

Blinding Sight

John 9

For the past few weeks, we have been studying Jesus as he attended the Feast of Booths in Jerusalem, and it's been pretty intense. Intense because Jesus has been physically in front of the Crowds and Religious Leaders, verbally sparring over His claim to be the Messiah.

His words have been straight and clear. He is the Messiah, His message is true, and it comes from God. Not only that, but whoever follows him will not walk in darkness, but in light. **In other words, those who follow Jesus have Spiritual Sight.**

This has been Jesus's message, and it's been rejected and countered by the Religious Leaders at every turn.

An Interesting Question (John 9:1-7)

This story begins somewhat strangely. Jesus and his disciples were walking, and they saw a man who was born blind. This prompted them to ask Jesus an interesting question.

"Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

To us, that is a strange and almost offensive question, but at that time, it wasn't offensive or strange. The disciples were simply reflecting a commonly held belief.

Isaiah 35:5 (ESV)

*⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
And then again in chapter 61, Isaiah says this.*

Isaiah 61:1 (ESV)

*The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;*

Part 1.	The Coming of the King
Part 2.	The Authentication of the King
Part 3.	The Controversy over the King
Part 4.	The Training of the Twelve by the King
Part 5.	The Opposition to the King: → Seeing is Believing
Part 6.	The Preparation of the Disciples by the King
Part 7.	The Official Presentation of the King
Part 8.	The Preparation for the Death of the King
Part 9.	The Trial of the King
Part 10.	The Death of the King
Part 11.	The Resurrection and the Ascension of the King
Part 12.	The Sequels

The Witnesses (John 9:8-12)

The man returned home, and his neighbors could hardly recognize him, and they marvel at what had happened. Hearing how and when Jesus had healed the man, the neighbors were confused. Jesus had done a Messianic Miracle while breaking the Oral Law. They needed an explanation.

The Religious Leaders Question the Man and His Parents (John 9:13-34)

The Religious Leaders could not accept the story that they heard. Something has to be wrong. This man could not have been born blind. They question him, his parents, and then the man again, but the story holds. Jesus healed this man who was born blind. Jesus had performed a Messianic Miracle while breaking the Oral Law. The Religious Leaders would not accept this, and so they threw the man out of their presence and out of the synagogue.

The Messiah and the Man (John 9:35-41)

When Jesus heard that the man had been thrown out of the synagogue, he found him and presented himself as the one who had restored his sight. The man who was born blind spiritually saw and believed in Jesus as the Messiah.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grace Family Camping Trip to Ocotillo Wells - February 26th through 28th hosted by the Men's Ministry Team. Interested? Contact Al Lerma at amlermatelco@yahoo.com or 619-889-6892

Voice of the Martyrs - The VOM Advance conference has gone virtual. Come and join us on March 5th, beginning at 6:30 PM. You will be encouraged by stories and news from your brothers and sisters around the world.

Lifestream Blood Drive - March 13th GCC will be hosting a blood drive from 9 AM till 2 PM. If you would like to give blood, schedule your appointment online at https://giftoflife.lstream.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/93230 or

