

# PANORAMA OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST

**Increasing Opposition**



# Healing the Blind Man

## G. Healing the man born blind – John 9:1-12

1. John 9:1a – In chapters 8-10:21, John arranged his material to demonstrate that Jesus is, indeed, the Light of the world.
  - a. Chapters 8 and 9 provide an interesting contrast.
    - 1) In chapter 8, Jesus was inside the temple and rejected by the religious leaders who were spiritually blind.

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2) In chapter 9, Jesus was outside the temple and received spiritually by one who was physically blind.

# Healing the Blind Man

b. In John 1:11-13, John showed the various responses to the Light.

# Healing the Blind Man

2. John 9:1b – Jesus took special notice of this man who, having been born blind, suffered from a hopeless condition. By staring, He got the disciples to ask their question.
3. John 9:2 – The disciple's question reflected the Pharisees' teaching that a baby in the womb kicking its mother violated the command to honor mother and father.

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4. John 9:3 – Correcting their theology, Jesus said that the man was blind so that He could have another opportunity to show God's power.
5. John 9:4 – Building on the Truth that He is the Light of the world, Jesus indicated His need to fulfill the Father's plan, to work the *works of Him who sent Me*.

# Healing the Blind Man

6. John 9:5 – The miracle of bringing light to the man born in physical darkness allowed Jesus to demonstrate that He is the Light of the world.
7. John 9:6 – Jesus' method of healing this man was a deliberate breaking of the oral tradition of the Pharisaic law, which not only forbid healing on the Sabbath but even spelled out how not to do it.

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8. John 9:7 – The man obeyed Jesus' instructions and was completely healed.
9. John 9:8-9 – Everyone knew this man, but with his sight restored, he had a new countenance that made some doubt his identity.
10. John 9:10 – This question, which was asked again in verses 15, 19, and 26, reflected the theological dilemma of the Pharisees.



# Healing the Blind Man

- a. For the first time in history, a man born blind had regained his sight, a miracle the Pharisees taught only Messiah could do.
- b. The problem for the Pharisees was that the miracle was done on the Sabbath and in a specific way forbidden by tradition.
- c. They had to choose between their oral traditions and God's Word.

# Healing the Blind Man

11. John 9:11-12 – Interestingly, the last time the Lord healed on the Sabbath in John's Gospel, that man did not know who had healed him.

# Reactions to the Healing

## H. Reactions to the healing of the man born blind – John 9:13-34

1. John 9:13-14 – Jesus deliberately forced the issue of obedience to legalistic traditions versus acceptance of the clear evidence that He was Messiah.
2. John 9:15-17a – Unable to simply deny the miracle, the Pharisees were divided over its meaning.

# Reactions to the Healing

3. John 9:17b – The man gave a brilliant answer, *He is a Prophet*, which the Pharisees were unable to refute.
4. John 9:18-20 – In an attempt to discredit the blind man's witness, the religious leaders brought in his parents, who confirmed the fact that he had been born blind.

# Reactions to the Healing

5. John 9:21-23 – The parents did not want to upset the Pharisees because they feared being excommunicated from the synagogue.
6. John 9:24-25 – This illogical statement from the religious leaders prompted the blind man's sarcastic response. He could not understand why they gave glory to God because a man was a sinner but did not glorify God for his great healing.

# Reactions to the Healing

7. John 9:26-27 – Apparently tired of the proceedings, the man sarcastically implied that they, too, had changed their minds(repented) about Jesus as Messiah.
8. John 9:28 – The Greek word for reviled, *LOIDOREO*, means to speak in a highly insulting manner and reflected their disdain for Jesus and His followers.

# Reactions to the Healing

9. John 9:29 – The reason the religious leaders accepted Moses (God had spoken to him) was the same reason they rejected Jesus (the miracles). (Check John 5:46 again.)
10. John 9:30 – The man expressed amazement at the inability of these teachers of Israel to explain his miracle.

# Reactions to the Healing

11. John 9:31 – Using good Jewish logic, the man argued that since God only hears the prayers of righteous men, based on the miracle, Jesus must be a righteous man.
12. John 9:32-33 – If Jesus were not from God, He could not have performed the miracle.  
John 3:2
13. John 9:34 – Realizing they had no case, the religious leaders verbally attacked the man and excommunicated him. All religion can do to maintain control is engender fear.



