

Morning Sermon July 15, 2018  
"Seeing Jesus!" John 9:35-41

I. *Seeing Jesus, truly, spiritually, through God's Word; is key to true faith, growth in grace and standing firm under trial –*

1. *Before his second encounter with Jesus this man was uncertain about Who Jesus is –*

A. *In light of Jesus' opening his eyes -*

... He said, "He is a prophet." (John 9:17 NKJ)

B. *When asked about Jesus being a sinner, he confessed he did not know -*

**He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see." (John 9:25 NKJ)**

2. *When he speaks more decidedly on Jesus' behalf, he is cast out of the synagogue –*

**The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes!"<sup>31</sup>**

**"Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him."<sup>32</sup> "Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind."<sup>33</sup> "If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing."<sup>34</sup>**

**<sup>34</sup>They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out. (John 9:30-34 NKJ)**

*Yet, still his knowledge is primarily of what Jesus' had done for him, he conjectures:*

A. *He Jesus is a worshiper of God, One Who does His (God's) will – John 9:31*

B. *He must be "of God" because He performed this great miracle – John 9:33*

C. *Because of his stance for Jesus, he was cast out, this could have been a test of his new faith –*

**For we walk by faith, not by sight. (2 Corinthians 5:7 NKJ) The blind man's sight now was outside of the synagogue ...**

3. *Here Jesus finds him, questions him –*

A. *Note Jesus is always there when we need Him most – Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, ..."* (John 9:35 A NKJ)

**... and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.** (Matthew 28:20 NKJ)

B. *Note the great question Jesus asks him is NOT ANSWERED without help from God's Word*

**Jesus ... He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" (John. 9:35 NKJ)**

- *Note what the man does NOT say, - 'oh yes I believe in YOU, how could I not with that halo around Your head, Your piercing brown eyes, Your wonderful height and your glowing skin, how can I not believe that You are the Son of God, Your amazing physical presence makes it obvious!'*

- *Note, what he does say - He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" (John 9:36 NKJ)*

C. *Jesus' Word, God's Word to this man about Jesus is what strengthens this man's faith –*

**And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." (John 9:37 NKJ)**

*Here Jesus is telling the man, I Am the Son of God! It is Jesus' Words, here about Himself that enables this man's faith –*

D. *Jesus' Words both strengthen this man's faith and they enliven his worship –*

**And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you."<sup>38</sup> Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him. (John 9:37-38 NKJ)**

II. *Seeing Jesus in His / God's Word strengthens faith and enlivens worship –*

**He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"<sup>37</sup> And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is**

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talking with you." <sup>38</sup> Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him. (John 9:36-38 NKJ)

1. *The Word of God is key to faith –*

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (Romans 10:17 NKJ)

2. *There was nothing in Jesus' physical appearance that would draw men to Him or cause faith in them –*

Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? <sup>2</sup> For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, *There is no beauty that we should desire Him.* <sup>3</sup> He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, *our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.* <sup>4</sup> Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But He was wounded for our transgressions, *He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.* (Isaiah 53:1-5 NKJ)

3. *This was especially true when men saw Jesus physically beaten, immediately before and while He was on the cross –*

Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, "Behold the Man!" <sup>6</sup> Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" ... (John 19:5-6 NKJ)

A. *Note Pilate calls them to "Behold the Man!" (John 19:5 NKJ)*

B. *Note it is "when" they saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" ... (John 19:6 NKJ)*

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18 NKJ)

but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, (1 Corinthians 1:23 NKJ)

4. *What were those blind to God's glory in Christ missing?*

<sup>5</sup> But He was wounded for our transgressions, *He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.* (Isaiah 53:5 NKJ)

A. *The self-righteousness of the Pharisees, the leaders of the Jews, blinded them to the saving work of Christ. It was not something they valued because they felt no NEED for it!*

B. *Only sinners SEE their NEED of a Savior ...*

C. *This man SEES Jesus because He knew His own blindness, a man with 20/20 vision sees no need for a cane or a seeing eye dog and a spiritually SEEING, SINLESS (in his own eyes person) sees no need for a Savior.*

III. *Jesus' Judgment –*

And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind." <sup>40</sup> Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, "Are we blind also?" <sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains. (John 9:39-41 NKJ)

1. *Those who do not see, SEE –*

And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, ..." (John 9:39 A NKJ)

A. *These are people who are humble about their spiritual vision – The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way. (Psalm 25:9 NKJ)*

B. *These people, despite their weaknesses, are chosen by God – Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. <sup>26</sup> For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. <sup>27</sup> But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; <sup>28</sup> and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, <sup>29</sup> that no flesh should glory in His presence. (1 Corinthians 1:25-29 NKJ)*

2. *Those who see, will be made blind -*

And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, ... and that those who see may be made blind." (John 9:39 NKJ)

See John 9:40-41, they were blind to Jesus' glory, His Deity, His glory!

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