

Eternal Life Through Believing in Jesus

**26) Do You Believe In
The Son Of God?**

'So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner." He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see." Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?" Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from"'

(John 9:24-29)

- ✓ **They could not deny that the man was born blind and that he could now see. But they did all in their power to resist coming to the conclusion that Jesus is the Son of God. 'We know that this man is a sinner.' Not because He broke God's law, but their man-made laws**
- ✓ **They said: 'Give glory to God. This man is a sinner.' What they meant by this was, 'Own up to the truth. You are in God's presence now.'**
'Now Joshua said to Achan, "My son, I beg you, give glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession to Him, and tell me now what you have done; do not hide it from me"' (Josh.7:19)
- ✓ *'Whether He is a sinner or not, I don't know. What I do know is that once I was blind but now, I see'* **The power of testimony!**

We are a people who 'know'

'I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day' (2 Tim.1:12)

'And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God' (Job 19:26)

'We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren' (1 John 3:14)

'And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose' (Rom.8:28)

'Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is' (1 John 3:2)

- ✓ **But unbelief is occupied with 'how' rather than with 'whom'. They asked again, 'What did He do to you?'**
- ✓ **'Do you want to be His disciples too?' The *mercy* of God gave him his sight; the *wisdom* of God taught him how to escape their trap. Jesus promised us such wisdom when interrogated**
- ✓ **'We are disciples of Moses. We don't know where "this fellow" is from'. Note their inconsistency, 'However, we know where this Man is from; but when the Christ comes, no one knows where He is from' (John 7:27)**

'The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out'
(John 9:30-34)

- ✓ **This is amazing! They, who profess to know so much about God, cannot even say where this man who opened eyes is from! Their unbelief is more of a miracle than the healing!** *'If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father'* **(Jn.15:24)**
- ✓ **In the age of the new covenant, the restoration of sight to the blind is a sign that the Messiah has arrived.** *'Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened'* **(Isa.35:5)**. *'I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles, to open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the prison...'* **(Isa.42:7)**

✓ **This man was able to confound the religious leaders.** *'If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear'* (Psa.66:18). *'The LORD is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous'* (Prov.15:29). **'If Christ had been an impostor, it is not possible to conceive that God would have listened to his prayer, and given him the power to open the blind man's eyes'** (Spurgeon)

- ✓ **They treated this man terribly:**
- ***They abused him (they reviled him)**
 - ***They insulted him (they said he was completely born in sins – as the disciples had speculated)**
 - ***They rejected him (they cast him out)**
 - ***When people turn from their case to attack the person you know they don't really have a case**

- ✓ **This is what religion does. But it is better to be cast out of a system that is to be spued out of Christ's mouth, than to remain in a system, of which He is on the outside**
- ✓ **It is fitting that the next chapter speaks of the Good Shepherd who comes looking for this sheep, in contrast to thieves, robbers and hirelings**
- ✓ **Like this man, when we believe in Christ, we become a mystery to those who knew us before and as we display increasing loyalty to Him so we will meet with more persecution**

Jesus comes looking for the excommunicated

'Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him'

(John 9:35-38)

***The Good Shepherd found him. If He finds us, does it matter who rejects us?**

***If anything has happened to grieve us, Jesus hears about it and comes to minister to us**

***He asked him: '*Do you believe in the Son of God?*' This is the crucial question. 'With a Saviour less than divine you have a religion less than saving' (Spurgeon)**

***The more we know of Jesus and the dearer He is to us, the less we will care about those who reject us**

***We grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus:**
1) 'The man they call Jesus' (v.11); 2) '...a prophet' (17); 3) '...from God' (v.33); 4) '...Son of God' (v.35); 5) '...Lord, I believe' (v.38)

***This man stood firm in the face of persecution and Jesus revealed more of Himself to him, 'He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him' (John 14:21)**

***When the man worshipped Jesus, Jesus received the worship. This is something that no man or angel in the Bible does. The fact that Jesus accepted this worship is another proof that He was and is God**

***'And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind."
Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, "Are we blind also?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains"'***

(John 9:39-41)

***We are blind or we see, in proportion to our ability to see Christ's glory. If the Jewish leaders would only acknowledge their blindness they could be healed**

***The judgment Jesus referred to here is not that which will be executed on the last day, *'For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved'* (John 3:17). He referred to a judgment concerning each person as it becomes evident by their acceptance or rejection of Him, *'He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God'* (Jn.3:18)**

***Whenever a person is confronted by Jesus that person experiences judgment**

***Those who choose to respond to His teaching and claims come out of the darkness and into the light. Those who believe they do not need saving go deeper into darkness**

****'And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God' (John 3:19-21)***

**When the gospel is preached it is either a savour
of life or of death**

***'For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among
those who are being saved and among those who
are perishing. To the one we are the aroma of
death leading to death, and to the other the
aroma of life leading to life'***

(2 Cor.2:15-16)