

JOHN 9:39-41
October 25, 1987
Rome Georgia
October 5, 2014

Subject: The spiritual condition of the Leaders of Judaism in Jesus day.

Theme: Spiritual insight requires spiritual accountability.

Proposition: HAVE YOU LOOKED AT YOURSELF LATELY? WHAT DO YOU SEE? DO YOU SEE AT ALL?

I. THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE BLIND SINNER

9 : 2 5 . the blind man realized that he was blind and in need of healing. He knew that he was a sinner in need of a redeemer **3 5 - 3 8** .

The man in the story recognized two things in **9:25**.

1. HE WAS BLIND
2. NOW HE COULD SEE.

If he had not recognized his blindness, he would not have obeyed the Lord's instructions as to how his sight might be restored. RESULTS = **36-38**.

Cf. someone who refuses to acknowledge that they are blind, or an alcoholic, or a drug abuser. There is no help for those who will not admit that they need help.

Jesus said in **8 : 1 2** , "I am the light of the world..." But men must recognize that they are in darkness before they will reach for the light.

1 2 : 4 6 "I am come a light unto the world, that **WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH** on me should not abide in darkness." But men **MUST BELIEVE** in order to **RECEIVE!**

Matt. 11 : 5 "... the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed.....And, **BLESSED IS HE WHOSOEVER SHALL NOT BE OFFENDED IN ME.**"

THE BLIND MAN WAS NOT OFFENDED THAT JESUS CAME AND OFFERED HIM SIGHT BECAUSE HE REALIZED HE HAD A NEED AND RESPONDED TO THE INSTRUCTIONS OF JESUS.

J N . 9 : 3 9 - 4 1

cf. **Jn. 5:22-27** Son came for judgement. WITH **8:15** "I judge no man."

J N . 9 : 3 9 "What is meant here is that Jesus came to pronounce judgements on the ungodly. The blind who come to sight are those whose self trust and pride blinds them to the wonders of Jesus. He does not condemn them by making them blind; they blind themselves by rejecting Him and Satan contributes to that blinding (**II Cor. 4:4.**) BKC

Paul explains verse 39 this way in **II Cor. 2:15** **I C O R . 2 : 1 5 - 1 6** " ...to the one (Christ is) the savor of death unto death; and to the other (Christ is) the savor of life unto life..."

II. THE BLINDNESS OF THE SELF-RIGHTEOUS SINNER

4 0 - 4 1

THOSE WHO DO NOT DESIRE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST, PRONOUNCE THEIR OWN JUDGEMENT.

When Jesus associated with those who sinners, the Pharisees were appalled. They could not grasp how it was that Jesus could eat at the same table with those who disregarded the laws of God. Jesus reply to them demonstrates our text this morning:

Matt. 9 : 1 2

"THEY THAT ARE WELL NEED NOT A PHYSICIAN BUT THEY THAT ARE SICK."

Only those who recognize their need for a Physician can be treated.

Paul's admonition in Eph. 5:14 is one that the Pharisees needed to hear:

Eph. 5:14 "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light."

BUT THE PHARISEES DID NOT RECOGNIZE THEIR NEED FOR THIS LIGHT!

MATT. 13:13-15

The plight of Israel in Isaiah 6: and elsewhere....

Isa. 6:9-10,

Isa. 29:9-10 *****

"THERE IS A LINE BY US UNSEEN
WHICH CROSSES EVERY PATH;
THE HIDDEN BOUNDARY BETWEEN
GOD'S PATIENCE AND HIS WRATH. - ALEXANDER.

IN THE BOOK OF ISAIAH, THE PROPHET POINTS OUT THAT THE NATION HAD GONE TO FAR AND THAT JUDGEMENT WAS IMMINENT. LIKEWISE IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN, IT IS CLEAR THAT JUDGEMENT WAS UPON THE NATION DUE TO THEIR CALLOUS DISREGARD OF THE THINGS OF GOD.

