

# Sermon Study Guide – March 19th, 2023

## *Today's Focus: "Sight for the Blind"*

1) Thoughts to get you started...

- ◆ What would it be like to be blind? What kinds of difficulties would it pose?
- ◆ What are some other ways a person might be described as "blind"? How do you feel about such people?
- ◆ Do you ever prove yourself to be "blind", even if not physically so?

2) Today's Message: John 9 (see bulletin for **full** text)

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. <sup>14</sup> Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. <sup>15</sup> Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now 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 asked, "How can a sinner perform such signs?" So they were divided. <sup>17</sup> Then they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened." The man replied, "He is a prophet..."

<sup>34</sup> To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out. <sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup> "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." <sup>37</sup> Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you." <sup>38</sup> Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

3) What does God want you to know today?

*Throughout the sermon, consider...*

How does today's sermon show you your sin? (i.e. What's the law?)

How does today's sermon show your Savior? (i.e. What's the gospel?)

Law:

Gospel:



*Answer the following questions as you follow the sermon...*

1. What would life have been like to be blind in 1st Century Israel?
2. Why did this misfortune happen to the man, and how did the Pharisees (and Jesus' disciples) get it wrong?
3. Where do we think "sight" comes from? Where does Jesus say it comes from?
4. How does Jesus "reach out to us in the darkness", like he did for this man?
5. How can you convince people who don't want to be convinced of something? (*hint: think Benjamin Franklin.*)
6. How can you "show" light to others who are in darkness?

#### 4) Taking it Home:

*Read these sections of the Bible to reinforce this week's truths:*

**Monday:** *read/review* Isaiah 42

**Thursday:** Matthew 5:13-20

**Tuesday:** *review* Psalm 27, Eph. 5:8-14

**Friday:** Isaiah 60

**Wednesday:** Psalm 119:105-136

**Saturday:** *read/review* John 9