

MATTHEW 9:27-31 – TWO BLIND MEN HEALED!

10/24/15 Sat Morn Prayer – ptwente@gmail.com

Mat 9:27 When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, "Son of David, have mercy on us!" [28] And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." [29] Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith let it be to you." [30] And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, "See that no one knows it." [31] But when they had departed, they spread the news about Him in all that country.

Mat. 9:27-31 - After Jesus had healed the woman with the issue of blood and had raised Jairus' daughter from the dead and as He returned from Jairus' house, the two blind men followed Him.

Mat. 9:27 *When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, "Son of David, have mercy on us!"*

- **Two blind men followed Him:** It was not easy for these blind men to follow Jesus, but they did. They had to ask others where Jesus was going, and they had to listen to every sound that might guide them. Yet they were determined to follow Him to the best of their ability.
- "Blindness was a distressingly common disease in Palestine. It came partly from the glare of the eastern sun on unprotected eyes, and partly because people knew nothing of the importance of cleanliness and hygiene. In particular the clouds of unclean flies carried infections which led to loss of sight." (Barclay)
- **Son of David, have mercy on us:** The two blind men followed Jesus and shouted this open recognition of Jesus as Messiah, because *Son of David* was a rich Messianic title. They asked Jesus for the best thing they could ask for: *mercy*.
- "Their sole appeal was to mercy. There was no talk about merit, no pleading of their past sufferings, or their persevering endeavors, or their resolves for the future; but, 'Have mercy on us.' He **will never win a blessing from God who demands it as if he had a right to it.**" (Spurgeon)
- "This is the first time Jesus is called '*Son of David*' and there can be no doubt that the blind men were confessing Jesus as Messiah."
- *John 9:22* tells us that the Pharisees judged that anyone who proclaimed Jesus as the Christ, the Messiah, would be removed from the synagogue. Though the occasion in John seems to have been after this healing of the blind men, we can still believe that there was a price to pay for calling Jesus "*Son of David*."

Mat. 9:28a *And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?"*

- **When He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him:** Jesus did not deal with the blind men until they were indoors. This may have been to dampen messianic expectations on a day already marked by two highly public and dramatic miracles.
- **Do you believe that I am able to do this?** Again, Jesus healed the blind men in response to their faith. **Faith does not guarantee physical healing** for every individual, yet there are undoubtedly multitudes **that are not healed because they lack faith.**
- **The confession of faith, which Christ drew from them upon this occasion.** When they came to him for mercy, He asked them, *Do you believe that I am able to do this?* **Faith is the great condition of Christ's favors – not only in Messiahship and in granting mercy but the power to heal!** (*Mt. 9:2 -paralytic, 22 - woman, issue of blood, 29 - blind men*)
- **To believe the power of Christ is not only to assure ourselves of it, but to commit ourselves to it, and encourage ourselves in it.**
- **Faith is the great condition of Christ's favors.** They who would receive the *mercy* of Christ, must firmly believe the *power* of Christ. What we would have Him do for us, we must be fully assured that He is *able to do*.
- *James 1:6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.*
- They followed Christ, and followed Him crying, but the great question is, **Do you believe?** Nature may work fervency, but **it is only grace that can work faith; spiritual blessings are obtained only by faith.** They had intimated their faith in the office of Christ as *Son of David*, and in His mercy; but Christ demands likewise a profession of faith in His power.

- **Do you believe that I am able to do this? - to bestow this favor; to give sight to the blind? To believe the power of Christ is not only to assure ourselves of it, but to commit ourselves to it, and encourage ourselves in it.**
- This is almost identical to **Mark 9:23** *Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."*
- Also in **Luke 8:50** *But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well."*

Mat. 9:28b They said to Him, "Yes, Lord."

- These men simply proclaimed their faith by saying, **"Yes, Lord."** -- NO BUTS! No other rival thrones? No other loves? Yes -- My heart; My thoughts; My time; My possessions

Mat. 9:29 Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith let it be to you."

- **According to your faith let it be to you:** Here again Matthew emphasized the proper faith that men should have in Jesus, and the blessings that come to men through that faith.
- It may be with a trembling faith that we answer, **Yes, Lord.** But how blessed is the soul that dares to say **Yes** to the Master's challenge. **Understand that there is no limit to what He will do for you, if only you will trust Him. The measure of His giving is according to the measure of your faith, and the measure of your faith will be according to the measure of your abandonment to Him.** Spread abroad His fame. Pharisees hate Him, but demons flee.
- **Then He touched their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you** — not, Receive a cure proportioned to your faith, but, **Receive this cure as granted to your faith.** Thus would they carry about with them, in their restored vision, a gracious seal of the faith which drew it from their compassionate Lord.
- "He touched *them* with His hand; but they must also touch Him with their faith." (Spurgeon)

Mat. 9:30 And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, "See that no one knows it." [31] But when they had departed, they spread the news about Him in all that country.

- **See that no one knows it:** Despite Jesus' warning, they couldn't resist telling others. Though we do not admire their well-intentioned disobedience, we admire their excitement over the work of God. This was their only area of unbelief - they didn't have the faith to obey Jesus as they should have. **We honor our Christ most, not by taking our way of honoring Him, but by absolute obedience.**

SUMMARY:

- **How well can you see? (Blindness is spiritual ignorance and unbelief)**
- **The believer must be careful to grow spiritually or he will damage his spiritual vision**
- **Recognize who Jesus is. The blind men had heard of the miracles but being blind, hadn't seen them!**
- **Cry out to Him for mercy!**
- **Come to Him with belief - IN HIS POWER, with expectancy**
- **Do you believe? -- Yes, LORD-WITHOUT HESITANCY!**

Open Our Eyes Lord – Maranatha Singers

*Open our eyes Lord We want to see Jesus
To reach out and touch Him And say that we love Him*

*Open our ears, Lord And help us to listen
Open our eyes, Lord We want to see Jesus (2X all)*

Open My Eyes That I May See – Clara H. Scott

*Open my eyes, that I may see Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key That shall unclasp and set me free.*

Refrain:

*Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready my God, Thy will to see,
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

*Open my ears, that I may hear Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, Everything false will disappear. (Refrain)*

*Open my mouth, and let me bear, Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare Love with Thy children thus to share. (Refrain)*