

Episode 1-37 - The Seeing and the Blind

I. The purpose of the gospel of John is to produce believers in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the One anointed by God to be the Savior of the world, and that Jesus is the Son of God, God represented in human form.

II. We have been considering when the blind man saw, and the seeing men were blinded. The blind man just told the truth to the Pharisees about his healing, but they refused to believe it.

III. The Pharisees and the parents. John 9:18-23.

- A. V.18. They do not believe it. They call his parents to prove his identity.
- B. V.19. They seem to blame the parents for having this troublesome son!
- C. V.20. The parents affirm this as their son, and that he was born blind.
- D. V.21. They refuse to speculate how he can see. He is of age. Ask him!
- E. V.22. They were in fear. To be banished from the synagogue was a terrible fate! This shows the hatred the Jews had for the Lord because He dared to challenge them!
- F. V.23. Again, John is emphasizing that his parents were not unloving, just afraid.

IV. The Pharisees and the blind man again. John 9:24-34.

- A. V.24. They want him to retract his statement. This was unreasonable! He had not imaged his healing. Their logic: only a sinner would heal on the Sabbath.
- B. V.25. This was obvious truth, but it took bravery to say it. We too can now see!
- C. V.26. They think they can bully him into changing his story.
- D. V.27. He cannot help but rebuke their ridiculous attitude.
- E. V.28. They respond to his well-deserved rebuke with pointless ridicule. As if being Moses' disciple was better than being Jesus'! Notice who truly are blind here.
- F. V.29. They refuse to say His name. But consider Phil. 2:10! They imply if they did not know where He was from, He could not be very important. Note the arrogance!
- G. V.30. The blind man points out that, if they were really so great, they should know all about One Who could give sight to one born blind!
- H. V.31. God does not listen to sinners (except crying for a Savior.) God's will is told.
- I. V.32. He knew in the miracles of Old Testament, no healings of a man born blind. "Since the world began" = *ek tou aionos*, since God's work started flowing.
- J. V.33. This is the simple yet obvious conclusion. His courage is inspiring. Remember the purpose of the gospel of John! Do we believe Christ is from God, as he did?
- K. V.34. They taught this about the common people. It was true, Romans 3:23. The arrogant part is that they taught this was not true of them! Such arrogance. "Cast out" here is not the same as 22. He was not out of synagogue, just cast from their presence.

V. The Lord and the blind man again. John 9:35-41.

- A. V.35. Now he will have his eyes opened again, this time to truth. Not "son of man." Not saying God has a child. "Son" is a representative. The blind man should believe.
- B. V.36. If the One Who healed him says believe, he will believe. He can see indeed!
- C. V.37. The Lord Jesus is the Son of God. Do you believe this truth? Purpose of John.
- D. V.38. The man keeps his word and worships Him. Lord accepts worship. Not wrong!
- E. V.39. The lesson of the story. Those who were blind to the truth were the ones really badly off. They would not turn to the Lord to be healed of unbelief.
- F. V.40. The Pharisees realize He means them. They deny being blind.
- G. V.41. The Lord rebukes them. If they were truly blind, they would not have sin (John 15:22-24.) Because they claim to see, their sin remains. Do not be like them!

VI. Conclusion: The difference between the seeing and the blind is clear here. It is the Pharisees who are blinded by their religion, prejudice, and pride. The simple blind man can truly see. Let us all believe with a simple and unassuming faith like his!