

Healing of the Man Born Blind

John 9:1-21

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

¹ Now as *Jesus* passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. ² And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. ⁴ I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; *the* night is coming when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. ⁷ And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

⁸ Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?" ⁹ Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him." He said, "I am *he*." ¹⁰ Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight." ¹² Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

The Pharisees Excommunicate the Healed Man

¹³ They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶ Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. ¹⁷ They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. ¹⁹ And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹ but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself."

Questions:

1. How does John establish the fact of the miracle in vs 1-7? What was the man's illness (v 1), what technique was used to perform it (v 6-7), and what was the result (v 7)?
2. What spiritual question did the disciples ask about this man's severe condition? Why would the disciples ask such a question about this problem? What inconsistency do you see in this thinking? (consider Romans 3:23)
3. What does Jesus point to as the purpose of the man's blindness? (The disciples were asking what caused it)
4. What do you think Jesus means that He must do the works He was sent to do while it was day before the night? What was the night that was coming?
5. What did Jesus instruct the blind man to do to receive the miracle? What relationship did his obeying these instructions have to do with his healing?
6. How did the neighbors react when they saw what had happened? How did they investigate and look for some natural explanation for what had happened?
7. How did the Pharisees react to this evidence of an undeniable miracle? Did they even rejoice with the man?
8. What fact seemed to disprove the claim that Jesus was a sinner? (v 16) What did the now healed man say about who he believed Jesus was?
9. How did the parents settle the first question they were asked? Why did they avoid answering the second question about how he was now able to see?
10. How does John's answer any doubts of it being a miracle? What is the main purpose John had? (John 20:30-31)