

John 9

One day during rush hour, the George Shearing (American jazz pianist who had been blind since birth) found himself at a busy Manhattan intersection, waiting for someone to help him across the street.

After waiting for some time, he was finally tapped on the shoulder. Unfortunately, it was another blind man, seeking similar assistance. What did Shearing do?

"What could I do?" Shearing later laughed. "I took him across - and it was the biggest thrill of my life!"

- Talk about the blind leading the blind!
 - Today's chapter in the Gospel of John is a well-known miracle of Jesus healing a blind man
 - Jesus grants sight to blind men at several points in the Gospels
 - In fact, the most common miracle Jesus performs across all the Gospels is restoring sight to the blind
 - Because restoring sight physically is a simple and beautiful picture of God granting understanding to the spiritually blind
 - In fact, the Old Testament regarding the ability to restore sight to the blind as a uniquely divine power and a sign of the Messiah
 - While each such event is remarkable, this particular example in John 9 stands apart
 - In his ninth chapter, John tells the story of a blind man healed by Jesus
 - This miracle is closely connected to the events of the prior chapters
 - All Israel was celebrating the Feast of Tabernacles
 - Meanwhile, they were disputing and debating over the identity of Jesus
 - Therefore, the nation was forfeiting the opportunity to receive the Kingdom in this generation
 - But we said last week that though the nation as a whole rejects Jesus, the opportunity remains for individual Jews to receive the Gospel

- And chapter 9 records one such example
 - And it serves to illustrate the contrast between the nation's leaders, who rejected Jesus
 - And the outcasts of Israel who received Jesus
 - And once again, the nature of saving faith is front and center in this story
- Let's read the text that opens the chapter

[John 9:1](#) As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth.

[John 9:2](#) And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?"

[John 9:3](#) Jesus answered, "It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

[John 9:4](#) "We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work.

[John 9:5](#) "While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world."

- As Jesus is leaving the temple on the final day of the Feast of Tabernacles, He comes across a blind man, one born blind
 - The disciples decide to use this man's plight as an object lesson in theology
 - They ask Jesus why this man was born blind?
 - Clearly, they are assuming God made this man to be born blind for some purpose (it's not a random act of nature)
 - And they propose two possible reasons
 - First, they suggest that this man may have been born blind as a result of his parents having sinned prior to his birth
 - The disciples are repeating a common misconception among Jews in their day
 - It comes from a misunderstanding of Ex 34:6-7 which states in part that the Lord will visit the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations

- So they assumed that blindness was God's way of visiting the iniquity of parents on the children
- As strange as this thinking may be for us, the disciples' second possible explanation is even more bizarre
 - They suggest that this man's own sin was to cause for his blindness
 - And yet since he was born blind, how could he have sinned so as to result in this punishment?
- The Pharisees taught the idea that a child could have an inclination toward evil even while still in the womb
 - They would cite the struggle between Jacob and Esau while in the womb in Gen 25 as proof of this concept
 - Even if so, how could a prenatal child commit sin while in his mother's womb?
 - The Pharisees taught that when a baby kicked in the womb, he was striking the mother in violation of Exodus 21:15 which says it's a sin to strike your mother or father
 - Therefore, they proposed that it was possible for a child to sin in the womb and then be born blind as God's punishment
- Both these suggestions are false teaching born out of a serious misunderstanding of God's word
 - And Jesus quickly dispels these myths by His answer
 - He says that neither option they suggested is correct
 - God doesn't transfer the guilt of one person to another
 - Neither can a child sin in the womb, though it is true that all people possess an evil nature from birth
 - Instead, this man was made to be blind by God so that the works of God might be displayed in him
 - The works of God Jesus is describing is the healing miracle He's about to perform, of course