Jn. 12:37-41 "But though He had done so many miracles before them, YET THEY BELIEVED NOT ON HIM, THAT THE SAYING OF ISAIAH THE PROPHET MIGHT BE FULFILLED."

THE PHARISEES HAD A PROBLEM WITH THEIR VISION. THEY COULD NOT SEE THE SAVIOR BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT SEE THEIR OWN SIN AND NEED OF A SAVIOR!

Luke 11:34-35 " the lamp of the body is the eye....take heed that the light that is in thee be not darkness."

Matt. 6:23 "...if thy eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is within thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!"

THEY WERE BLIND AND DEAF

CF. Jn. 8:43 "Why do ye not understand my speech? Even because ye CANNOT HEAR my word."
WITH **9:27** . "I have told you already and YE DID NOT HEAR: why would ye hear it again? Will ye also be His disciples?"

FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS THE JEWISH LEADERS HAD BEEN HARDENING THEIR HEARTS TO THE LEADERSHIP OF GOD. THEY HAD THEIR OWN PATHS TO WALK IN. NOW WHEN THE PROMISED MESSIAH IS IN THEIR MIDST, THEIR SPIRITUAL EYES AND EARS HAVE CEASED TO FUNCTION!

WHEN WE FAIL TO EXERCISE ANY ORGAN OF OUR BODIES, WE ARE IN DANGER OF LOOSING THE ABILITY TO USE IT...

" A monk once took a vow that he would not speak for 50 years. When he attempted to frame a few words, his voice was completely gone! In the east, fakirs, holding their hands and feet immobile for long periods of time, find that their joints refuse to move and that their muscles are atrophied.

So, to, those who continue to neglect the needs of their souls may never come to the point of accepting the gift of salvation. The longer they remain silent when God calls, the harder it is to respond. The more that they refuse his invitation of grace, the more difficult their crippled movements become.

It is a terrible thing to trifle with your soul and close your eyes to the truth, for God may eventually let you go completely blind so that you will be like those described in **Job 5:12-14**." db June 24, 1972.*** TURN HERE.

Job 5:12-14 ***

These people were experts at recognizing sin in others, yet their own condition was not so clear to them. J N . 9 : 3 4
7:47-52

WERE THE PHARISEES ACTUALLY ABLE TO SEE, OR WERE THEY BLIND?

MATT. 15:12-14 "...BLIND LEADERS OF THE BLIND"

MATT. 23:16-7 "WOE UNTO YOU, YE BLIND GUIDES....YE FOOLS AND BLIND."

WHY?

LUKE 11:39-40 CLEAN OUTSIDE - DIRTY INSIDE!

RATHER THAN THIS CONDITION OF BLINDNESS AND FILTH PRODUCING A DESIRE FOR CLEANSING AND HEALING, IT PRODUCED SPIRITUAL PRIDE AND DEEPER BLINDNESS!

ROMANS 2:19-22 "AND (THOU) ART CONFIDENT THAT THOU THYSELF ART A GUIDE TO THE BLIND."...

Proverbs 26:12 "seest thou a wise man in his own conceit? There is more hope of a fool than of him!"

Isaiah 5:21 Woe unto them who are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!"

Luke 12:47-48 GREATER CONDEMNATION FOR THOSE WHO ARE TEACHERS...

THE PHARISEES NEEDED HUMILITY - NOT ARROGANCE!

LUKE 18:14 "EVERYONE THAT EXALTEH HIMSELF SHALL BE ABASED AND HE THAT HUMBLETH HIMSELF SHALL BE EXALTED."

V. 41 CF. 7:21 & 24 YE SHALL DIE IN YOUR SINS, FOR, YE BELIEVE NOT THAT I AM HE."

APPLICATION

DANGER FOR US TODAY - CHURCH AT LAODICEA - IT'S FINAL STATE OF APOSTASY **REV. 3:17**

HAVE YOU SEEN JESUS? HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR NEED FOR HIM? WHERE IS HIS PLACE IN YOUR LIFE TODAY? IS HE ON THE OUTSIDE OF YOUR HEART KNOCKING?