

“HE DWELT AMONG US”

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

LESSON 10

Chapter 9

“I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.” John 8:12

In **chapter 8** of the Gospel of John, Jesus proclaimed Himself as “the light of the world.” As a public confirmation of that statement, we see that, in **chapter 9**, He gives sight to a man who had never seen before, who had been born blind. Let us pray as we read of this wonderful miracle that the Lord will also open our eyes and ears to all He has for us to learn.

DAY #1

Read **John, chapter 9**. Read **John 9:1-23** again and record the important facts, characters, events etc.. Give a title to this section.

Title:

DAY #2 Read John 9:1-3 WHY WAS THIS MAN BORN BLIND?

- 1) From reading **John 9:2**:
 - A. What was the assumption that the disciples made concerning the cause of the man's blind condition?
 - B. What answer did Jesus give to correct them in **John 9:3a**? ("a" refers to the first portion of the verse.)

- 2) We must be careful that we, like the disciples, don't make false assumptions about the cause of the sufferings or troubles of others. The same principal should apply to our own suffering for that matter. Sometimes God *does* chastise us for our sin because He loves us. But there are many other causes. We may never see the entire picture until we are in Heaven and "know even as we are known." (**I Corinthians 13:12**) Sicknesses and hardships come into all of our lives. We can always be assured that whatever the cause, God will use it for our good and His glory if we trust in Him. Share what you learn from the following verses, adding your own personal applications.

FRUIT OF SIN

- A. **Galatians 6:7-8**

- B. **Hosea 10:12, 13**

CHASTENING OF THE LORD

- A. **Hebrews 12:5-6**

- B. **Hebrews 12:9-11**

***"Being punished isn't enjoyable while it is happening-----it hurts! But afterwards we can see the result, a quiet growth in grace and character."* Hebrews 12:11 (Living Version)**

BUFFETING OF SATAN

A. **Job 2:7**

B. **II Corinthians 12:7**

TRYING AND PERFECTING OF OUR FAITH

A. **I Peter 4:12-13**

B. **James 1:2-4**

USED BY GOD FOR GOOD

A. **II Corinthians 12:9-10**

B. **James 1:2, 3**

C. **John 9:3b**

DAY #3 Read John 9:4-15 BLINDNESS

1) How unusual! Mud made out of spit was used to heal blind eyes. Read and briefly record the methods used by Jesus to heal in these additional accounts:

A. **Mark 7:32-36**

B. **Mark 5:25-29**

- 2) What do you learn about the methods that God uses to minister to needs? Think about this before you answer. It's been said, "*The Lord works in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform!*" Do you have limited concepts of how He can and will work? Share your thoughts?

- 3) The neighbors were surprised to see the blind man they had known to beg for a living was healed. Why do you think they took the man with this wonderful testimony to the Pharisees?

Point to Ponder *Jesus dared to break the law of the Sabbath again in order to keep the higher law "to do the works of the Father." In the eyes of the Pharisees, this healing offended the law of the Sabbath in two ways: the healing itself and the making of mud which was considered work. Instead of excitement, thankfulness and awe, we see an atmosphere of hostility as the Jewish leaders interrogate the healed man.*

- 4) **John 9:16-17** describes three varied opinions. State what they were and who held them.
 - A.

 - B.

 - C.

Read **John 9:18-23**.

- 5) In **verse 18**, we learn that the Jews had decided they would not believe until they had called the man's parents.
 - A. Do you think any doubt should have remained after the parents' statements that a profound miracle had occurred? Why or why not?

 - B. Why do you think the Pharisees still doubted? Why do you think there are many skeptics today?

 - C. What conclusions about this mighty healing were the parents afraid to state? Why?

Fear of man limits our awe of God

DAY #4 Read John 9:24-41

Read through again, listing the important facts. Then give a title to this section. When we take the time to give a title to a portion of scripture, it helps us focus on the main point of the passage. It also helps us to remember it longer.

Title:

DAY #5 Read John 9:24-34

- 1) At this point, the Jews had all the facts confirmed by neighbors, the parents, and the man himself. They still continued to *decide* not to believe. Since they couldn't deny the evidence, they attacked the obvious conclusion, that Jesus must be from God to be able to perform such a powerful healing.
 - A. What were the arguments the Pharisees used?

 - B. How did the healed man respond? Notice and record the progression of his boldness and clarity as to the origin of his healing.

 - C. What was the result of his boldness?

- 2) What a day! The man had started out as a blind beggar and ended the day a *seeing outcast*. From **John 9:35-38**, state in your own words the wonderful conclusion to this man's story. Share what impresses you.

AMAZING GRACE

**Amazing grace-how sweet the sound-That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.**

**‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come.
‘Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise, than when we’d first begun.**

This beloved hymn was written by John Newton, who lived the first part of his life in the depths of a dark sinful life. After his conversion to Christ, he wrote this hymn in response to his continued thankfulness for spiritual sight.

3) Read **John 9:39-41** and **Matthew 13:13-16**. Describe the continued blind state that some chose.

DAY #6

This is a wonderful chapter! We have witnessed a supernatural healing. But more importantly, we have seen a man make the choice of spiritual sight. Stop and pray that the Lord will help you to be encouraged, warned, blessed and transformed as you ponder the things you have learned. Write three or more lessons that you see you need to apply to your life.

1)

2)

Salvation is not something we achieve, it is something we receive.

3)

BLESSED SIGHT Fanny Crosby was the author of more than 8,000 gospel hymns written in the 1800s. She was also blind from birth. Once, a well-intentioned man remarked to her, “I think it is a great pity that the Master, when He showered so many gifts upon you, did not give you sight.”

Her rebuke came quickly, “Do you know that if at birth I had been able to make one petition to my Creator, it would have been that I should be born blind?”

“Why?” asked the surprised gentleman.

“Because, when I get to heaven, the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that of my Savior.”