

## John 9:1-41 **Jesus Healed the Man Blind from Birth**

### Who sinned that he was born blind?

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

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

### Born blind that the Works of God should be revealed in him – I am the Light of the World

3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. 4 I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

### Jesus healed the blind man

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. 7 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.

### Testimony to neighbors who knew him

8 Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?" 9 Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him." He said, "I am he." 10 Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" 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." 12 Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

### Shown to the Pharisees – Healed on the Sabbath

13 They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. 14 Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes.

### Division among the Pharisees

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." 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.

### He is a prophet

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."

### Parents questioned

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

### Parents fearing being put out of the Synagogue said – He is of age, ask him

20 His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 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." 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. <sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

### Pharisees challenge the formerly blind man – then cast him out of the Synagogue

<sup>24</sup> 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."

<sup>25</sup> 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." <sup>26</sup> Then they said to him again, "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? Do you also want to become His disciples?"

<sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. <sup>29</sup> We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from."

<sup>30</sup> 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! <sup>31</sup> Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. <sup>32</sup> Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing."

<sup>34</sup> They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out.

### Jesus found him – Lord, I believe

<sup>35</sup> 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?" <sup>36</sup> He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" <sup>37</sup> And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." <sup>38</sup> Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

### Jesus came for judgment – Your Sin Remains

<sup>39</sup> 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." <sup>40</sup> Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, "Are we blind also?" <sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

#### Who sinned that he was born blind?

- ✚ Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" [John 9:1-2]
- ✧ The man was blind from birth.
- ✧ They were passing by him, though Jesus saw him, it appeared to be a casual encounter.
- ✧ The disciples asked what caused the blindness from birth, the sin of the man or of his parents.

#### Born blind that the Works of God should be revealed in him – I am the Light of the World

- ✚ Jesus answered, "**Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.** I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the

night is coming when no one can work. **As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.**" [John 9:3-5]

- ✧ It became a demonstration of the Works of God.
- ✧ No one had sinned, but it had been prepared for this special occasion, that the works of God should be revealed in him.
- ✧ It was to demonstrate to the religious leaders of Jerusalem that God was working through Jesus, and Jesus was doing the works of God Who sent Him.
- ✧ It confirmed the previous claim of Jesus, that Jesus is the Light of the World. [John 8:12, 9:5]
- ✧ The light of the world is for the enlightenment of men regarding things of God as well as physical light and sight. [Matthew 4:16, 6:22-23, 17:2, Luke 1:79, 2:32, 11:34-36, John 1:4-9, 3:17-21, 12:35-36]

### Jesus healed the blind man

- ✧ 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. [John 9:6-7]
- ✧ Man was originally formed from the dust of the ground and made out of clay. [Genesis 2:7]
- ✧ Jesus, Who made man originally out of dust, demonstrated that He could make eyes and cause them to see out of the same process for a living man.
- ✧ Jesus still required that the man express his faith by an act of obedience, obeying the command of Jesus to wash in the pool of Siloam.
- ✧ When the man obeyed, he received sight and came back seeing. [John 9:7]
- ✧ This is similar to the time He cleansed the Syrian commander of leprosy and commanded that the Syrian wash in the Jordan River. Upon completion of his obedience to the command, the Syrian received his healing. [2 Kings 5:1-14]

### Testimony to neighbors and acquaintances who knew him

- ✧ Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?" Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him." He said, "I am he." 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." Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know." [John 9:8-12]
- ✧ The man had been a blind beggar.
- ✧ Some of the people recognized him as the beggar, and others thought he was a look alike, but the beggar said, "I am he."
- ✧ They asked how he had received his sight.
- ✧ The beggar told them the story of how Jesus made clay, anointed his eyes, and instructed him to wash in the Pool of Siloam, which when he had done he received his sight. This was the beggar's testimony of Jesus.
- ✧ When confronted by a miracle of God, people are usually incredulously amazed and begin seeking an explanation for the miracle. Then they want to know the source of the miraculous power that accomplished the feat.
- ✧ The blind man was busy obeying and did not know where Jesus had gone when he returned to where it had happened.

### Shown to the Pharisees – Healed on the Sabbath

- ✧ They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. [John 9:13-14]

- ✧ This was a miracle worthy of bringing to the attention of the religious leaders to see what their reaction will be.
- ✧ It must be an act of God, because there was no natural explanation.
- ✧ The learned Pharisees should be able to discern the truth, if it was of God or not.
- ✧ People tend to feel only the ones in authority are wise enough to discern things of God because of their education. That concept is as prevalent today as then, and as misleading now as it was then. People elevate "education" of man above revelation of God. They seem to think that the analyst knows more than the originator.

### Division among the Pharisees

- ✧ 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." <sup>16</sup> 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.
- ✧ The learned Pharisees start their process of analysis by questioning the man who received the miracle.
- ✧ The man gave his simple testimony.
- ✧ The Pharisees consider that since it was done on the Sabbath against their own regulations which they had been teaching men, that it could not be of God.
  - ✧ Concerning the regulations of the Pharisees, Jesus taught that by their traditions they made the Word of God to be with no effect. [\[Matthew 15:1-9, Mark 7:1-9\]](#)
- ✧ However some of the Pharisees said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?"
- ✧ So there was a division among the Pharisees.
- ✧ Some looked at the evidence as pertaining to their own commandments, while others were of the opinion that only God is able to do the miracle they saw. Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea were two of them. [\[John 3:1-2, 10:19-21, 19:38-39\]](#)
- ✧ Nicodemus along with Joseph of Arimathea were Pharisees and members of the Counsel. [\[John 3:1, 7:45-52, 19:38-42, Matthew 27:57, Mark 15:43, Luke 23:50-51\]](#)
- ✧ Both of them as well as many other Rulers of the Jews had considered the evidence and were secretly believers in Jesus, but kept it secret because of their fear of the Pharisees and Jews in opposition to Jesus. [\[John 9:22, 12:42-43, 19:38-39\]](#)

### The Man who received his sight, said, "He is a prophet"

- ✧ They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." [\[John 9:17\]](#)
- ✧ The recipient of the miracle, considered the miracle to be something quite in line with things many of the prophets of Israel had done throughout the history of Israel, so his conclusion was that Jesus must be a prophet.

