

# Jesus Heals the Blind Man

Jesus heals a man born blind, sparking controversy with the religious leaders. The healed man's testimony grows bolder: 'One thing I know—I was blind but now I see!'

John 9:1-41

CHARACTERS: Jesus, The man born blind, The disciples, The Pharisees, The man's parents

THEMES: Spiritual blindness, Physical healing, Testimony, Persecution, Light of the world

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AS JESUS WENT along, He saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?'

'Neither this man nor his parents sinned,' said Jesus. 'This happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.'

Jesus spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. 'Go,' He told him, 'wash in the Pool of Siloam.' The man went, washed, and came home seeing.

His neighbors were stunned. 'Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?' Some said yes; others said he only looked like him. But the man kept saying, 'I am the man.'

They brought him to the Pharisees. It was the Sabbath when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. The Pharisees interrogated him. When he told them what happened, they were divided. 'This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath.' But others asked, 'How can a sinner perform such signs?'

They questioned the man again. 'What have you to say about Him? It was your eyes He opened.'

'He is a prophet,' the man replied.

The Jewish leaders didn't believe he had been blind at all until they summoned his parents. 'Is this your son? Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?'

His parents were afraid of being expelled from the synagogue. 'We know he is our son and that he was born blind. But how he can see now, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age.'

A second time they summoned the man. 'Give glory to God by telling the truth. We know this man is a sinner.'

He replied, 'Whether He is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know: I was blind but now I see!'

Exasperated, they hurled insults at him and threw him out. When Jesus heard this, He found the man. 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?'

'Who is He, sir? Tell me so that I may believe in Him.'

'You have now seen Him; in fact, He is the one speaking with you.'

'Lord, I believe,' the man said, and he worshiped Him.

Jesus said, 'For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.'

Some Pharisees heard Him. 'What? Are we blind too?'

Jesus replied, 'If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.'

The man born blind gained his sight and his Savior. The religious leaders who thought they saw everything remained in darkness.

