

THE LIFE OF CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS
Class #260 – Sunday AM2 July 13, 2008

Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

The Feast of Booths has concluded.

John 8:59 Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.

- He was forced out of Jerusalem for the time being.

John 9:1 this is when He saw a man blind from birth.

- The disciples wanted to know if the man was born blind because of his own sin or his parents.
- That was a Pharisaical doctrine.
- The disciples are infected with that false doctrine.
- So the Lord straightens them out in verse 3.

John 9:3 Jesus answered, “neither this man sinned, nor his parents; but so that the works of God might be displayed or manifested in him.”

POD (Review): Suffering is an opportunity for God’s work to be displayed or manifested in you.

POD: *But you must be willing to cooperate with God in your suffering.*

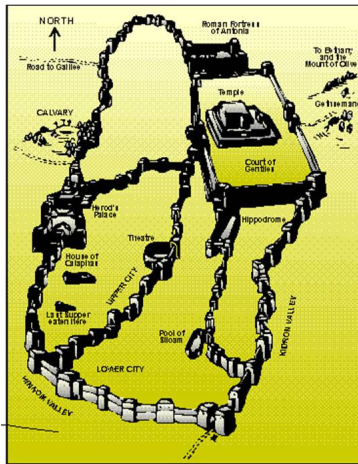
- ❖ You must allow suffering to function as a chisel in the hands of God.
- ❖ You must allow suffering to make you into whom He desires you to be - to mature you.
- ❖ Power is perfected in weakness but only if you cooperate with God in your weakness.

POD: *When the believer cooperates with God in suffering, God is glorified and the believer attains new heights in the spiritual life (2 Cor. 12:9).*

- ❖ The blind man cooperates with the Lord.
- ❖ The works of God will be manifested in Him.
- ❖ In **John 9:7** the Lord told him to ‘**Go wash in the pool of Siloam**’ so he did – yet the man was blind.

COOPERATE with God – and the works of God will be manifested in you.

There is no physical handicap that can prevent someone from cooperating with the Lord.



We cooperate with the Lord when we are “walking by faith not by sight.”

Not only was the blind man healed BUT he became a phenomenal witness for Christ.
(John 9:8-34)

POD: When the believer cooperates with the Lord, he has a testimony to others.

His testimony was so great that it caused a division amongst the Pharisees (vs. 16)

John 9:16 Therefore some of the Pharisees were saying, “This man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath.” But others were saying, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And there was a division among them.

Note the Pharisees’ response to this man’s witness for Christ (vs. 34).

John 9:34 They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you teaching us?” So they put him out.

- He was banned from the synagogue.
- He lost everything he could have gained from the world, because of his testimony for the One who had healed him.
- But what did he gain?
 - His physical sight
 - His spiritual sight
 - Eternal life
 - And the Lord’s personal encouragement

Things that money cannot buy

John 9:35-37 Jesus heard that they had put him out [lost everything of earthly value - **John 9:22** cf. **12:42-43**],

- Look up **John 9:22** and **John 12:42-43**.

- So who did this man love more, the Lord or the approval of the Pharisees?
- This man's entire testimony was motivated by His love for the Lord.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had put him out and finding him,

- finding εὐρίσκω – EURISKO - *To find after seeking*
 - When the Lord heard about what had happened, He sought after him.
 - He went through the streets looking for this man.

Question: Will He not do the same for you?

Review **1 Peter 5:6-9**.

- His arms are not so short that He cannot deliver you from the situation you're in.
- He is just an earshot away today.
- He knows exactly what you are enduring and is willing to offer mercy and grace - encouragement and help.

He said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man [Messianic title]?" ³⁶ He answered, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"

- Lord - κύριε – KURIOS – *sir*
- He's already believed in Him because He believed in His word - "Go wash in the Pool of Shiloam"- but he does not know what He looks like.

³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him,

- Seen - ὁράω – HORAO – *To see with one's eyes; to see without one's eyes;*
 - *To recognize; perceive mentally; to experience; to understand*
 - The action has being completed in the past with continuing results.

³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him,

- This man saw Messiah in the past **John 9:1-7**.

John 9:1-7 As He passed by [disappearing from the view of the temple because the Pharisees tried to stone Him], He saw a man blind from birth.

- He and the disciples are standing in the presence of the blind man.
- How perceptive are the blind?
 - Acute sense of perception
 - Especially hearing, but all the senses are hyper developed to take up the slack for a lack of vision.

- The man hears the disciples and the Lord.

² And His disciples asked Him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “*It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him.* ⁴ We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵ While I am in the world, **I am the Light of the world.**” He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and applied the clay to his eyes, ⁷ and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which is translated, Sent). So he went away [in faith] and washed [in faith]. . .

Because the One who said, **I am the Light of the world** told him to.

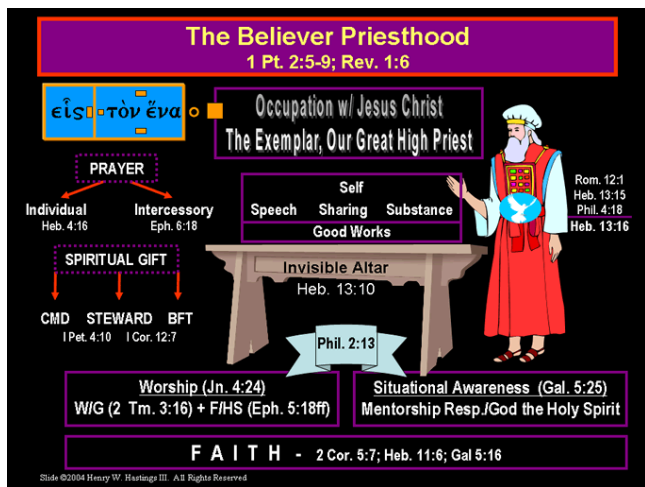
. . . and came back seeing.

- That’s when the blind man saw Him perfectly.
- Not physically because his eyes did not work - but he saw Jesus perfectly *without* his eyes.
 - He recognized Him.
 - Perceived Him mentally
 - Experienced His presence
 - Understood Him

³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have both seen Him, and He is the one who is talking with you.” ³⁸ And he said, “Lord, I believe [πιστεύω - **I am believing**].” And he worshiped Him.

POD: The believer who is moving forward in the Church Age plan of God will experience (ὁράω – HORAO – To see; to experience) the Lord’s hand in his life.

- Assembling together in the Word (**Heb 10:23-25**)
- Cooperating with the Lord in the manifestation of your spiritual gift for the common good (**1 Cor. 12:7**)
- Fulfilling the responsibilities of a Church Age Believer Priest as the Lord works in us to will and to do



All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard Bible (NASB) unless otherwise noted.