



“The Giving of Sight to Two Blind Men”

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Series: Opening the Eyes of the Blind

14. Jesus opened the eyes of two blind men ([Matthew 9:27-31](#)).

As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, “Have mercy on us, Son of David!” 28 When he had gone indoors,

the blind men came to him, and he asked them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” “Yes, Lord,” they replied. 29 Then he touched their eyes and said, “According to your faith let it be done to you”; 30 and their sight was restored. Jesus warned them sternly, “See that no one knows about this.” 31 But they went out and spread the news about him all over that region.

Some background. Jesus was departing from the house of Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue. Jesus had healed Jairus’ daughter. **Two blind men followed Jesus.** What guided them? We are not told. They cry out and call Jesus Son of David. This title demonstrated that they believed Jesus to be the expected Messiah and also reminds us of the sure mercies of David in the Davidic Covenant.

At this time, it was not only universally understood that the Messiah would be a descendant of David, but Song of Solomon of David was one of the names then ascribed to him by the Jews; see [Matthew 12:23](#); and [Matthew 22:42-45](#). (Benson)

He was likewise the descendant or Son of David by way of recognized superiority, [Isaiah 9:7](#); [Luke 1:32](#); [Revelation 22:16](#).. This has been considered a profession of belief that to these blind men, Jesus was the Messiah and that He could heal them.

Blindness was very serious. In essence, it made one dependent completely upon others surrounding them - including thieves, robbers, and others. Blindness kept a person from temple worship. Leviticus 21:18.

There are no miracles of the giving of sight in the Old Testament, nor in the New after the Gospels (the restoration of sight to Saul of Tarsus, Acts 9:17-18, is not considered of the same order). But in Jesus' ministry there are more miracles of the giving of sight than of any other single category. The giving of sight is a divine activity (Exod. 4:11; Psa. 146:8), and it has messianic significance (Isa. 29:18; 35:5; 42:7).

A Breakdown of Our Passage. So, we have: **passing on or departing from there, two blind men followed Jesus crying out and saying, Have mercy on us, Son of David.**

This was an expression of misery and a plea for free mercy. They wanted Jesus to show compassion toward them in their affliction, and restore to them the blessing of sight. And, this

was the first time Jesus was addressed as “Son of David.” They cried out to get Jesus’ attention. They were determined, but would Jesus be so determined?

These two blind men followed Jesus into the house:

Having come moreover into the house, came to Him the blind men and Jesus says to them, **Believe you [plural] that I am able [dunamis] this to do?** They say to Him, Yes, Lord. [kurie] Then He touched [hpto] the eyes of them saying, **According to the faith of you [plural], be it to you [plural].** And were opened their eyes; and strictly instructed them Jesus, saying, **See that no one knows.**

It is generally believed that these blind men believed on the testimony of others who had seen Jesus’ miracles. They heard about them and Him. But look! The blind men don’t say what they want exactly, just have mercy on us. Jesus KNEW them deep inside. He knew what they desired of Him. He also knew what He was determined to do.

The stress is on their own needs rather than on their faith. So Jesus explores with His question to them in order that their faith might be exposed to THEM. They had been crying out in the streets for mercy, following Him, but He waited until He came into a particular house before His closer examination of their plea. They are all inside now, not out in the streets. Healing is not a “show.” It is serious business.

Remember, there was no precedent for healing the blind; there were only the promises in Isaiah. Jesus moves them to confess to Him that He has the dunamis, the power to DO THIS. The men were thinking of their needs, but Jesus moves to examine their faith. They come across as free from the prejudices which blinded the minds of the general population of the Jews.

Jesus touched their eyes. “Jesus touched their eyes:” (Matt. 9:29). His touch was accompanied with some words that underline the importance of faith. We should understand the phrase “according to your faith” in the sense of “since you have faith” (Leon Morris). Their eyes were opened!

Jesus strictly charged them not to spread this about. He gives no particular reason.

