

FINAL NOTES - THIS WEEK'S STUDY – 12/11-12/2023

(John 8:48 - 9:41) – Before Abraham Was, I AM! Chap. 9 - Man Born Blind Receives Sight (A Man! A Prophet! The Son of God! My Lord! I believe!); The Pharisees Excommunicate the Healed Man; True Vision and True Blindness!

Classroom Location and Zoom – Sign In information, below at end of the notes;

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OPENING PRAYER

Review from last week: An Adulteress Faces the Light of the World; Jesus Defends His Self-Witness; Jesus Predicts His Departure; The Truth Shall Make You Free; Abrahams' Seed and Satan's Seed

(Joh 8:33,39,41) They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, 'You will be made free'?" [39] They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. [41] You do the deeds of your father." Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God."

Before Abraham Was, I AM!

Joh 8:48 Then the Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?"

Joh 8:49 Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me.

Joh 8:50 And I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks and judges.

Joh 8:51 Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death."

Joh 8:52 Then the Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, 'If anyone keeps My word'

- **Again they are thinking in terms of the physical, Jesus is speaking in the realm of the spiritual.** It is hard to converse with a person that only thinks in the realms of the physical. It is hard to talk to them about spiritual things. **(1Co 2:14) But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.** So, we find ourselves oftentimes frustrated as we are trying to talk to people about spiritual things and they can only think in the realm of the natural.
- **When Jesus said, Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death. He is not talking about physical death.** He is not saying that you are going to go on living forever in this old, corrupted body. Wouldn't it be horrible to have to live forever in this body of corruption? I could think of nothing worse than living forever in this body that is getting more decrepit every day. No way! Free me!
- **Paul said, (2Co 5:1-2) For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. [2] For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven.** As time goes by, and as the body begins to wear out, and it can no longer fulfill the purposes and functions for which God designed it, for He designed it to be the medium by which I can express myself. But my body is beginning to restrict me. You learn to live with the limitations and you get to the place where you begin to long to be free. Not to be unembodied, but to receive that new body which is from heaven and to move on into the eternal aspects of the kingdom of God.
- **When Jesus said, You will never die, He is talking about the second definition of death** in the scriptures which is the separation of a man's consciousness from God. The Bible says that a person who lives for pleasure is dead while they yet live. There is no consciousness of God. That is spiritual death. And when Jesus is here saying, "If a man keeps My saying, he will never see death," He is saying, You will never be consciously separated from God. Spiritual death. **(Joh 11:25) Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. [26] And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"**

- **He is not saying you are going to live forever in this body. Do not worry.** But you will never be separated from God. (2Co 5:8) *We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.* So they are thinking in the terms of the physical, and the Jews said to Him, “Now we know that You have a demon. Abraham is dead, the prophets, and now you say, If a man keeps Your saying, he will never taste of death.”

Joh 8:53 Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Who do You make Yourself out to be?

- **An important question. “Who do You make Yourself to be?”**

Joh 8:54 Jesus answered, "If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is _ who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God.

- **Who do you make Yourself? I tell you what, My Father is the One, You are calling God.** You call Him God. He’s My Father. So who is Jesus making Himself to be? He is making Himself the Son of God!

Joh 8:55 Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, 'I do not know Him,' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word.

- **Things are pretty hot at this point. They have accused Him of being born of fornication and all, of being a Samaritan,** You have a devil. They are making all of these accusations. Jesus comes back, saying, If I said I did not know Him, then I would be a liar just like you are. And then He said, “Yet you have not known Him; but I know him,” and so forth. “But I know Him, and I keep His saying.” So “I do always those things that please the Father, I do the things that I see of the Father.” And now, “*I keep His Word.*”

Joh 8:56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.

