

Lesson 14: Contention Over The Man Born Blind

February 10, 2021

John 9:1-41

Contention Over The Man Born Blind John 9:1-41

In this chapter we read another great miracle of Jesus as He heals a man who was born blind.

- *Blind man is questioned many times about the healing and who healed him. (9:10, 15, 17, 26)*
- **Note:** *the progression of the man's thinking as he is questioned by the Pharisees.*
- *This man is now able to see what those who were sighted could not see!*
- *Never before had such been done. (cf. 9:32)*

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The miracles of the gospel of John have a specific purpose. (John 20:30-31)

- 2:1-11 Water to wine ... Power over quality.
- 4:46-54 Nobleman's son healed ... Power over distance.
- 5:1-9 Afflicted man ... Power over time.
- 6:1-14 Fed 5,000 men ... Power over quantity.
- 7:16-21 Walked on the water ... Power over nature.
- 9:1-12 Blind man healed ... Power over darkness.
- 11:1-46 Raised Lazarus ... Power over death.
- The miracle of this chapter shows that Jesus is from God. cf. John 3:1-2

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WHO SINNED TO CAUSE THIS MAN'S BLINDNESS?
John 9:1-5

9:1-2 – *The disciples question the cause of this man's blindness, "Who sinned, this man or his parents?"*

- Many try to explain all tragedy as the consequence of some sin. "Is God punishing us for some sin?"
 - *Jesus unequivocally denies that all such tragedies are the direct result of sin and that sin caused this man's blindness.*
 - John 9:3, *"Jesus answered, Neither did this man sin, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him."*

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- Certainly all sin will be punished, but all sin is not punished now through some tragedy.
- The Bible reveals several examples of direct punishment for sins.
 - *Nadab and Abihu.* Leviticus 10:1-2
 - *Uzziah.* 2 Chronicles 26:16-23
- However, not every physical affliction is a direct punishment for one's sins.
 - *Tragedy often comes to righteous and unrighteous people alike.*
 - *Note the Galleans, Siloam.* Luke 13:1-5
 - *Note Job.*

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- At times tragedy is the result of human frailty, inheritance, laws of nature being disobeyed, etc.
- Sometimes sin results in tragedy to ourselves and others. (Venereal disease, wreck caused by drunken driver, etc.)
- All this serves only to prove that mortal men cannot always determine why some specific afflictions occur.