- When He says “works of God,” Jesus is referring to a Jewish teaching that said when the Messiah came to Israel, He would be known by His ability to perform certain miracles
- These Messianic miracles would be things that only God Himself can perform, and therefore they would be clear proof of the Messiah
- The three Messianic miracles were healing leprosy, casting out a mute demon, and giving sight to a man born blind
 - In the Law there is a provision for what the priests are to do should a person be healed of leprosy
 - But in all Israel’s history, there is no record of any Jew ever being healed of leprosy
 - And rabbis had a means for exorcising demons, but only if the demon within the person chose to speak
 - They had no power to cast out mute demons
 - And blindness that comes upon a person after birth is sometimes corrected in time, either by the natural healing of the body or other remedies
 - But a person born blind had never been healed by anyone
- So by His words, Jesus was announcing His intention to demonstrate His divinity and His claim to Messiah by healing this man of his blindness
 - And when Jesus takes this step, He will be performing a work of God
 - And therefore, this man was born blind so that on this day Jesus could heal him
- This concept runs completely counter to our modern view of life and health and physical well being
 - We rarely stop to consider that God’s plan for our lives almost certainly includes physical ailments and limitations
 - It likely includes sickness, injury or defects of one kind or another
 - And in each case, these conditions are His prerogative

- They exist to give opportunity for His glory
- The question is, do we use them that way?
 - As we face these trials in our life, do they influence our perception of ourselves and of God?
 - Do we even consider and understand this principle that God may assign us infirmities for His glory?
- For example, consider the man born blind
 - He was helpless with no hope for a cure
 - This blind man had no reason to ever expect to receive his sight
 - Only the healing act of the creator Himself could reverse a condition that had existed from birth
- On the other hand, we often have many options for correcting our physical ailments
 - Are we as quick to credit God when we are healed?
 - And if healing doesn't come when we want or at all, can be content trusting there is something glorifying in it?
- Jesus then says we (meaning Jesus and the Spirit) must do the work of the Father as long as it is day because night is coming when no one can work
 - Jesus is speaking of the unique time while He walked the earth to testify to the Father
 - It was absolutely essential that Jesus, working by the Spirit of God, should do these miracles
 - They were an eternal testimony to His claims, and everything the Father had purposed for the Son to do must come to pass
 - As long as Jesus and the Spirit are in the world, it is a time of Light on earth, which Jesus calls day
 - Once Jesus departs, the earth will experience a period of night in the sense that the Light of Christ will have left the earth for a time
 - Not until Pentecost will the power of God's Spirit return to work miracles through the Apostles

- So having explained this man's predicament and set up the reason for Jesus' acting on His behalf, Jesus then proceeds to heal him

[John 9:6](#) When He had said this, He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and applied the clay to his eyes,

[John 9:7](#) and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went away and washed, and came back seeing.

- There are several aspects to this story that are unique and intriguing
 - First, notice that this man never requests Jesus' healing nor does Jesus ask the man if he wants to be healed
 - Jesus action is in keeping with His explanation that God purposed to bring this man into the world blind for this reason
 - But from a personal point of view, you have to imagine the blind man is taken by surprise
 - One minute he's sitting there...
 - The next moment he's being assaulted by some passerby (or so he might think)
 - The second unique aspect of this healing is the way Jesus chose to heal this man
 - This is the only healing recorded in scripture where Jesus uses a physical substance in the healing process
 - Specifically, He makes clay from dirt and spittle and applies it to the man's eye lids
 - This unexpected, and presumably unnecessary extra step has always intrigued readers
 - Was there something supernatural in the substance?
 - Was there some special message hidden in it?
 - The answer comes later in the story
- Before we read further in the story, we need to take note of an important subtext in this account
 - We have a lot more in common with this man than you might think

- Like him, we were all born blind
- We each had a birth defect
- When we entered the world, we came with a fallen nature, a defective spirit, one we inherited from Adam
- Even David, the king of Israel, said so of himself when he wrote

**Psa. 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
And in sin my mother conceived me.**

- Our sin nature was handed down to us by our parents, who inherited it from Adam and Eve
 - Ironically, the Pharisees were on to something when they said a man could be born blind because of his parents' sin
 - There was more truth in their words than they realized
 - But it isn't blindness of the body but rather blindness of the spirit that comes from our parents
 - As Paul taught

Rom. 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned –

- Our sin prevented us from seeing God truly, much less knowing him in a personal way
 - In fact, the Romans also says that we were born enemies of God
 - Isn't ironic that though the world is obsessed at times with finding God or religion, in reality it is His enemy and incapable of finding Him
- Which explains why it ends up worshipping gods of its own making
 - Since the world don't have access to the one true God, our conscience seeks to fill that void with other gods
 - Gods in the form of other religions, or perhaps gods of the material world like money, power, sex, career, relationships
 - But none of it ever fills a vacuum that only an infinite God can satisfy