Joh 8:57 Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"

- **What did Jesus mean, “Abraham rejoiced to see My day?”** There could be a couple of things. God spoke to Abraham and gave to him a promise. That from his seed, all of the nations of the earth would be blessed. Abraham rightly interpreted that as meaning that he would be a progenitor of the Messiah. That is what God was promising. So Abraham believed God, this promise of God, and “it was accounted to him for righteousness.” His faith in this promise of God that the Messiah will come from you. He will be a descendant of yours. His belief in that, God counted his belief for righteousness. His belief of what? That the Messiah would come from him. So Abraham believed in Jesus!
- **We are told in (Heb 11:13) *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.*** So hearing the promise of God, seeing it afar off, he embraced it. But “Abraham rejoiced to see My day.” In a spiritual sense, Abraham saw His day, or saw Him.
- **What do you mean Abraham has seen You?** In the Old Testament, when Lot was captured by the five kings who invaded that territory and took captives, when Abraham got his servants and they pursued after the five kings and delivered Lot, as they were returning back to the area, the priest and the king, he is called both the priest and king, of peace came out to meet Abraham. His name was Melchizedek. Abraham gave to him a tenth, a tithe of all of the loot that he had taken in the battle against the five kings. And he offered to Abraham bread and wine, the symbols of communion.
- **There are many who believe that Melchizedek was one of what they call the Christophanies** or the appearances of Christ in the Old Testament. We do read in the book of Hebrews that Jesus is a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek. The declaration of Jesus was a high priest would be challenged by the Jews. He is of the tribe of Judah; the tribe of Levi was appointed as the priestly tribe. The book of Hebrews declares, He is a tribe, not after the Levitical order but, (Heb 6:20) *where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.* He appeared to Abraham. Abraham paid tithes unto Him. Tithes are paid by the lesser to the greater.
- **It also could include (Gen 18:1, 16-17) *Then the LORD appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. [16] Then the men rose from there and looked toward Sodom, and Abraham went with them to send them on the way. [17] And the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing,***

Joh 8:58 Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

- **When He gets to these “Most assuredly, I say to you,” stop. You are going to get something important!** Before Abraham was, **I AM!!** He did not say, “Before Abraham was, I was” but, “before Abraham was,” and now He uses that eternal name of God, “I AM!” Who are you? Who do you make Yourself? Do you want to know? **Before Abraham was, I AM!** The eternal One! Their response was the response of their father, the devil, the murderer from the beginning. (**Mat 22:32**) ***'I AM THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB' ? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.***

Joh 8:59 Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

- **The idea or indication seems to be that He just sort of became invisible.** He walked right on past them. But as we can well imagine, the tensions are hot. They are ready now. They believed Him, so He said these to those that believed. But boy, now they are ready to take up stones. They cannot handle His words. ***“Before Abraham was, I AM!”***
- **That either makes Jesus a colossal liar or the Son of God.** To make that claim that is so radical, if it is not true, He is an enormous liar! We might as well not meet next week!
- **But if it is true, then we better pay close attention and submit ourselves to the truth.** Receive the truth. In receiving the truth, receive freedom from the bondage of sin. We shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.
- **Throughout the body of Christ, one after another to the hundreds could stand up and give witness of how the truth has made them free.** I found Jesus Christ and now I am free indeed!
- **Yes, you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free!** Or if the Son shall make you free, then you are free indeed.

Man Born Blind Receives Sight! A Man! A Prophet! The Son of God! My Lord! I believe!

Joh 9:1 Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth.

Joh 9:2 And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

- **They were curious. There was a common feeling and belief that tragedy only came as the result of sin.** That a person who is going through a physical, an emotional hardship is doing so because of sin. They felt there was a very direct cause and effect relationship with sin. So when they saw a man who was born blind, the question is, Is God punishing his parents for some sin that they committed? As the scriptures said, the sins of the fathers will be visited upon the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who continue in their sins. Is God punishing them for their sins through their child being born blind? Or was he guilty of a pre-natal sin? Or did they believe in the pre-existence of the human soul? Thus, who did sin, in that this man was born blind?
- **They did believe that it was possible to sin within the womb, and so the question, Whose fault is this?** It is interesting how so often when we see human tragedy and human suffering, we are always wanting to find the blame, the cause. Whose fault is this? Jesus discarded the question as to whose fault it was. He answered it by declaring, Neither him nor his parents. They are not responsible for his being born blind. This is just one of those things that God has allowed in order that He might accomplish His purposes.

Joh 9:3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.