# Light of the World

## I. The Light of the world and the man born blind – John 9:35-41

1. John 9:35 – Jesus sought the formerly blind man and, using a Messianic title, Son of Man, invited him to be saved. Daniel 7:13, Revelation 1:13
2. John 9:36 – The man desired to be saved, but he needed content in order to believe. The Gospel's content is the person and work of Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:1-5

# Light of the World

3. John 9:37 – Jesus revealed Himself to this man in the same way He did to the woman at the well, by making a Messianic claim.  
John 4:26
4. John 9:38 – The man simply believed in Jesus Christ and was saved –or his faith was strengthened if he had already believed.
5. John 9:39 – This verse requires study in light of John 3:17 and 19.

# Light of the World

- a. In John 9:39, under the inspiration of God the Holy Spirit, John chose to use the Greek word *KRIMA*, meaning a legal action with emphasis on the verdict.
- b. In John 3:17, John used the verb *KRINO*, meaning the act of passing judgment.
- c. In John 3:19 John used the word *KRISIS*, meaning the legal process of judgment.

# Light of the World

d. Why is the difference in these words important?

1) The Lord exercised *KRISIS* (legal process) during His First Advent.

a) In John 3:19 and 12:31, people had to make a decision concerning Him, to believe or not believe.

b) In John 5:22, God the Father gave the process of *KRISIS* to the Son.

# Light of the World

- 2) In John 9:39, *KRIMA* (the verdict) resulted from *KRISIS* (the process).
- 3) In Revelation 19:11, *KRINO* judgment is reserved for the Second Advent.

# Light of the World

- e. Through John's arrangement of his Gospel, he illustrated the antagonism of darkness toward the Light. John 3:19-21

# Light of the World

6. John 9:40 – Blinded by their self-righteous religious system, the religious leaders lacked the discernment to recognize Jesus' spiritual truths.
7. John 9:41 – Jesus accepted their statement to explain that they were, indeed, still blind (lost in sin). If they had recognized their blindness, they would have sought the Light.

# The Good Shepherd

## J. The Good Shepherd – John 10:1-21

1. Old Testament background is needed to correctly interpret John 10.
  - a. This first use of shepherding in John's Gospel reflected the Shepherd/sheep analogy of the Old Testament.  
Psalm 23:1, 79:13, 80:1, 95:7



# The Good Shepherd

b. Jeremiah 23:1-5 showed the relationship between Yahweh (the shepherd), the Jewish leaders (the shepherds), and Israel (the flock).

1) Jeremiah 23:1 – God accused the shepherds (Jewish leaders) of scattering the flock (Israel).

2) Jeremiah 23:2 – God's judgment would scatter the shepherds as they had scattered the flock.

# The Good Shepherd

- 3) Jeremiah 23:3 – God also promised to gather the remnant of the flock and return them to the Land.
- 4) Jeremiah 23:4 – God will provide shepherds who will not lead the flock astray.
- 5) Jeremiah 23:5 – The *righteous Branch* is a Messianic title for Jesus.

# The Branch

Zechariah 3:8 indicates the Branch is a servant.

Zechariah 6:12 indicates the Branch is a man.

Isaiah 1:11; Jeremiah 23:5; 33:15-16 indicate the Branch is a King.

Isaiah 4:2; Jeremiah 23:5-6 indicates the Branch is God.



# The Good Shepherd

- c. Ezekiel 34:1-31 is also crucial to understanding John 10.
  - 1) Ezekiel 34:1 – The word of the Lord brought a message against the shepherds of Israel (the religious leaders) who led the flock (Israel) astray.

# The Good Shepherd

- 2) Ezekiel 34:2-3 – The leaders failed to feed the flock, instead feeding off the flock. False teachers fleece the sheep to fatten their own purses. Mark 11:15-17, John 2:14-16
- 3) Ezekiel 34:4-5 – The shepherds had no concern for the sick and afflicted of their flock. John 5, 8, 9
- 4) Ezekiel 34:6-10 – God's judgment removed them from leadership.

# The Good Shepherd

- 5) Ezekiel 34:11-16 – God will gather the sheep (Israel) from everywhere and feed and heal them.
- 6) Ezekiel 34:17-22 – Preparation for the re-gathering involves judging the individual sheep, the purpose of the 70 weeks in bringing iniquity to an end. Daniel 9:24

# The Good Shepherd

- 7) Ezekiel 34:23-24 – Either King David will rule under Messiah's authority, or the statement *My servant David* refers to Jesus Christ.
- 8) Ezekiel 34:25-31 – These verses deal with the implementation of the New Covenant with all its promises and blessings for the Messianic Kingdom (which Jesus was offering to Israel at that moment).