

Gospel of John: That You Might Believe

[John 9:1-41](#)

“Spiritual and Physical Blindness” – August 15, 2021



Introduction

How can we have certainty that Jesus is the Christ? John 9 makes it clear that the reason people reject Jesus is a sinful heart, not because of any lack in Jesus. We need to have hearts that see and to have spiritual sight Jesus must open our eyes.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. **Scene 1:** A Miracle ([9:1-12](#))
- II. **Scene 2:** A Denial ([9:13-44](#))
- III. **Scene 3:** Worship ([9:35-41](#))

Read & Discuss

- 1) Read [9:1-12](#)

Jesus heals a man born blind. This is an amazing miracle, and this miracle had a purpose. What do you learn from or find most encouraging about God from this healing? Jesus' purpose for this miracle was to bear witness that God the Father had sent Him. It was a signpost to show that He was God in the flesh. He can both create and recreate what has been broken by sin. Notice the blind man's faith. He could not see Jesus, but He did exactly as he said after he spit on His eyes. This man was poor of spirit. He was desperate. How desperate are you to obey and follow Jesus?

Additional Reading: [Genesis 2:7](#)

- 2) Read [9:13-44](#)

The Pharisees were not open to the truth. Their minds were made up on Jesus. They used threats and intimidation to steer the trial against anyone who disagreed with their skepticism of Jesus. Yet, this amazing miracle could not be ignored. The miracle was extraordinary but not complicated. Still, the Pharisees did not want to give glory to God or tell the truth as they claimed they wanted the blind man to do. Why are the Pharisees so blind? Their idols blinded their hearts. An idol is anything we trust more than God or that we can't live without, and we are willing to break the rules to get it. Are there idols in your life? What could some of them be? Turn them over to the Lord.

Additional Reading: [John 5:44](#), [Psalm 115](#)

3) Read [9:35-41](#)

The blind man was kicked out of the synagogue. This was a huge deal for a Jewish man in this time. He was rejected by men. He was poor in spirit. Thankfully, we learn more about Jesus here as well. Jesus seeks this man out to give him spiritual eyes to see. The blind man sees the truth about Jesus, so He worships Him. He is awakened to the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Christian, are you submitting to this loving savior who seeks and saves us? Are you asking the right questions in this time of struggle? Slow down this week and ask the Lord what you can learn from life's various struggles in this past year and a half. What have you learned about yourself and about God? God's discipline can feel uncomfortable, but we know it is for our good and for His glory. We may not always understand why something happens, but we know He is good, and He is on the throne. Who or what is on the throne of your heart? What stirs you up in encouragement or frustration? This could be a great indicator of what is on the throne.

Friends, we must remember that even if we are kicked out of the world's temple that a temple without Jesus is no temple at all. We can experience rest in Him.

Additional Reading: [Daniel 7](#) (for more on the Son of Man), [John 2:19](#)

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

*Next week's sermon text: we turn to John 10:1-42 "Jesus the Good Shepherd"
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