- **At times God allows us to experience difficulty, hardship, even suffering that He might accomplish His works** in our lives. Paul the apostle was given a thorn in the flesh, a minister of Satan, lest he be exalted above measure because of the abundance of revelations that have been given to him. God had allowed this thorn in the flesh because He was wishing to do a special work in Paul which required special revelation.
- **Speaking of the hardships, the sufferings that he endured, he said (Rom 8:18) For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.**
- **Jesus Himself suffered. He suffered the agony of the cross, the shame of the cross.** But again in (**Heb 12:2**) *looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.* So the purposes of

God are being worked out in our lives often through hardship or through suffering. God is working His purposes. In this man's life, the works of God should be made manifest in Him.

Joh 9:4 I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.

Joh 9:5 As long as I am in the world, I AM the light of the world."

- **What was then the work of God that was manifested in this man?** It was the healing of his blindness. Often, there is not a direct cause and effect as far as sin and pain go. There is an indirect cause many times. Good people suffer sicknesses. Good people die of illnesses and of cancer and other things. It does not mean that it is God punishing them because of some sin in their lives. But because of sin in the world. With sin death entered and those things that bring death. So in an overall sense, the suffering of the world is the result of Adam and Eves' sin. If there have been no sin, there would be no suffering. There would be no death. There would be no pain. It would be a perfect world if it were not for sin.
- **So all of these things indirectly result from the fact that sin is in the world.** Because we are living in this world, God does not give to us a divine immunity against sickness, against viruses, against suffering, against aging. It is just not there. But God is with us and wonderfully at times, God will manifest His desire to counteract the effects of sin in the world. So each of us have experienced the touch of God upon our lives in the removing of the blight of sin. God is in the business of restoration, of manifesting His power against the consequences of sin in a person's life. That is, again, sin in a general sense in the world.

Joh 9:6 When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.

- **Why did Jesus use this method of healing the man?** There were other blind people who Jesus healed and some of them He healed with just the word. Others, He touched their eyes and they could see. Jesus used an unusual method of making a bit of clay, spitting on the dirt, and stirring it up, making some clay and putting it in the fellow's eyes. Then commanding him to go down to the pool of Siloam and to wash it out of his eyes.
- **This happened on the Sabbath day.** It was specifically forbidden in their tradition and in their interpretation of the law to make clay on the Sabbath day. Jesus is deliberately violating the tradition of their law.
- **Jesus brings this miracle of healing to the attention of the Pharisees. Here Jesus is healing on the Sabbath day.** They said you can take whatever measures are necessary to save a life but nothing towards curing, nothing towards healing. So you could not pour cold water on a sprained ankle. That would be helping it to heal. You had to wait until the Sabbath day was over. So the making of clay, violating the Sabbath. The healing of the man's blind eyes. It was the Sabbath day and this was the flash point with the Pharisees. This is the thing that had so angered them with Jesus. The fact that He would use this method, it was not necessary. Yet, Jesus did, knowing that doing this on the Sabbath day would certainly bring this miracle of healing to their attention!

Joh 9:7 And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent) – [of Him who is sent]. So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

- **He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went!** We notice that the blind man exhibited some considerable faith in obeying Jesus' command! He has never met Jesus before. He does not know who He is, as the passage is going to make that very clear to us. It took some real faith for him to make his all the way down, literally to the bottom of the Kidron valley, a significant distance and elevation to the South, to the pool of Siloam, where you had running water.
- **And washed, and came back seeing.** The blind man goes to the pool and washes off his eyes exactly as Jesus had called him to do. He does not know. Well, is this a joke? The man Jesus put this on my eyes, told me to go to the pool of Siloam. As I start, getting help to make my way to the pool of Siloam, will they all start laughing and lead me down a different path than the way I should go?
- **And came back seeing.** So he went, washed, and came back seeing! The power was not in the clay or in the spittle. Or in the water of the pool of Siloam. The reason this was powerful is because God chose this as the way to heal his blindness. That is what made it powerful! He went and he washed and he came back seeing!