### Parents questioned

- ✧ 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. And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" [\[John 9:18-19\]](#)
- ✧ Still attempting to analyze the miracle at hand, the Jews turned to the man's parents to confirm that it was the same man who had been blind, and if so, how is he now able to see.
- ✧ We usually look for confirmation of what appears to be a miracle, attempting to avoid being deceived.

### Parents fearing being put out of the Synagogue said – He is of age, ask him

- ✧ His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 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." [\[John 9:20-21\]](#)

- ✧ The parents confirmed that the man was their son who had been born blind. [John 9:20]
- ✧ But they did not know how or by Whom he had been healed. [John 9:21]
- ✚ 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. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." [John 9:22-23]
- ✧ The parents were probably not present when the healing took place, since the beggar would be left alone to beg as he was doing when Jesus passed by.
- ✧ Therefore, like so many others, they were not witnesses of the healing, but they were also intimidated by the warning of the Jews that anyone who confessed that Jesus was the Messiah (Christ) would be put out of the synagogue. [John 9:22]
- ✧ The thought of being cast out of your social community is very intimidating.
- ✧ Also it is quite human to desire acceptance of men over that of God. [John 12:43]
- ✧ Here we learn that the man was certainly of legal age to answer as an adult. [John 9:23]

### Pharisees challenge the formerly blind man – then cast him out of the Synagogue

- ✚ 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." [John 9:24]
- ✧ This is a strange absurdity in the Jewish mindset that thinks it is giving glory to God to take such a stand based on commandments of men that reject the revealed evidence that God's Own hand was involved in the miracle.
- ✧ Jesus was right, that by their tradition they made an act of God illegal.
- ✚ The healed man answered, "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see." [John 9:25]
- ✚ Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" [John 9:26]
- ✚ 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?" [John 9:27]
- ✚ Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from." [John 9:28-29]
- ✚ 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! Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing." [John 9:30-33]
- ✚ They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out.
  - ✧ The innocence of the man who was healed could see clearly that it was the hand of God that had worked the miracle on his behalf. The evidence was compelling. No one else was able to do such a miracle.
  - ✧ The Religious leaders, who should have been first to recognize the truth, were blind to the evidence and fiercely rejected the truth with all the energy of extreme belligerence, demonstrating that their hearts were far from godliness or even any interest in finding the truth.
  - ✧ The Religious leaders should have known beyond the shadow of a doubt that the evidence clearly demonstrated that Jesus is indeed the Messiah of Israel.
  - ✧ They should have been at the forefront of confirming that Jesus is the Messiah and presenting Him as such to the world.

- ✧ But their jealous resentment prohibited them from recognizing the truth, and it has carried down to today as the Jews in their Judaism still refuse to look at the evidence to recognize the truth of the Messiah-ship of Jesus.

### Jesus found him – Lord, I believe

- ✧ 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?" [\[John 9:35\]](#)
- ✧ He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" [\[John 9:36\]](#)
- ✧ And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." [\[John 9:37\]](#)
- ✧ Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him. [\[John 9:38\]](#)
  - ✧ Jesus in His compassion sought out the man who had been cast out.
  - ✧ Jesus revealed Himself as the Son of God to the man, giving him an opportunity to express his belief.
  - ✧ The healed man worshiped Jesus, and Jesus accepted his worship. This is also evidence that Jesus is God the Word as introduced in the beginning of the Gospel of John. [\[John 1:1-3, Revelation 5:8-10, 11-12, 13-14\]](#)
  - ✧ Yehowah had said, "My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to graven images." [\[Isaiah 42:8, 48:11\]](#)
  - ✧ Jesus had responded to Satan in the temptation, "It is written, you shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall your serve." [\[Matthew 4:10, Luke 4:8\]](#)

### Jesus came for judgment – Your Sin Remains

- ✧ 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." [\[John 9:39\]](#)
- ✧ Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, "Are we blind also?" [\[John 9:40\]](#)
- ✧ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains." [\[John 9:41\]](#)
  - ✧ Jesus is the final Judge of the world, and as such has final say as to the acceptance or refusal in regard to entry into the Kingdom of God.
  - ✧ He has given us all the guidelines we need to prepare us for that day of Judgment.
  - ✧ One of the factors is, did we believe the evidence or did we reject it?
  - ✧ The healing of the man born blind is one of the pieces of evidence that demonstrates the identity of Jesus Himself.
  - ✧ The Pharisees saw the miracle and refused to accept it as evidence to identify the Messiah.
  - ✧ Their refusal to believe, is the thing that prevents their sins from being covered by the Blood of the Savior. Therefore at the Judgment, their sins will remain.
  - ✧ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to **save those who believe.** [\[1 Corinthians 1:21\]](#)
  - ✧ But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the **promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.** [\[Galatians 3:22\]](#)
  - ✧ **Belief** is the deciding factor in God's plan of Salvation.

Let us not be faithless, but believing. The evidence is abundant and compelling. Our Eternal destiny is at stake.