

Matthew 9:27-34: And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." ²⁸ When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." ²⁹ Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." ³⁰ And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, "See that no one knows about it." ³¹ But they went away and spread his fame through all that district. ³² As they were going away, behold, a demon-oppressed man who was mute was brought to him. ³³ And when the demon had been cast out, the mute man spoke. And the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." ³⁴ But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

Intro: As we work our way through Matthew's Gospel, Jesus continues to show us His power & authority over all manner of human suffering & disease, & His love, compassion, & mercy toward sinful people (lady with flow of blood). Today we see Jesus' power over the eyes & ears of men: and this points us to Who He is! He is the LORD God come in the flesh Who is the Son of David, the Messiah, the King Who shall save His people from their sins!

- **Exodus 4:10-11:** But Moses said to the LORD, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue." ¹¹ Then the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD?"

- **Isaiah 35:4-6, 10:** Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy . . . ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

1. Two Blind Men Meet The Compassionate, Powerful King Of Kings

Matthew 9:27-30: And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." ²⁸ When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." ²⁹ Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." ³⁰ And their eyes were opened.

a. Their need: They are blind, they cannot see. Shut your eyes and imagine – that's all you'll ever see – darkness, nothing. **Dorani:** Jesus gives sight to the blind more often than any other miracle. Never done in OT or after Jesus

Blindness is such a powerful illustration of need that God uses the very language of opening blind eyes to describe what must happen to lost sinners when Jesus spoke to Paul at his conversion & gave him his commission: **Acts 26:17-18:** I am sending you to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light & from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins & a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me. **GOSPEL!**

b. Their request: V 27: "Have mercy on us" – this is a wonderful prayer! Mercy! They desire to see!

c. The object of their request: Jesus, the Son of David: Jesus Christ is the proper object of our faith! He is the only One Who can grant these men sight. And He's the only One Who can save us from our sins. And notice they call Him "the Son of David" – These blind men believe (see!) Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior, the King!

2 Samuel 7:12-13: When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

Acts 2:30-36: Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.

Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "' The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.' Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

d. Jesus questions them about their faith: V 28: "When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, 'Do you believe that I am able to do this?' They said to him, 'Yes, Lord.'"

Faith is important! Faith is vital! Trusting in Jesus is the only way these blind men are going to be healed. They must have faith! But faith is also a gift from God. **Philippians 1:29:** For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake **(The dead girl didn't have faith!)**

e. Jesus heals them, highlighting their faith and His own power and compassion: V 29-30: Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According [as you have] to your faith be it done to you." ³⁰ And their eyes were opened.

Healing is by faith alone here, and remember, justification is by faith alone: **Ephesians 2:8-9:** For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. (Mormon Missionary Conversion Story) (May we imitate Jesus' love and compassion!)

f. Only God opens the eyes of the blind: Psalm 146:8: the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. **Jesus is God!**

2. What About When Jesus Doesn't Heal?

a. Jesus will heal all of His children perfectly someday: Revelation 21:4: He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, & death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. (Can't fast; can't die; can't be sick – in His presence. This is why we long for Him!)

b. Jesus doesn't heal everyone today: Romans 8:18-23: For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

c. Jesus' choice not to heal everyone in this life is always according to His good, wise purposes for His greater glory, so that the works of God might be beautifully displayed: John 9:2-3: his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him." **(Greater purpose: Isaiah 35!)**

Joni Eareckson Tada; Nick Vujicic (Voycech) – Person offered to pray for his arms and legs to grow back.

Raymond Johnson: He heard of a church member from one of his friend's churches named Roger. Roger was born with cerebral palsy. His body is contorted, his hands and feet are disfigured, his speech is slurred, but he's always at church on time and serves as a greeter during the 11 o'clock service. If Roger isn't in his wheelchair, he's probably on the ground, maneuvering on all fours to eat his food from the hand of another or getting his teeth brushed by a caretaker before crawling into his bed. He can't even shave his own face. But when asked about his condition, Roger said this: "I don't have to listen to the lies that since I am [Go] disabled, I am not important. God made me who I am, and I was born with cerebral palsy, not because of an accident, but on purpose. And when I think of on purpose, I say, 'Oh man! How can I not worship God? Because he loved me that much to give me cerebral palsy so I can encourage the whole body of the church and non-believers.'"

3. Jesus' Warning: Their Disobedience

Matthew 9:30-31: And Jesus sternly warned them, "See that no one knows about it." ³¹ But they went away and spread his fame through all that district. (How do you make sure no one knows you can see now!)

a. Jesus commands silence: Jesus didn't want to be misunderstood. He didn't want people coming to Him merely for physical healing (as a wonder worker) or as the military leader who would crush the Romans, but He wanted the people to hear His Words! He and His Words give eternal life! Jesus wanted people to rightly understand Who He was and what He came to do. And Jesus had a timetable for His mission. It wasn't time yet for Him to fully disclose the whole truth about Himself – He might be arrested and killed prematurely:

John 2:4: My hour has not yet come; **John 7:30:** So they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come; **John 8:20:** no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come; **John 12:23:** The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified

b. The blind/seeing men were disobedient: V 31: But they went away & spread his fame through all that district.

Doriani: If we say Jesus is Lord, we must act as if we believe it . . . There are times when God's commands seem to make no sense. Obedience at such moments especially proves our loyalty to Jesus.

c. Thankfully, we have no such restriction on our praises of our Master and His work: 1 Peter 2:9: But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Hymn: O for a thousand tongues to sing; My great Redeemer's praise; The glories of my God and King;
The triumphs of His grace! My gracious Master and my God; Assist me to proclaim; To spread through all the
earth abroad; The honors of Thy name!; Jesus! the name that charms our fears; That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears; 'Tis life, and health, and peace!

4. Jesus Casts Out A Demon

Matthew 9:32-34: As they were going away, behold, a demon-oppressed man who was mute was brought to him. ³³ And when the demon had been cast out, the mute man spoke. And the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." ³⁴ But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

a. A demon oppressed man: He is controlled by a demon in such a way that he cannot talk.

b. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil: Jesus heals him! (Faith is not mentioned). Jesus came to bind the strong man; He was victorious over the devil when He was tempted; All of this points to the final victory over the devil and all his seed. **Rev. 20:10:** the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur

c. There's no one like Jesus: V 33: & the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel."

d. The Pharisees' wicked response: V 34: But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."
Josh McDowell: LORD, liar, lunatic. Pharisees add: demonic miracle worker. They are blind guides!

- **Luke 22:64:** They also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?"

- **Isaiah 53:7:** He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth . . .

Christ Jesus Isn't Like Anything
You've Ever Seen – He's Life's Wellspring
The Son Of David – God-Man King
Who Rules from Olney To Beijing
Heals All Disease And Demon Sting
All Blindness Clear Away He'll Fling

And Make All Deafened Ears To Spring
To Life With Hearing Joys Ring
All Demons Down To Hell He'll Bring
For He Has Died And Rose We Sing
By Faith Alone To Him We Cling
And Trust His Plan For He's Our King!