- **Looking at the gospel, it is every bit as simple as that! Believe and receive!** As we go and as we do, the reason that salvation occurs, as we trust in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins and then receiving that forgiveness, becoming a new creation. The reason that this is effectual in our life is because it is the way that God has chosen to save us from the consequence of our sins!
- **We can visualize the blind man here.** He washes the clay off of his eyes and for the first time in his life, he can see what he has been hearing all around him for all of these years! For the first time, His light has come into his darkness! The blind man was blind, but now he can see!
- **The activation of faith. The faith demonstrated by the blind man in obeying Jesus' command** to go to the pool of Siloam! In this there is another interesting concept. Faith has an important part of our relationship with God and receiving from God. In (*Mar 9:23*) *Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.* We do know that so often our faith is in a passive state. Oh yes, I believe God can do it. That is rather passive. You can go your whole life believing that God can do something but never see it done. There is a vast difference between saying, I believe that God can do it, and I believe that God will do it. There is even a difference between saying, I believe that God will do it, and I believe that God will do it now! That is having an active faith!
- **But many times, it takes something to trigger that faith into action. Believing now.** This is one of the reasons why the Lord commanded that they should lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. That your faith is set to be triggered when the hands are laid upon me and I am anointed with oil, I know that God will heal me then! Like the woman who said, If I can just but touch the hem of His garment, I know that I will be healed. There was that place of contact where the faith was released for the healing, now. The moment she grabbed the hem of His garment, the virtue went forth from Christ, she was healed, according to her testimony to Jesus.

Joh 9:8 Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?"

Joh 9:9 Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him." He said, "I am he."

- Isn't this the blind man who for all of these years was sitting there begging?
- *I am he!* I am the one!

Joh 9:10 Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?"

Joh 9:11 He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight."

Joh 9:12 Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

- Notice now, the progression of the revelation. He starts out, A **man** who is called Jesus,"

The Pharisees Excommunicate the Healed Man!

Joh 9:13 They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees.

Joh 9:14 Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes.

- So you see, here is the sticking point. This was the Sabbath day. A direct violation of their interpretation of the Sabbath law. You are not to make clay specifically on the Sabbath day.

Joh 9:15 Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

Joh 9:16 Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them.

- You can see, here are the old legalistic Pharisees. It cannot be of God! He did this on the Sabbath day. Others were saying, but wait a minute, how can a man do these miracles?
- You remember when Nicodemus, one of the Pharisees, came to Jesus. He said, We know that you are God because no man can do the things that you do except God be with Him. So Nicodemus and his friends were saying, wait a minute. How can He do these miracles without the power of God? The division among them.

Joh 9:17 They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

- Notice, "A Man called Jesus," and now he is getting closer, "He is a prophet." It is beginning to sink in what has happened. Just a man could not have opened my eyes. *He is a prophet!*

Joh 9:18 But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight.

- You say that that was the case.

Joh 9:19 And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

- **It is so difficult to argue against this kind of evidence.** What can you say? The guy says, Hey I do not know. but this I do know! I was once blind and now I can see! How can you argue against that evidence?
- **When Peter and John were going into the temple and the lame man who was a beggar was seeking alms** from them, and Peter said, I don't have any silver or gold but what I do have, I'll be glad to give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise to your feet and walk. He took the man by the right hand, lifted him to his feet and immediately, the man was healed. He began to walk! He began to run through the temple, walking, leaping, praising God! The people all said, Isn't that the man who has been begging all these years? It surely looks like him. How is it that he can walk? Let us find out.
- **They followed him out to Solomon's porch where Peter was still standing.** The man grabbed hold of Peter and John, began to hug them, probably kissing them and all. Thus, they began to relate the miracle to Peter, who then preached a sermon. He was arrested along with the lame man and John. They were brought to trial and the question was, How did you do it?
- **Peter said, If we are examined this day by what means this lame man is made whole, be it known** to you that it's by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth that this man is standing here whole. Peter preached to them, *(Act 4:12) Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.* Seeing the lame man standing there whole, they could say nothing of it!
- **That is the kind of evidence; blind people, seeing. Lame people, walking.** How can you argue against that kind of evidence? The greatest proof of Christianity, the greatest evidence for Christianity is you, who were once blind, but now see! You who were once lame, who are now walking in the wholeness and the fullness of Jesus Christ. You whose lives have been transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit! You make the strongest evidence and the strongest case for the validity of Christianity! The lame men standing whole. The blind people seeing! Messed up lives restored! That kind of evidence, all of the argumentation of the world cannot dispute it!
- **They did not believe that he was blind. It did not fit their narrative.** It was some kind of a rouse. So they brought his parents. Is this your son that you say was born blind? And how is it that he can now see?

Joh 9:20 His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind;

Joh 9:21 but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself."

Joh 9:22 His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue.

