indiana 46140 317-326-2362 www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace www.growatgrace.org pastor-elmer@hotmail.com