

Spiritually Blind

Mark 10:46-52

Welcome back and here we go. We are actually going to do three lessons in Mark and then go into Philippians! Today, we will continue with Jesus as He continues to do miracles and show kindness. In His kindness, He allows the blind to see. I wonder if we should be crying out, *“Have mercy on me. Give me sight.”*

1) What is spiritual blindness?

Mark 10:46-52

You know it is funny. Often healing by Jesus is tied to spiritual wellness as well. Jesus often says *“Your faith has made you well”*.

In terms of wellness, the spiritual and the physical are intertwined, yet separate? In addition, the mental attitude of faith in works and faith in Jesus are separate.

- The demoniac
- The woman with the issue
- The guy with the withered hand
- The paralytic
- What about the 10 lepers and only one returned?

A spiritual healing versus a physical healing requires spiritual sight.

2) How do you get spiritual sight?

1 Corinthians 2:6-16

I guess the next logical question / trap is.....

3) Do you have spiritual sight?

OK, the trap..... here lies the issue... if I have sight.....

Romans 1:16-22 *‘For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.” For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although*

they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, '

4) How do people profess to be wise and become foolish?

This is not comfortable... I want you to think about this for a moment.

You are either spiritually blind as a believer or you have vision and suppress the truth, which Romans explains, is the problem with our hearts and essentially the problems in our lives.

Sin is a disease!

Yet God has a solution for us!

Isaiah 6:8-10 'Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me." And He said, "Go, and tell this people: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.' "Make the heart of this people dull, And their ears heavy, And shut their eyes; Lest they see with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And return and be healed.'"

I Corinthians 2:9 'But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.'"

So back to Bartimaeus. He apparently became a follower of Jesus. Not only did he receive a physical healing, he received a spiritual healing. It is believed Mark actually names him because people in the early church knew him --- a testimony of sorts --- a story people could understand having known the past and the present Bartimaeus.

When we receive spiritual sight, something HAS to change or we are back to these *mean ole* verses in Romans.

5) What changed in you when you received spiritual sight?

With Bartimaeus it is clear He followed Jesus.

With us today, I think the real question / trap is

6) Where am I still spiritually blind?

Why a trap? Because we are going to ask God right now in a Holy Spirit exercise.... To show us what we cannot see. And we will also ask for direction and strength to change what MUST be changed.

Let's pray.