- Our spiritual blindness is similar to the blind man in that way as well
 - There is no solution for our defect to be found among men
 - This man had no hope for a cure on earth
 - The only hope for his condition was that the Creator Himself might provide a solution
 - Unless God healed Him, he would remain blind forever
 - Obviously, John wants us to see the parallels between this man's physical condition and the world's spiritual condition
 - So as we move ahead, we'll continue seeking those parallels
 - Meanwhile, there is still more mystery to uncover in this
 - Jesus applies the clay to his eye lids, and tells the man to go wash in the pool of Siloam
 - And then the man went and washed, after which he gained his sight
 - Consider this moment from the perspective of the man himself
 - As we already noted, he never asked to be healed, though no doubt he welcomed it
 - So what was he thinking when Jesus applied the clay?
 - Jesus never addresses him prior to applying the mud
 - The only thing he heard Jesus say was go and wash in the pool
 - He must have been thoroughly confused by the whole affair
- So Jesus tells this man to go wash his eyes in a pool, but the man still had a choice in the matter
 - Why should he do what Jesus said?
 - Jesus didn't mention that He intended to perform a healing
 - He merely told the man to walk to the pool and wash off
 - This pool was a considerable distance down a steep hill from the temple courtyard where Jesus encountered him

- And Jesus told him to go to a fairly unimportant pool in Jerusalem...there were probably closer places to go
- All of this trouble to wash off mud from his eyes, mud he never asked for and for reasons he doesn't understand
 - Why would he do it?
 - Why do something so foolish?
 - This command was the word of God, spoken by Jesus
 - And while the word might have seemed foolish to some, it is powerful in the heart of man chosen by God
 - So he went, without a word and washed
- The pool Jesus sends the man to was the pool of Siloam, a pool the closely associated with the Feast of Tabernacles, which had just concluded
 - This pool you may remember was the source for the water the priests carried to the temple for the water drawing ceremony
 - It was not a pool known for healing at all
 - It's significance was primarily in the way it supplied the water for the feast
 - And of course we remember that Jesus declared Himself to be the source of living water while He taught in the temple
 - Secondly, this pool would have been a busy, bustling place during this week, with crowds gathered to see the priests and share in the ritual
 - So it seems Jesus selected this pool for maximum symbolism and maximum public exposure
 - As this blind man entered the pool stumbling about, the people would have taken no notice, since they were probably used to him stumbling about on account of his blindness
 - But as he came up out of the water healed, it would certainly make an impression
- Sure enough, it has its intended effect:

[John 9:8](#) Therefore the neighbors, and those who previously saw him as a beggar, were saying, "Is not this the one who used to sit and beg?"

[John 9:9](#) Others were saying, "This is he," still others were saying, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the one."

[John 9:10](#) So they were saying to him, "How then were your eyes opened?"

[John 9:11](#) He answered, "The man who is called Jesus made clay, and anointed my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went away and washed, and I received sight."

[John 9:12](#) They said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

- The blind man's healing causes a real stir among the people in Jerusalem
 - They are so astonished, they begin to question if it's even the same guy
 - All the while, he's telling them plainly it's me, your buddy the blind man
 - As they begin to realize what's happened, they ask the obvious question, who healed you?
 - He tells them that Jesus healed him
 - Clearly, the man knew of Jesus, probably because of the commotion Jesus' teaching had been causing in the temple
 - Or perhaps from Jesus' past healing in Jerusalem
 - He retells Jesus' actions and words and of how he listened and obeyed Jesus' words
 - And then finally, he declares I received sight
 - At this, the crowd at the pool asks the obvious question...where is this guy?
- And at this point, we can piece together the reason Jesus used the clay to heal the man's eyes
 - First, we know this man was blind when Jesus first approached him and performed the healing miracle using the clay
 - We can safely presume that this man's eyes were healed in the very moment Jesus touched him, for that's the way Jesus always heals in the Gospels

