



JOHN 9- SEE HIM... THE SIGN OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

INTRODUCTION

This miracle story confronts so many theological and social issues in one sign that Jesus performs. Here we discover Jesus heart for people, and His avoidance of a religious worldview.

- Jesus knew that Grace overcomes (or is a Higher Principle than), Reaping and Sowing.
- He demonstrates insight into the life journey and story of each individual.
- He refuses to bow to religious expectations that no signs should be performed on the Sabbath.
- The sign is powerful because of what happens in the heart of the recipient of this miracle.

DISCUSSION POINT

“Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it within us or we find it not.” (Ralph Waldo Emerson) It’s not what happens to us but what happens in us that counts in life..It’s especially true of our response to Jesus. What do we see in Him?

1.THE QUESTION OF SIN AND RELIGION

- Read and discuss John 9:1-5 NASB

KEYPOINT

Jesus has a completely unexpected, to what seemed like a normal question for His disciples. We are confusedwho sinned? Jesus confronts their mindset with a totally opposite approach.

- A. Forget about the sin in this situation ...it’s not relevant
- B. Focus on the glory of God instead
- C. Seize the opportunity that faith brings.... that religion cannot provide
- D. Focus on the light, not the darkness

2. HERE'S MUD IN YOUR EYE- JESUS USES NO FORMULA FOR MIRACLES

Read and discuss - John 9:6-12 NASB

Why was Jesus gone when the man returned seeing for the first time in His life?

What does it tell you about the nature of Jesus and His willingness to be mysterious at times..

KEYPOINT

Jesus never seems to use a system or formula for healing. Instead He treats every individual... individually. If he had said "I will spit into the clay and make mud and put it in your eye and your sight will be restored".. who would have believed Him. But is the Inventor of the Eye unable to see? After all He made the first human out of dust and clay and He shaped them ok. So it seems appropriate to return to His own creative roots in performing this sign.

3. MIRACLE OF SIGHTRESTORED DIGNITY

- Read and discuss: John 9:8-12 NASB

KEYPOINT

Discuss how this man born blind had enough vision in his hearing to see and know that Jesus could be trusted. Jesus restores his dignity and his ability to function fully in the broader community

4. MIRACLE OF INSIGHT

- Read and discuss John 9:13-17 NASB

KEYPOINT

He is a Prophet!... How could this man born blind bear such witness to someone he has never met. It's fair to say that other than the Samaritan woman, and the Roman Centurion no one seemed to have such clarity about who Jesus was. And he had never seen Him...But he had heard Him.

CONCLUSION

Jesus finally is seen by the man born blind, but only after he had been expelled from the synagogue.

JESUS IS THE FRIEND OF SINNERS AND OUTCASTS

When the man born blind, recognises who it is that speaks to him, his response is like no one else in the journeys of Jesus so far...the man born blind worships Him.