

John 9:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

Analysis

The command to wash in Siloam (Hebrew 'Shiloach', meaning 'sent') creates a theological parallel: the blind man is sent to Siloam, as the Son is sent from the Father. Obedience brings sight—the man had no guarantee of healing, yet he obeyed. This illustrates Naaman's healing (2 Kings 5), where washing in Jordan brought cleansing. John emphasizes 'he went...and came seeing', showing complete obedience produces complete healing.

Historical Context

The Pool of Siloam received water from the Gihon Spring via Hezekiah's tunnel. This pool supplied water for the Feast of Tabernacles ceremony. Recent archaeology (2004) uncovered the actual pool, confirming John's topographical accuracy.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What is Christ commanding you to do that requires faith before you see results?
2. How does the meaning 'Sent' apply both to the pool and to Christ's mission?

Interlinear Text

καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ Ὑπαγε ἐνίψατο εἰς τὴν κολυμβήθραν
And said unto him Go wash in the pool
G2532 G2036 G846 G5217 G3538 G1519 G3588 G2861

τοῦ Σιλωάμ ὁ ἐρμηνεύεται Ἀπεσταλμένος ἀπῆλθεν
of Siloam (which is by interpretation Sent He went his way
G3588 G4611 G3739 G2059 G649 G565

οὖν καὶ ἐνίψατο καὶ ἤλθεν βλέπων
therefore And wash And came seeing
G3767 G2532 G3538 G2532 G2064 G991

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 35:5 (Parallel theme): Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

John 11:37 (Parallel theme): And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?

John 9:11 (Parallel theme): He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.

Isaiah 8:6 (Parallel theme): Forasmuch as this people refuseth the waters of Shiloah that go softly, and rejoice in Rezin and Remaliah's son;

Acts 26:18 (Parallel theme): To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

Isaiah 42:7 (Parallel theme): To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.

Psalms 146:8 (Parallel theme): The LORD openeth the eyes of the blind: the LORD raiseth them that are bowed down: the LORD loveth the righteous:

Nehemiah 3:15 (Parallel theme): But the gate of the fountain repaired Shallun the son of Col-hozeh, the ruler of part of Mizpah; he built it, and covered it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and the wall of the pool of Siloah by the king's garden, and unto the stairs that go down from the city of David.

Luke 13:4 (Parallel theme): Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?