- **They would not be allowed to go into the temple or they would not be allowed** to go into the synagogue. They would be ex-communicated from the religious life of the community. This goes back to *(Ezr 10:8) and that whoever would not come within three days, according to the instructions of the leaders and elders, all his property would be confiscated, and he himself would be separated from the assembly of those from the captivity.* That is, out of the camp of Israel. Similarly, they had determined if anybody had confessed that Jesus was the Messiah, they would be put out of the synagogue. So, *his parents feared!*

Joh 9:23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

Joh 9:24 So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner."

- *He is of age; ask him.* He can speak for himself!
- *They said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner.* Just praise God, we know that this man is a sinner.

Joh 9:25 He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see."

- *You are saying one thing about Him and I do not know. But this is what I know for certain, I was blind and now I can see!*

Joh 9:26 Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?"

- *They are pressing now again. He is getting tired of it all.*

Joh 9:27 He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?"

- *Do you also want to become His disciples?" He really got to them!*

Joh 9:28 Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples.

Joh 9:29 We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from."

- *The fellow is really into it already, so he figures he will go all the way!*

Joh 9:30 The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes!

Joh 9:31 Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him.

Joh 9:32 Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind.

- *Here is a marvellous thing, fellows. You do not know where He has come from and yet He has opened my eyes. In the Old Testament, David said, (Psa 66:18) If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear. In (Job 27:9) Will God hear his cry When trouble comes upon him? In (Isa 59:1,2) Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. [2] But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.*
- *It is not that God does not hear; it is just that your relationship with God has been severed as the result of your sin. And then in Isaiah, God said to the people, (Isa 1:15) When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you; Even though you make prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood. They believed that God did not hear the prayer of sinners. But they did believe that God heard the prayers of righteous men. (Psa 34:15) The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their cry. (Pro 15:29) The LORD is far from the wicked, But He hears the prayer of the righteous.*
- *So this man is using their scriptures. He said, Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. We know that the Lord does not hear sinners. They have accused Jesus of being a sinner. "Give praise to God because this man is a sinner. The man said Whether he is a sinner or not, I do not know. but I do know, I was once blind, and now I can see!"*
- *Of all of the miracles of the Old Testament, we do not read of anyone born blind who was healed. So this man is calling their attention to that interesting fact. Since the beginning of the world, have you ever heard of a man who was born blind, being able to see?*

Joh 9:33 If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing."

- *One of the problems of dealing with a person logically is that when you have them nailed, they become irrational. They forget argumentation and all. They just become totally irrational. What this man is saying makes sense. But they do not want to face facts! "My mind is made up! Do not confuse me with the facts!"*

Joh 9:34 They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out.

- **They are declaring that his blindness was the result of his prenatal sins.** You were born in sin. You were born blind.
- *Are you teaching us?" And they cast him out.* They ostracized him! They closed the doors to him!

True Vision and True Blindness!

Joh 9:35 *Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?"*

- **The indication is here that Jesus looked for him and found him.** He heard that the man had been cast out. He came to him and found him.
- **Jesus said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?"** In those days, they did believe that the Messiah would be the Son of God. That was the common belief among the rabbis. There was that prophecy in " (*Isaiah 9:6a*) *Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son of given: the government shall be upon His shoulder.* Jesus asked the blind man; *Do you believe on the Son of God?*
- **When Jesus said to His disciples, Whom do you say that I am? Peter answered and said, You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.** When Jesus was being questioned by the high priest at His trial, he said, Are you the Messiah? Jesus said, You said it. He said, **Are you then the Son of God?** Again Jesus said, *You said it.* The one question followed the other. If You say that You are the Messiah, then You are saying, You are the Son of God, because at that time, they did believe that the Messiah would be the Son of God.
- **Presently, they have changed that opinion. Today they say that they do not believe that Jesus is the Messiah** because He claimed to be the Son of God. That reflects a change in the whole teaching of the rabbis and a change that was brought about because of Jesus Christ. At that time, the rabbis did believe that the Messiah would be the Son of God.
- **Today they take the prophecy of Moses, (Deu 18:15)** *"The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear!* They say, Moses was a man, and thus the Messiah will be a man. But again, the logical question: If the Messiah is a man, how will you know, recognize, that He is the Messiah? Their answer: He will lead us in the rebuilding of our temple.
- **The Jews today are looking for a man to come and lead them in the rebuilding of the temple,** ready to acclaim Him as their Messiah. Jesus said, (*Joh 5:43*) *I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive.* He came declaring that He was the Son of God. A man will come, not claiming to be a Son of God. They will receive him and after that, he will then claim to be God Himself. He will come to the rebuilt temple, and stand in the Holy of Holies and declare that he is God and demand to be worshipped as God.
- **Jesus said to him, "Do you believe on the Son of God?"** on the Messiah?