However, having gone out, they make known Him in all the land that. They didn’t obey this command of authority. It had been expressly foretold by the prophet, that the Messiah should open the eyes of the blind; (see [Psalm 146:8](#); [Isaiah 35:5](#); [Isaiah 42:7](#); cf Isaiah 61:1) and this is the first instance recorded by the evangelists in which Jesus proved himself to be the Messiah, by fulfilling those prophecies. Nevertheless, no matter what their level of gratitude and/or desire to give this testimony, it was no reason to disobey Jesus’ command; it was not a valid excuse.

“Jesus warned them sternly, ‘See that no one knows about this.’” But they went out and spread the news about him all over that region” (Matt. 9:30-31). Compare Mark 1:43; 14:5; John 11:33, 38.” Let’s summarize:

1. The two blind men followed Jesus.
2. They called on His Name, Son of David, and cried out for mercy.
3. Jesus went indoors, yet the blind men persisted.
4. Jesus inquired as to whether they believed He was ABLE to do this.
5. They said, Yes, and called Jesus Lord (the determiner of their destiny)
6. Jesus touched their eyes.

7. Jesus said, According to your faith let it be done to you.
8. Their sight was restored.
9. They went out but disobeyed Jesus' stern warning not to let anyone know about the healing.
10. They spread the news about Jesus all over the region.

It should encourage us that **Jesus healed people of acute diseases** like high fevers (John 4.52, Luke 4.38), what some believe to be acute anterior poliomyelitis (Luke 7.2), an incised wound (Luke 22.50), unknown fatal diseases (Luke 7.12, 8.42; John 11.3, 13). He healed **chronic diseases** such as paralysis (Luke 5.18, 6.6), a disease of the nervous system (John 5.5-7), blindness (Matthew 9.27, 20.30; Mark 8.22, John 9.1), rheumatic disease of the spine (Luke 13.11), chronic heart failure (Luke 14.2), gynecological disease (Luke 8.43), and skin disease (Luke 17.12, 5.12).

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses/touched by the feeling of our infirmities, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Jesus understands our weaknesses. He is touched by the feeling of our infirmities. **Anything that endangers life is at the heart of defining what is unclean, etc.** Jesus' life was not threatened by any person, any place, any thing, or at any time. Nothing could harm Him. No one could take His life unless He voluntarily laid it down. And this He did. His was a substitutionary atonement.

Sickness and Disease. When we examine the miracles of healing, we can see that they cost Jesus much. He often sighed in the performance of the cure (Mark 7:34), was troubled (John 11:33), was conscious of virtue going out of Him, (Mark 5: 30). The healings were a result or effect of that ransom which was to be paid in all the extent to which man was made subject to the curse. If Christ annihilates sin as the cause, then the effect must disappear whenever He spoke His healing word. He removed disease by anticipation, because as the surety of sinners, He undertook their obligations and satisfied for all that was the cause of the disease. The effect was removed by removing the cause. In every case, the healing effected was the actual exercise of His omnipotent decree/commandment.

The **Ten Steps for Healing** are: 1) Approach Jesus, 2) Call out to Jesus, 3) Listen to Jesus, 4) Obey Jesus, 5) Go to the Priest/Church, 6) Glorify/Praise God, 7) Bow Down to Jesus, 8) Thank Jesus, 9) Go on Your Way, 10) Remember Your Faith, okay; but remember Jesus' faith heals.

The two blind men receiving their sight got to step four but then did not obey Jesus. They did go on their way, talking about what happened. **But they went out and spread the news about him all over that region.**

May the Living God open our eyes, our understanding, that He might grant repentance and recovery of sight to the blind, in order that we might acknowledge the truth and recover ourselves from the snare of the devil, wherever the devil is holding us captive to do his will and not the will of the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ with the mind of Christ and the heart of the Holy Spirit and in His power. In the Name of Jesus, King of kings and Lord of lords. Amen.

Declaring Jesus Christ, who opens the eyes of the blind,

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“Do you believe that I am able to do this?” Jesus, Matthew 9:28b



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