- But because Jesus applied mud to the man's eyes, he was unable to open them at the moment of his healing
- Though the man could see, he was prevented from seeing by the mud pressing on his eyelids
- So he had no choice but to walk with his eyes closed until he could wash them off in the pool
- Secondly, we now understand Jesus sent the man to wash in the pool,
 - It wasn't because the water in the pool possessed the power to heal
 - It was because of the pool's significance
 - It reminds us of the living water in the Feast of Tabernacles
 - And it's surrounded by witnesses, who could see the man's testimony
- Can you see a beautiful picture of salvation forming here?
 - We are saved because the Lord does a work in our hearts, causing us to be born again
 - We all come from dirt, fashioned into the first man, Adam
 - And likewise, we must be born again, into the likeness of Christ
 - Secondly, that salvation comes upon us when we don't expect it, as a gift given to us before we even know to ask for it
 - We are struck by the Gospel and it arrests our heart
 - It heals us of our spiritual blindness
 - But this work of God has a purpose of glorifying Him
 - In fact, we are born blind so that the works of God may be done in us
 - Thirdly, following out conversion, the Lord commands us to wash in water
 - We are sent to a pool to wash, a ritual called baptism
 - And this washing is accomplished in a public way so that witnesses may see our conversion and inquiry about its source

- And there is yet another reason Jesus uses mud in this healing
 - By the time the blind man could open his eyes, he was a long way from where he met Jesus
 - And he had never set eyes upon his healer
 - In other words, the blind man couldn't have identified Jesus even if he were to see Jesus again
 - So as he declared Jesus to be his healer, he was giving praise to a faceless Savior Who he knew only by the Savior's words
 - So now when the people ask for him to produce the person who did this healing, the man is without an answer
 - He can't identify the person
 - He can't satisfy the crowds skepticism
 - And yet his new found sight continues to intrigue them
 - If they are to ever know the truth of what happened, they must accept the testimony of this man or remain unconvinced
 - Jesus devised a clever means of healing that allowed Him to remain in the shadows while placing His word front and center
 - This man has only the word of Christ to credit for his transformation
 - It was Christ's word that cured Him and led him to the pool
 - And now it's that word which this man testifies to now
- As you might imagine, this event caught the attention of the religious leaders who were everywhere in Jerusalem in this festival week
 - And they were particularly interested in stories of Jesus' antics

[John 9:13](#) They brought to the Pharisees the man who was formerly blind.

[John 9:14](#) Now it was a Sabbath on the day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes.

[John 9:15](#) Then the Pharisees also were asking him again how he received his sight. And he said to them, "He applied clay to my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

[John 9:16](#) Therefore some of the Pharisees were saying, "This man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." But others were saying, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And there was a division among them.

[John 9:17](#) So they said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him, since He opened your eyes?" And he said, "He is a prophet."

[John 9:18](#) The Jews then did not believe it of him, that he had been blind and had received sight, until they called the parents of the very one who had received his sight,

[John 9:19](#) and questioned them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? Then how does he now see?"

[John 9:20](#) His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind;

[John 9:21](#) but how he now sees, we do not know; or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself."

[John 9:22](#) His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone confessed Him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.

[John 9:23](#) For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

- The final day of the week-long feast was considered a Sabbath day and a high holy day in the Law
 - So tales of Jesus healing on the Sabbath were of great concern to the Pharisees
 - The Pharisees follow a typical in their approach to a work of God
 - First, they reject the healing on the basis that it violated the Sabbath
 - Under their man-made rules, no one could perform a healing on the Sabbath since it was considered work
 - So they say the healer couldn't be from God (therefore he must be from Satan) and be a sinner
 - But other Pharisees disputed this finding, since a sinner couldn't have performed a healing
 - What they're arguing about is really whether God was involved
 - One group says no because He would never be involved in a work on the Sabbath

