

## Encounters with Jesus

### *“The Blind Man”*

(John 9:1-41)

- Introduction:
1. It is sometimes the case that those who can see *physically* cannot see *spiritually* (Matthew 13:14-15).
  2. In John 9, a blind man was able to see far better and more clearly than those who had sight.
  3. Let's examine this passage and make some applications.

#### I. Not All Suffering is the Result of Sin

- A. (John 9:1-3).
- B. The disciples thought that suffering was directly attributable to a person's sins or his parent's sins.
- C. (Job 4:7-8).
- D. Jesus said that this situation was not because of sin, but so that God could be glorified.
  1. Consider the result of this adversity.
  2. This man was saved, and others were provided an opportunity to witness the glory and power of God.

#### II. Three Differing Attitudes Toward Christ

- A. The class represented by the Pharisees.
  1. They saw the results of the miracle but refused to accept Jesus.
  2. Their minds were closed and cast the man out of the synagogue and accused Jesus of sin.
  3. How many are willing to weigh evidence contrary to an accepted belief and change if shown to be wrong?
- B. The class represented by the blind man's parents.
  1. (John 9:19-23).
  2. They wanted to remain neutral (Matthew 12:30).
  3. Some today are nominal Christians who have no intention of really getting involved.
- C. The class represented by the blind man.
  1. He shared with others with Jesus had done for him (9:11).
  2. He boldly affirmed that Jesus was a prophet of God (9:17).
  3. He was not afraid of what his fellow man would think (9:30-34).
  4. He suffered the consequences of his convictions, but also enjoyed the reward of his convictions.

- Conclusion:
1. Into what class of people do you most naturally fit?
  2. Now is a good time to evaluate yourself and make changes if any need to be made.