

LUKE 18:35-43 – A Blind Man Receives His Sight

7/9/16 Sat Morn Prayer

Luke 18:35-43 *Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. [36] And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. [37] So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. [38] And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" [39] Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, **"Son of David, have mercy on me!"** [40] So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, [41] saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, **"Lord, that I may receive my sight."** [42] Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." [43] And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.*

Context/Biblical Background – Jesus has been speaking with the rich, young ruler. That had not ended well as the ruler went away very sorrowful, not agreeing to put aside his attachment to his riches and totally give himself to Jesus. Now we have a huge contrast – a poor blind beggar, crying out for Jesus to restore his sight and then glorifying his Christ, to follow Him!

A Blind Man Receives His Sight:

- ***Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho,....*** Which was on His way to Jerusalem;
- ***that a certain blind man sat by the road begging.*** Matthew tells us that there were two blind beggars who met Jesus as He left Jericho (*Mat_20:29-30*), but Luke introduces us to one blind beggar, Bartimaeus, who called out as Jesus approached Jericho. There were two Jericho cities, the old ruined city and the new one built by Herod the Great, and they stood about a mile apart. The two men, one of whom was more outspoken, were sitting at the entrance to the new city, so there is no contradiction (note *Mar_10:46*).
- ***[36] And hearing a multitude passing by,.....*** Their "voice"; the noise of their feet, and especially of their tongues;
- ***he asked what it meant?...***What was the meaning of this crowd of people, and of this clamorous noise? "Who it should be?" what person of note was passing by, that there was such a multitude after him?
- ***[37] So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by..*** Some of the company answered him, that Jesus, the prophet of Nazareth, so much talked of, and said to be the Messiah, who was become so famous for his doctrines and miracles, for healing diseases, and dispossessing devils, was just "then" passing by; and this occasioned the noise and clamor.
- ***[38] And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, ,....*** Believing him, at once, to be the Messiah; he then calls Him the son of David, which was a character and title of the Messiah, well known to the Jews. He immediately called out unto Him, being willing to take that opportunity as He passed, and while He was within hearing, to make his pleas for his sight:
- ***have mercy on me:*** a poor, blind, and miserable creature, and restore me to my sight, which will be an act of singular mercy, and goodness, and will always be gratefully owned as such.
- ***[39] Then those who went before,....*** In the company that preceded Christ; for He, as yet, was not come right over against the blind man:
- ***warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more,*** being not well pleased that he should call Him the son of David, which was acknowledging Him to be the Messiah; or that he might not be troublesome to Christ, and hinder His journey. There is a difference in the Greek words used to describe the action of the blind man in verses 38 and 39, which show the blind man's great desperation.
- ***"Son of David, have mercy on me!"***; he neither dropped the character of Christ, nor his request to Him; but called out more loudly, and with greater vehemence, earnestness, and importunity.
- ***So Jesus stood still,....*** He stood still; he made a full stop, and went no further, when, it is very likely, He was just about to reach him:
- ***and commanded him to be brought to Him*** either by the disciples, or by some of the multitude:

- *And when he had come near, He asked him,*; the following question.
- *[41] saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?"* Is it money you want, or is it your sight you would have restored?
- *He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight."*; this he chose, this was his request, and what he cried so vehemently for; and which he believed Christ, the son of David, was able to do for him.
- *[42] Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; ,....* Be it to you as you desire. Look up and see! So by a word speaking, and power going along with it, without making use of any means, Jesus fulfilled his desire.
- *your faith has made you well."* Jesus responded to their faith and healed them, and what a change took place! They went from darkness to light, from begging to following Jesus, and from crying to praising the Lord. They joined the pilgrim crowd going to Jerusalem and lifted their voices in praising the Lord.
- *[43] And immediately he received his sight,,....* As soon as ever the word was gone out of Christ's mouth, virtue went forth from Him, and cured the man of his blindness; his eyes were at once opened, and he saw as other men;
- *and followed Him,*; his kind benefactor, with a grateful sense of his goodness, with strong affection for Him, and faith in Him;
- *glorifying God.*, who had sent such a Savior to him; who had wrought such a wonderful miracle for him: for he was sensible that none but God could do this.
- *And all the people, when they saw it,* what was done, how that the man they just before saw was blind, and begging by the way side, now had his sight restored to him, in an instant, and was following Jesus, in the crowd, along with them:
- *gave praise to God;* or, as some ancient copies read, "glory"; they ascribed the glory to God, and praised His name, that he had raised up the Messiah among them; of which this was a clear proof, inasmuch as the eyes of the blind were opened, according to Isa 35:5.

SUMMARY:

- In such a situation the one thing you don't want to have happen, is for Jesus to pass you by!
- When the blind man cried out, Jesus stood still!
- Jesus asks to have the blind man brought to Him and what he wanted Jesus to do for him?
- Jesus so wants to hear your request. He likes to hear us ask for something so that when He answers the prayer, there is greater glory!
- Jesus said, Receive your sight, your faith has made you well. Immediately his sight was restored
- What a change took place! They went from darkness to light, from begging to following Jesus, and from crying to praising the Lord. They joined the pilgrim crowd going to Jerusalem and lifted their voices in praising the Lord.
- Come to Him with the fullness of your need. He is up to it. He will fulfill it.
- Don't let the crowd keep you from Jesus!

Open Our Eyes, Lord – Maranatha Music

*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)*

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