- The other group says certainly Jesus was not be a sinner since God would never perform such a work through a sinner
- So was God involved in this healing or not?
 - Because if God were at the heart of it, then we had better seek out this healer and worship Him
 - But the Pharisees aren't looking for a new god...they already have a god of their own making
 - It was the Law of Moses, and it suited their purposes just fine
- The Pharisees aren't interested in uncovering the truth; they are only interested in discrediting those they oppose
 - So in this case, they look for a way to discredit the miracle
 - They dispute the man's story
 - He was never blind, they say
 - They are working so hard to discredit this man's claims because if they agree that a man born blind has been healed, then by their own teaching, they must admit Jesus is the Messiah
 - But since they refuse to accept this teaching, they are determined to undermine the facts
 - So they call the parents hoping to hear that this man was not born blind after all
 - But his parents testify that their son had been born blind
 - And they claim ignorance about how he gained his sight
 - Because of course they don't know
 - And they stop short of making any conclusions about the man who healed their son
 - They were afraid of the Pharisee
 - Because if they accepted their son's testimony concerning Jesus, they would become a target of the authorities
 - And these men were clearly disinterested in any testimony that supported Jesus as Messiah

- So the parents say their son can speak for himself
- So they call the blind man to testify again

[John 9:24](#) So a second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give glory to God; we know that this man is a sinner."

[John 9:25](#) He then answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

[John 9:26](#) So they said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?"

[John 9:27](#) He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen; why do you want to hear it again? You do not want to become His disciples too, do you?"

[John 9:28](#) They reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.

[John 9:29](#) "We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He is from."

[John 9:30](#) The man answered and said to them, "Well, here is an amazing thing, that you do not know where He is from, and yet He opened my eyes.

[John 9:31](#) "We know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He hears him.

[John 9:32](#) "Since the beginning of time it has never been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.

[John 9:33](#) "If this man were not from God, He could do nothing."

[John 9:34](#) They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you teaching us?" So they put him out.

- The blind man stands before these esteemed religious leaders and engages in something of a debate
 - They want him to testify that the man who healed him was in some way a sinner
 - Their angle is once again to discredit Jesus so they can avoid crowning Him Messiah
 - So if Jesus could be said to be a sinner, then He could be disqualified as the Messiah
 - And if Jesus is just a sinner, then His healing was not an act of God
 - It would be explained as an act of Satan
 - But the man won't give in to their pressure

- First, he says you're not interested in the facts or in knowing the truth
- Ironically, the blind man has discernment to see through the tricks of these men
- He says to them you evidently didn't listen to my story closely enough the first time
- And therefore he concludes that they don't *want* to listen
- And then he begins to mock them a little
 - He asks if their intense interest in knowing more about Jesus was because they wished to become his disciples
 - As the blind man probably expected, this suggestion enrages the Pharisees
 - They say they are already disciples...of Moses
 - Notice they don't say of God
- Then the healed man mocks the Pharisees again
 - He says isn't this an amazing thing...
 - You don't know where this healer came from yet you know He opened a blind man's eyes
 - His point is you know exactly what this means, but you're unwilling to admit it
 - Since there had never before been a man cured of blindness from birth, the conclusion concerning Jesus' identity is obvious
 - He must be the Messiah, and yet these men refuse to contemplate that possibility
- This man has been transformed by Christ, so that now he testifies with boldness and confidence
 - And yet he's never laid eyes on Jesus
 - This is the confidence faith in Christ imparts
 - We see our own transformation by the word of Christ
 - And yet we have no proof for our understanding

- And still the conclusion seems all too obvious to us: the world is unwilling to acknowledge the truth
- And so it was with Israel in the presence of the Messiah
- Nevertheless, though this man lived on faith in God's word for a time, eventually he was able to see Jesus face-to-face

[John 9:35](#) Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him, He said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

[John 9:36](#) He answered, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"

[John 9:37](#) Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him, and He is the one who is talking with you."

[John 9:38](#) And he said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped Him.

