

## 30 AMAZING BIBLE STORIES YOU MAY NOT KNOW

### #26 | Two Blind Men | Matthew 9:27-31

#### WHAT'S GOING ON IN MATTHEW?

- The “four Gospels” are actually the historical and theological account of one man, and it requires all four accounts to get “one Gospel” of Jesus Christ.
  - Matthew focuses on Jesus as King.
  - Mark focuses on Jesus as servant.
  - Luke focuses on Jesus in His humanity.
  - John focuses on Jesus in deity.
- Matthew 8:1-9:38 contains three sets of four miracles, each of which displays Jesus as “Son of Man.”
  - The term “Son of Man” was used when Jesus was being presented as the rightful heir of the Davidic throne. It is a term which is true *of us*, and yet claimed *by Him*. It is a *God with us* kind of title.
  - While “Son of God” displays His heavenly role, “Son of Man” displays His earthly rule and reign, yet to be fully realized.
- The account of the two blind men is in the third set of miracles and is the second of this set.

#### THE PLAY-BY-PLAY ACCOUNT | MATTHEW 9:27-31

- Verse 27 –
  - Jesus was departing from healing two women. One touched the hem of His garment, the other He raised the daughter of one of the local civic rulers.
  - Because **the fame hereof went abroad into all that land** (v. 26), there were **two blind men** that were looking for healing. They cried out to Jesus as **Thou Son of David**.
    - This title is strongly Messianic, and is used nine times of Christ in the Gospel of Matthew.
    - Since God had promised David that **thy seed after thee** would establish his Kingdom forever (see 2 Sam 7:12, 16), the **Son of David** term was not used lightly.
    - See also Psalm 132:11 Jeremiah 23:5, Acts 13:23, Romans 1:3 to see how this theme is prevalent through Scripture.
    - Note also that the name of David is used in the first chapter of the New Testament (Matt. 1:1) as well as the last (Rev. 22:16). David was the icon of the Messiah.
  - This event takes place early in Jesus’ public ministry. Because they cry to Him as **Son of David** we can see that they, along with many others, were recognizing Jesus as the Promised Messiah who would establish the long-promised throne of David once again.
- Verse 28 –

- Jesus asked a question that had not been asked in the previous miracles. He had mentioned faith (see v. 2 and 22), but had never required a testimony.
- The men had *spoken* a title upon Jesus, but did they really *believe it*?
  - The men gave the double affirmative, **Yea, Lord**.
  - This became the first and earliest record of *human* testimony of Jesus’ kingship (not including the accounts of His birth and the Magi) found within the *synoptic* Gospels.
- Verse 29 –
  - Jesus touched their eyes, and gave them healing in connection with their faith.
  - Jesus often healed by touch as well as in accordance with displayed faith.
    - This is a foreshadow of what will come to Israel, currently blinded, when she cries out to Jesus to be her Messiah.
    - He will then give Israel the sight she so desperately needs.
    - Currently a display of faith does not always result in physical healing. Jesus was doing such miracles to prove His identity. That identity being proven, we do not require miracles of the Messiah until He reigns.
- Verse 30 -
  - Later Jesus would prohibit publication of His miracles because He had been rejected and publicity was dangerous. But why does He do so here, so early in His ministry, while the people have not rejected Him?
  - Perhaps it is because the nation must accept Jesus as the *Son of God* before He will fulfill His role as *Son of David*. Perhaps they only wanted Him for His political and wonder-working power?
- Verse 31 –
  - The men did not obey Jesus, overwhelmed by what He had done. Soon they bring Jesus **a dumb man possessed with a devil** (v. 32) and Jesus gives Him his ability to speak.

#### SOME QUESTIONS

- Who were these men, and how did they know who Jesus was? These were men who had far more theological insight than those around them.
- Why did they ask for **mercy** rather than *healing of their eyesight*? These were men who viewed their blindness as a hindrance for which they needed the pity of God.
- Could they be *Levites*? See Leviticus 21:17-18.
- If so, they were *exactly where they should have been*.
  - Blind, but looking for their Messiah.
  - Begging for mercy.
- Today, *spiritually blind* people need the sight that comes from the sharing of the Gospel of *grace*.
  - Mercy = pity, compassion, overlooking the obvious.
  - Grace = favor that has no basis in need, but given wholly in love.