

John 9:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself.

Analysis

The parents deflect questions about the healing itself, directing inquirers to their son. 'He is of age' means he can testify for himself. Their fear limits their witness, but at least they don't deny the miracle. This contrasts with their son's growing boldness - as the chapter progresses, he becomes more forthright while they remain fearful.

Historical Context

Jewish custom considered age 13 (bar mitzvah) as legal adulthood when males could testify independently and be held accountable for their religious duties.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does fear make you deflect spiritual conversations?
2. What would bolder witness look like in your circumstances?
3. How can you move from fearful silence to confident testimony?

Interlinear Text

πῶς δὲ νῦν βλέπει οὐκ οἶδαμεν· ἢ τίς
by what means But now he not know or who
G4459 G1161 G3568 G991 G3756 G1492 G2228 G5101

ἵνοιξεν αὐτοῦ τοὺς ὄφθαλμοὺς ἡμεῖς οὐκ οἶδαμεν·
hath opened he G3588 eyes we not know
G455 G846 G3788 G2249 G3756 G1492

αὐτοῦ ἡλικίαν ἔχει αὐτοῦ ἐρωτήσατε αὐτοῦ περὶ αὐτοῦ
he of age is he ask him he for he
G846 G2244 G2192 G846 G2065 G846 G4012 G846

λαλήσει

shall speak

G2980

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