

The Gospel According to Luke

RECEIVING SIGHT

PART 10

Your faith has saved you

READ: LUKE 18:35-43

INTRODUCTION

In these few verses we see the heart of Jesus for people come out quite clearly in a practical way. This man who cannot see notices that people are shuffling and getting excited and is told that Jesus was coming by. It is important to note that he immediately calls out on Jesus to come and heal him but He calls Him by the name that identifies Jesus' Davidic lineage. He was, in the calling of Jesus to Him, calling Jesus by His kingly title and one that was the cause for Herod's concern when Jesus was born. Jesus was the coming King and this man recognized it and called Him by His proper name.

Another part of His call out to Jesus was to ask for mercy. It was very difficult at the time to be a blind person. He was reduced to being a beggar and to rely on those around him to help in areas of need. This means that everything was done with a certain level of desperation and this moment was no different. His plea was for Jesus to show mercy and what is interesting is that he wasn't asking for finances but a genuine healing. Often we ask for deliverance from our current problem but we forget to ask for mercy concerning our more all-encompassing problems. Jesus is regularly showing us mercy and we don't even realize it. This man knew that he needed God's mercy.

Jesus, when He heals the man's blindness, also says something quite interesting: "Your faith has saved you". The man had trusted and had faith in who Jesus was as the Son of God and the Son of Man. This is a testament to the fact that Jesus is always more concerned with people's spiritual position than their physical position. He takes pleasure in healing people and we see Him heal people throughout Scripture but, He is always more interested in where they stand with the Father. That is no different today. Yes, He wants us to be healthy and will sometimes heal us but He is far more concerned with whether or not we will follow Him and spend eternity in His presence than our earthly health.

ADVENT

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is it important for people to know that Jess was the Son of David?
2. What is mercy? How does Jesus show this man mercy and, how does He show us mercy today?
3. Have you ever been more focused on your immediate needs over the bigger picture? How can we fix that mindset to be focused on what God is concerned about?
4. What do you think Jesus meant when He told the man that his faith had saved him?
5. Why is God concerned with our Spiritual health over our physical? How can we be encouraged in His concern for both?

WRAP UP

The desire for God to save us is as old as the earth. We have it engrained into us that we need saving and we need a Savior. God sent His Son to be the One who would save us from our sin and not only a physical death or a temporary need. He is able to deliver from eternal torment when we place our faith in Him and trust Him to save us from every need great and small.