

Luke 18.28-43

Walking w Jesus thru Gospel/Luke > Meeting People who Meet HIM

PHARISEES – they're ORCHESTRATING his MURDER

Parents & Children break thru Hinderance of Disciples > Blessing of Jesus

RICH YOUNG RULER – went away SAD to enjoy his Empty Kingdom

DISCIPLES – busy POSTURING for POSITIONS of Personal GLORY

Confirm what Learned about See/Saw > God Up / Man Down

Down? // Receive Kingdom like Child = Complete Dependency: Give All

1. We Think We Are Giving All

Peter SEES Rich Young Ruler Walk Away SAD > Holding on WEALTH

v. 28 “See, we have left our homes and followed you.”

Peter & Others – may be Jealous at Jesus Attention to RICH MAN

Did Jesus Forget they LEFT their SHIPS & NETS to FOLLOW HIM?

Peter shows Commercial View of Salvation > What can I Get Out of It?!

Many Come to Christ or Church for Selfish Reasons > Need Something

Sickness / Schooling / Someone to Love / Improve Status

After twenty-one years of evangelistic ministry with non-Christians, I have come to the conclusion that most people come to Christ in order to have a felt need met, but they stay with Christ because they have come to believe that the gospel is true. Ajith Fernando

29 “Truly, I say to you there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, who will not receive many times more in this time & in the age to come eternal life

1983 AIM Uganda leaders – 47 yrs – Translated Bible into 8 languages

Seton & Peggy Maclure > Cambridge U - retired to England – foreign!

Trusted God > He would lead them Home > Visited & Stayed w Them

30+ yrs Mission > Not Know Where > God brought us Here? Next?

2. The One who Really Gave All

4th X Jesus prophesied His Suffering & Death > Most Intense Description

NEW Information about What He WILL SUFFER for Sinners

v. 32 “delivered over to Gentiles” Entire Human Race GUILTY > JEWS!

32 “mocked & shamefully treated & spit upon”

Jesus coming to CLEARER AWARENESS of Sufferings Soon to Come

Perhaps WORD directly given Son by Father and Spirit

Jesus ABSOLUTE Confidence in TRUTH of Scriptures..

v. 31 And taking the twelve, he said to them, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished.

Jesus STUDENT of Scriptures > words David, Isaiah, Prophecies

Son of Man would be Forsaken by God

Ps 22.1 forsaken by God / Ps 22.7 mocked by his enemies

Ps 22.15 tormented by thirst / Ps 22.18 pierced thru hands & feet

Isa 53.3 despised & rejected by men 5 wounded for our transgressions

Isa 53.5 crushed for our iniquities / Isa 53.12 poured out unto death

Not just that Jesus Had TO DIE – had to DIE THIS WAY!

v. 32,33 For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles & will be mocked & shamefully treated & spit upon. And after flogging him, they will kill him

ABUSED before He was CRUCIFIED > Knew He’d be Forsaken by God

v. 33 “and on the third day he will rise.”

Jesus KNEW Promise of Resurrection > Even before He DIED on Cross

Knew His Death would NOT be End > Spirit of Father bring Alive Again

“For joy that was set before him (he) endured the cross, despising shame”

It was JOY of Jesus to Give Himself for Us to be with Him Forever!

v. 34 But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said”

Disciples NOT Understand > Jesus wants to WAKE Them Up!

Hope He WAKES Me & All of Us UP too! Wonder of His Saving Love!

SAD to See Amazing DENSITY of the Disciples > 3 Statements Dullness
 34 understood none of things / hidden from them / not grasp what was said

3. One who Knew he had Nothing to Give

One Man in Chapter who Sees & Understands JESUS > BLIND Man

v. 35 as he drew near to Jericho. JERICHO > 30 kms N.E. of Jerusalem

2 Cities named Jericho – Old City in Ruins / New City ONE Mile Away

Helps Explain Seeming CONTRADICTION –

Mark 10.46 Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were *leaving the city*

As Jesus and his disciples were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. *Two blind men* were sitting by the roadside Matthew 20.29-30

BOTH Mark & Luke focus on ONE Man > ONLY Mark gives his NAME

a. Finding Jesus

1) Difficulties: Can't See! 35 blind man was sitting by roadside begging

HARD LIFE > Get UP in MORNING – DRESSED, FED, GROOMED

Get OUT to MAJOR JUNCTION to BEG > EXPOSED to WEATHER

Blindness condemned to Darkness, Poverty & INDIGNITY of Begging

Faith: Knew Truths of Scripture – Held Word in HOPE against HOPE

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed...Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead...Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. Romans 4.18-21

Bartimaeus Could NOT See – but Heard Jesus was PASSING BY Jericho

2) Discouragement: Can't Come!

ONE Chance to be HEARD by ONE who Could Change EVERYTHING

v. 39 those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent

Unfortunate PATTERN > Disciples BLOCKING way to Jesus

John answered, "Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he does not follow with us." Luke 9.49

v. 15 Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them.

