

# Seeing Spiritual Truth

## John 9

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### JESUS OFFERS “SIGHT” TO THE SPIRITUALLY BLIND.

*As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud <sup>7</sup>and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. John 9:1-7 (English Standard Version)*

*Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” John 9:39 (ESV)*

### Jesus as the Light

- *“In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1:4-5 (ESV)*
- *Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” John 8:12 (ESV)*
- *“As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” John 9:5 (ESV)*

### THERE ARE MANY REASONS WHY THE SPIRITUALLY BLIND DO NOT “SEE.”

- Reason #1: We are stuck in an old way of thinking.

*The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup>Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” <sup>10</sup>So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup>They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” John 9:8-12 (ESV)*

- Reason #2: We want to protect the status quo.

*They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."<sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." . . . <sup>24</sup>So for the 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 9:13-17, 24 (ESV)*

- Reason #3: We are afraid of people's rejection.

### **THE SPIRITUALLY BLIND "SEE" WHEN THEY UNDERSTAND THEIR SPIRITUAL NEED AND TRUST IN JESUS.**

*So for the 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."<sup>25</sup>He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."<sup>26</sup>They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"<sup>27</sup>He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"<sup>28</sup>And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."<sup>30</sup>The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."<sup>34</sup>They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. John 9:24-34 (ESV)*

*You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, <sup>40</sup>yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life ...<sup>45</sup>... There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope. <sup>46</sup>For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me. John 5:39-40; 45b-46 (ESV)*

*Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"<sup>36</sup>He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"<sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you."<sup>38</sup>He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."<sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, "Are we also blind?"<sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains. John 9:24-41 (ESV)*