

Mark 10:52

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

Analysis

When Jesus healed blind Bartimaeus, He said: 'Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole' ("Υπαγε, ἡ πίστις σου σέσωκέν σε"). The verb 'made whole' (sesōken, σέσωκέν) means saved, healed, made whole—physical healing symbolizing spiritual salvation. Jesus attributed healing to 'thy faith' (hē pistis sou, ἡ πίστις σου)—not the man's merit but his trust in Christ. Bartimaeus demonstrated faith by:

1. crying out persistently despite rebuke (vv. 47-48)
2. coming immediately when called (v. 50)
3. asking specifically for sight (v. 51).

True faith persists, responds to Jesus' call, and asks boldly. The phrase 'go thy way' normally dismisses healed persons to resume life, but Bartimaeus 'followed Jesus in the way' (v. 52)—he became a disciple. Genuine healing produces discipleship, not mere gratitude and departure.

Historical Context

Bartimaeus (son of Timaeus) sat begging near Jericho. Blindness meant poverty—no employment options, dependent on charity. Hearing Jesus passed by, he cried 'Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me' (v. 47)—a messianic title recognizing Jesus' identity. The crowd rebuked him (v. 48), but he cried louder—persistent faith

overcoming obstacles. Jesus stood still, called him (v. 49), and healed him (v. 52). This miracle occurred shortly before Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-11). Bartimaeus' confession 'Son of David' contrasts with disciples' earlier blindness to Jesus' identity. His physical healing symbolizes spiritual sight—recognizing Jesus as Messiah. The detail that he 'followed Jesus in the way' shows authentic conversion. Early church saw this healing as paradigm: spiritual blindness healed by faith in Christ, resulting in discipleship.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does Bartimaeus' persistent faith despite obstacles model the kind of bold, persistent prayer that receives Christ's blessing?
2. What does Bartimaeus' immediate discipleship after healing teach about authentic conversion producing lifelong following?

Interlinear Text

ο δὲ Ἰησοῦ εἶπεν αὐτῷ Ὑπαγε ἡ πίστις σου
G3588 And Jesus said unto him Go thy way G3588 faith thy
G1161 G2424 G2036 G846 G5217 G4102 G4675

σέσωκέν σε καὶ εὐθὲως ἀνέβλεψεν καὶ ἤκολούθει
hath made thee And immediately he received his sight And followed
G4982 G4571 G2532 G2112 G308 G2532 G190

τῷ Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ
G3588 Jesus in G3588 the way G3598

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 9:22 (Faith): But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

Mark 8:25 (Creation): After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly.

Mark 5:34 (Faith): And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

Luke 7:50 (Faith): And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

Matthew 15:28 (Faith): Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

John 9:32 (Parallel theme): Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind.

Acts 26:18 (Faith): 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.

Mark 1:31 (Parallel theme): And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.

Matthew 12:22 (Parallel theme): Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw.

Matthew 21:14 (Parallel theme): And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them.

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