- Finally, the blind man meets the One Who healed him
 - Notice that Jesus seeks the man out, the man doesn't find Jesus
 - This makes sense, since the man doesn't even know who to look for
 - When Jesus finds the man again, He asks Him if He believes in the Messiah?
 - The man says yes
 - And then he asks to know this Messiah (Son of Man), so He can demonstrate His faith
 - To this, Jesus replies that He is the one speaking to him
 - But notice also Jesus says you have also seen Him
 - Jesus is saying that even before this moment happened, the blind man had "seen" Jesus
 - How had he seen Jesus?
 - By accepting the word of Christ, this man had come to know Jesus already
 - To know the word of Christ is to know Him
 - To have experiences the word is to have been in His presence
 - If you want to know Jesus, to recognize Him, just know His word

- So this man had known Jesus and now was speaking with Him face to face
- So as Jesus declared Himself to be that One, the man worshipped Him
 - Clearly, the man understood he was in the presence of the Living God
 - And in the process he creates a beautiful picture of the fulfillment of the Feast of Tabernacle
 - He represents the way Jesus grants believers eyes to see and ears to hear spiritually speaking so we might know Him truly
 - But at first we don't know Him except by His word, which is to know Him truly
 - And while He is gone, as Jesus said in the beginning of the chapter, we will be in darkness
 - But when He returns, we will see Him face-to-face
 - And we He will dwell with us, as the Feast of Tabernacles commemorates
 - And we will worship Him truly
 - And all this is happening in the midst of a world that has all the data to draw the right conclusion
 - And yet they refuse to believe because they remain spiritually blind
- Notice how Jesus ends this encounter

[John 9:39](#) And Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind."

[John 9:40](#) Those of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and said to Him, "We are not blind too, are we?"

[John 9:41](#) Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

- Jesus says that He came into the world for judgment's sake
 - He came to draw a contrast between those the Father is granting sight and those who are to remain blind

- Those who do not see are those who are unenlightened spiritually
- Those who recognize they do not know God and desire to do so
- They are blind, and they are not self-satisfied
- They have a hunger for God, which God Himself places in them
- But on the other side are those who are spiritually satisfied though they live in ignorance to God and do not know Him truly
 - To this group, Jesus says, though they think they see, they will remain spiritually blind to the truth
 - They will not find God for He will not reveal Himself to them
- At this point the Pharisee, who were overhearing the conversation, ask if Jesus is calling them blind?
 - They think he means physically, and they are mocking Jesus assuming He is speaking in nonsense
 - Jesus simply responds with a fundamental spiritual truth
 - If a person is to gain spiritual sight, they must first understand and acknowledge their blindness
 - The Bible calls this repentance
 - And the expectation is that anyone who would come to Jesus as Lord must first humble themselves in recognition that they are sinners
 - We acknowledge we are in need of a Savior to cure our spiritual blindness
 - And so then the Lord can do a work within us to grant us sight
 - As Paul writes

2Cor. 7:10 For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

- And to the person who stubborn claims to have spiritual understanding though they remain ignorant, Jesus says you remain in your sins

- Without the repentance that leads to salvation, no may will see Heaven
- And so it was with the Pharisees
- So how can someone be cured of their spiritual blindness?
 - If we are blind to God at our birth, what hope do we have to cure our spiritual blindness? To reconcile ourselves to God?
 - Certainly we can't cure ourselves, for if that were possible, there would be no blindness in anyone
 - And we can't turn to another man for a cure when he cannot even cure himself
 - How are we to be reconciled to a holy and just God who demands perfection as the test for entering His presence?
 - Our sinful fallen nature produces in us sinful thoughts and actions
 - For the Bible says that if we have broken even one of God's laws, we have broken the entire law
 - And all who have sinned have fallen short of the glory of God and must face His wrath
 - We face a truly hopeless condition
 - One much like the blind man
 - We cannot hope to face God on our own merits, and yet we cannot repair the defect in us that produced the failure...
- We have every opportunity that blind man had
 - We have heard the word of Christ, and that word can save you

Rom. 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

- I was once that blind man too
- But now by the power of God through faith in Jesus Christ, I see
- And like that blind man, I come to you now a witness to what He has done for me, declaring Him to you and calling upon you

- Be reconciled to God
 - Behold His Son , Jesus, who died in your place, that you might live to Him
 - If you know this to be true but yet you have never made you're a public confession, then don't let another day pass without that confession

[Rom. 10:9](#) that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;

- If you have been given the gift of sight spiritually, yet you have never made that faith known to anyone, then make it know now

[Luke 12:8](#) "And I say to you, everyone who confesses Me before men, the Son of Man will confess him also before the angels of God;