

When God Shows Up: Seven Miracles in John

Lesson 7

John 9:1-41

June 26, 2022

A Blind Man Reveals Blindness

INTRODUCTION

One of the most endearing videos on social media shows a toddler with severe vision deficits who gets glasses for the first time. The optician places them on the boy's face, and a look of shock comes across his face that is quickly replaced with a grin as he looks around in amazement. He sees Mom and Dad for the first time; makes the connection between the sounds of their voices and the faces before him; and he squeals with joy!

The man we meet in John 9 has a similar experience. Blind from birth, Jesus heals him, and he is changed forever. Not only is he now able to see with his eyes, but the eyes of his heart are opened, as well, to belief in the Son of Man.

Jesus uses this miracle to draw a contrast with the Pharisees who lack the spiritual vision to believe. Even though they have witnessed the “work of God” before them, they are spiritually blinded by their unbelief. Let us learn from their doubt and pride and be quick to believe in God's healing power at work in people's everyday lives.

Memory verse: “He replied, ‘Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!’”—John 9:25

Pray, and read John 9:1-41. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

OBSERVATION: What do the passages say?

1. What reason did Jesus provide to explain why the man was born blind? (John 9:1-3)
2. How did Jesus perform the miracle, and what was its result? (John 9:6-7)
3. What were the elements of the man's simple testimony? (John 9:11).
4. With what two groups of people did he share his testimony? (John 9:8, 13-34)
5. What was the man's response when he learned who Jesus was? (John 9:35-38)

INTERPRETATION: What do the passages mean?

1. The groups of people hearing the man's testimony were full of unbelief. How should seemingly unbelievable truths/supernatural miracles be confronted?
(Psalm 25:5; John 16:13)

2. Jesus' rebuke that revealed the Pharisees' unbelief caused them to lash out in anger. What was the root of their response?
(Proverbs 11:2; Isaiah 65:2; Jeremiah 5:21)

3. Anger is often the response when Jesus gently points out an area where repentance is needed. How does one cultivate a heart of humility before God?
(2 Chronicles 7:14; Micah 6:8; 2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

4. The contrast between the blind man's physical sight restored and the Pharisees' spiritual "blindness" is evident in this scripture. How may spiritual blind spots in life be identified?
(Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 13:20; James 1:5)

5. The tender moment when the blind man finally sees and meets the Savior was appointed by Jesus himself. Why did the man immediately believe and trust Jesus?
(Psalm 9:10, 100:3-5; John 10:3-5)

APPLICATION: How do the passages apply to your life?

1. Write a two-sentence testimony about a situation from which you were healed by God. What was life like before your healing, and how has your life changed since? Give God the glory, and ask Him to bring someone to you that needs to hear your testimony and with whom you can share it.

