

# Learning from the Blind Man

## John 9

### THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

#### *The Word Became Flesh*

**I**n the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, <sup>1</sup> and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

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voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight<sup>6</sup> the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

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# First Section: Sight

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# John 9:1-5

<sup>1</sup> As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth.

<sup>2</sup> And His disciples asked Him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?”

# John 9:1-5

<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, “*It was neither that* this man sinned, nor his parents; but *it was* so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

# John 9:1-5

<sup>4</sup> We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work.

<sup>5</sup> While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world.”



# ➤ Sin's effects help us truly see God's goodness.

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# John 9:6-7

<sup>6</sup> When He had said this, He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and applied the clay to his eyes,  
<sup>7</sup> and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which is translated, Sent). So he went away and washed, and came *back* seeing.

# John 9:8-12

<sup>8</sup> Therefore the neighbors, and those who previously saw him as a beggar, were saying, “Is not this the one who used to sit and beg?”

<sup>9</sup> Others were saying, “This is he,” *still* others were saying, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the one.”



➤ People will always notice  
when Jesus produces change.

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# John 9:8-12

<sup>10</sup> So they were saying to him, “How then were your eyes opened?”

# John 9:8-12

<sup>11</sup> He answered, “The man who is called Jesus made clay, and anointed my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash’; so I went away and washed, and I received sight.”

<sup>12</sup> They said to him, “Where is He?” He said, “I do not know.”

# Second Section: Controversy

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# John 9:13-23

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who was formerly blind.

<sup>14</sup> Now it was a Sabbath on the day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes.

# John 9:13-23

<sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees also were asking him again how he received his sight. And he said to them, “He applied clay to my eyes, and I washed, and I see.”



# John 9:13-23

<sup>16</sup> Therefore some of the Pharisees were saying, “This man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath.” But others were saying, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And there was a division among them.

➤ Even when good things are done, there will always be those who are critical,

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<sup>17</sup> So they said to the blind man again, “What do you say about Him, since He opened your eyes?” And he said, “He is a prophet.”

# John 9:13-23

<sup>18</sup> The Jews then did not believe *it* of him, that he had been blind and had received sight, until they called the parents of the very one who had received his sight,

<sup>19</sup> and questioned them, saying, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? Then how does he now see?”

# John 9:13-23

<sup>20</sup> His parents answered them and said, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind;

<sup>21</sup> but how he now sees, we do not know; or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself.”

# John 9:13-23

<sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone confessed Him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.

<sup>23</sup> For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."



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# Third Section: Faith

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# John 9:24-25

<sup>24</sup> So a second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, “Give glory to God; we know that this man is a sinner.”

<sup>25</sup> He then answered, “Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”



➤ People remember those who have shown genuine love towards them.

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# John 9:26-34

<sup>26</sup> So they said to him, “What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?”

<sup>27</sup> He answered them, “I told you already and you did not listen; why do you want to hear *it* again? You do not want to become His disciples too, do you?”



# John 9:26-34

<sup>28</sup> They reviled him and said, “You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.

<sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He is from.”

# John 9:26-34

<sup>30</sup> The man answered and said to them,  
“Well, here is an amazing thing, that  
you do not know where He is from,  
and *yet* He opened my eyes.

<sup>31</sup> We know that God does not hear  
sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing  
and does His will, He hears him.

# John 9:26-34

<sup>32</sup> Since the beginning of time it has never been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.

<sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, He could do nothing.”

<sup>34</sup> They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you teaching us?” So they put him out.

# John 9:35-36

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him, He said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

<sup>36</sup> He answered, “Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?”

➤ Notice that Jesus waited until the right time to talk about faith.

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# John 9:37-41

<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, “You have both seen Him, and He is the one who is talking with you.”

<sup>38</sup> And he said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped Him.



# John 9:37-41

<sup>39</sup> And Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind.”

# John 9:37-41

<sup>40</sup> Those of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and said to Him, “We are not blind too, are we?”

<sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

# Jeremiah 10:23

<sup>23</sup> I know, O LORD, that a man's way is  
not in himself,  
Nor is it in a man who walks to direct  
his steps.

# Proverbs 3:5-6

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart  
And do not lean on your own  
understanding.

<sup>6</sup> In all your ways acknowledge Him,  
And He will make your paths straight.

# Isaiah 55:8-9

<sup>8</sup> “For My thoughts are not your thoughts,  
Nor are your ways My ways,” declares  
the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> “For *as* the heavens are higher than  
the earth,  
So are My ways higher than your ways  
And My thoughts than your thoughts.

We must recognize our own  
blindness and our need for  
God's sight.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO

JOHN

*The Word Became Flesh*

**I**n the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.<sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God.<sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.<sup>4</sup> In him was life,<sup>1</sup> and the life was the light of men.<sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.<sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him.<sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through

voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight<sup>6</sup> the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

<sup>24</sup>(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.)<sup>25</sup> They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"<sup>26</sup> John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know,<sup>27</sup> even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie."<sup>28</sup> These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

*Behold, the Lamb of God*

<sup>29</sup>The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

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