Joh 9:36 *He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"*

- (*1Co 12:3*) *Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.*

Joh 9:37 *And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you."*

- **This is similar to what the woman of Samaria** who said to Jesus, (*Joh 4:25-26*) *The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things. [26] Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He.* So here again, Jesus acknowledges, not publicly, but to this man who had been ostracized by the religious system of the day the fact that He was the Messiah, Son of God.

Joh 9:38 *Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.*

- **How is it that you can see? A man** named Jesus put clay in my eyes, telling me to wash and I can see. But then it went from that, Who do you say that He is? I think He is a prophet. Jesus said, Do you believe on the Son of God? Who is He, Lord? He said, The One who is speaking to you. Then he said, **I believe!** And he worshiped Him! The progressive revelation that ultimately brought him to the place of worship.
- **That is God's purpose in the revealing of Jesus Christ to us, to ultimately bring us to the place of worshiping Jesus.** When Jesus was in Galilee and they opened up the roof of the house to let the man down with palsy. Jesus said to the man, Your sins are forgiven. They said, Who can forgive sins but God? Jesus said That you might know that the Son of God has power on earth to forgive sins. What is easier to say,

Your sins are forgiven or? Arise, take up your bed and walk? Here again, the idea of the proof by the healing of this man with palsy. Jesus said to the man, Take up your bed and walk. And he did! But Jesus is showing that He is God! **So, only God is to be worshiped. Jesus allowed him to worship Him.**

Joh 9:39 And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind."

- **He has come to open the eyes of the blind that they might see the truth of God.** Yet, those pretending to see, taking positions of leadership in a religious sense, declaring to be in the light, might be blind!

Joh 9:40 Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, "?"

Joh 9:41 Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.'"

Therefore your sin remains.

- **It is so important that we not allow ourselves to be blinded by prejudice, by preconceived ideas and by tradition.** These are three things that blind people to the truth. There is traditional religion. Many people are blinded by the traditions. And this is within the church. People who worship by tradition but they do not know the truth of Jesus Christ! They do not know what it is to be born again.
- **People who are blinded by prejudice.** They have their own bias, their own opinions. They cannot see it any other way. And people who are blinded by pre-conceived ideas. Whenever I come to the Word of God, I pray, Lord, do not let me be blinded by prejudice, by pre-conceived ideas, by traditions! But let my heart be open that Your Holy Spirit might teach me Your truth from Your Word. May that be our prayer when we come to the Word of God.
- **Do not come with pre-conceived ideas. Be willing to let the Word of God speak to you over and above the traditions and over and above your prejudice.** Be open to the Spirit of God instructing us from the Word of God as He leads us into the truth of God.
- **Open Our Eyes, LORD!"**

SUMMARY:

- **Before Abraham Was, I AM!**
 - ✓ *Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death." Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad." Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.*
- **Chapter 9 A Man! A Prophet! The Son of God! My Lord! I believe! Man Born Blind Receives Sight;**
 - ✓ *He saw a man who was blind from birth. Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."*
 - ✓ *When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.*
 - ✓ *Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight."*
- **The Pharisees Excommunicate the Healed Man;**
 - ✓ *They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "**He is a prophet.**"*
 - ✓ *Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in **the Son of God?**" "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." Then he said, "**Lord, I believe!**" And he worshiped Him.*

- **True Vision and True Blindness!**

- ✓ *Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.*
- ✓ *And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*
- ✓ **Open Our Eyes, LORD!"**

CLOSING SONG:

OPEN OUR EYES, LORD - Maranatha Music (4:30/4:33)

*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)*

CLOSING PRAYER:

Read and study John Chapter 10

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221 www.ptwente.com - Audio & notes from previous studies
PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 - Passcode: 087484

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Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763>

TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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