We're BOTHERED by Beggars on Road > A NUISANCE > Get in WAY
In SPITE of much Discouragement > He PRESSED on in FAITH in Jesus

3) Declaration: Come! See!

Bartimaeus > FINDS way thru OPPOSITION to get to JESUS

vs. 37,38 They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

HOW Did he KNOW about Jesus? > FAME spread throughout REGION

Many TESTIMONIES of His TEACHING and HEALING

LOUD CRY > STRONG CONVICTION formed from what he HEARD

When Jesus DEFINED Himself from Isaiah 61 he said in Synagogue in Nazareth: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and *recovery of sight for the blind...*" Luke 4.18

...say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come...*Then will the eyes of the blind be opened...*" Isaiah 35:4-5

v. 40 And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to him.

Jesus Cared: SERVANT Stops to Heal Blind Beggars on His way to Cross

Jesus takes INITIATIVE > HE CALLS the Blind Beggar to HIMSELF

Jesus did NOT SILENCE the CONFESSION / CRIES of BLIND Beggar

v. 40,41 And when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me recover my sight"

KNOWS What he Wants > NO WAVERING > LORD > Beloved Master

Bartimaeus encountered Jesus' power, not on the basis of strength, but in the context of his weakness...this was not a disqualification from calling on the Lord's name...there is no other way to come to Jesus but on the basis of our need and his adequacy to meet it fully.

Sinclair Ferguson

WAY to FIND Jesus is to BE INVITED by Jesus to COME and SEE

b. Following Jesus

1) Truth v. 38 "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Son of David > Messianic Title > BLIND Man SAW Something Precious

As a JEW he had RIGHT to APPEAL to the SON of DAVID

Begs MERCY that comes in Messianic Kingdom of David's Kingly Line

Jesus the true Son of David is entering the city of David to fulfill all the promises given to David and to establish through the cross the everlasting kingdom of David. Yours Truly

The healing of Bartimaeus displays, without any concealment, the messianic dignity of Jesus and his compassion on those who believe in him, and throws in bold relief the blindness of the leaders of Israel, whose eyes remained closed to his glory. William Lane

Angel told Mother Mary: The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end. Luke 1:32-33

2) Trust v. 43 immediately he recovered his sight and followed him

And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

NOT Going to BEG Anymore > "immediately" > JUMPS

CONTRAST to SLOW, SAD Departure of Rich Young Ruler

And FEARFUL Following of Jesus from a DISTANCE

v 42 Jesus said to him, "Recover your sight; your faith has made you well"

In Scripture FAITH is BOTH a NOUN 'THE Faith' / and VERB 'Believe'

Physical blindness is no obstacle to spiritual sight, conversely, physical sight is no guarantee of spiritual sight. Victor Babajide Cole

Jesus had TIME for this BLIND BEGGAR

TENDER Care when His own Heart was HEAVY w DREAD of CROSS

3) Today v. 43 immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8

He still Stops for those who Call on his Name, Listens to our Prayers Help

Jesus Never changes but HOW we RELATE to Him DOES CHANGE

Jesus ANTICIPATED this NEW ERA of CHURCH HISTORY -

Jesus: "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are *those who have not seen and yet have believed.*"
John 20.29

Jesus: "My prayer is not for them alone. *I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message*"
John 17:20

We believe in one holy catholic and **apostolic** Church. Nicene Creed

APOSTOLIC: We Believe WORD of those who SAW & SENT to Tell Us

We Hold their WORD as Very WORDS of LIVING JESUS to His Church

Though *you have not seen him*, you love him; and even though *you do not see him now*, you *believe in him* and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy 1 Peter 1.8-9

We live by faith, not by sight.

2 Corinthians 5.7

"A Christian is someone who has decided to have Jesus instead of anything and everything else the world has to offer. The way the Bible tells us to come to Jesus is by repentance and faith...The promise is absolute: no one who gives something up for the kingdom of God will fail to receive God's blessing."
Philip Ryken

Psalm 50 / The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth

from the rising of the sun to its setting. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

Our God comes; he does not keep silence; before him is a devouring fire, around him a mighty tempest.

He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

“Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”

The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge!

“Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, I will testify against you.

I am God, your God.

Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me.

I will not accept a bull from your house or goats from your folds.

For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.

I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine.

“If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are mine.

Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats?

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High,

and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

But to the wicked God says: “What right have you to recite my statutes or take my covenant on your lips? For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you.

If you see a thief, you are pleased with him, and you keep company with adulterers.

“You give your mouth free rein for evil, and your tongue frames deceit.

You sit and speak against your brother; you slander your own mother’s son.

These things you have done, and I have been silent; you thought that I was one like yourself.

But now I rebuke you and lay the charge before you.

“Mark this, then, you who forget God, lest I tear you apart, and there be none to deliver!

The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me; to one who orders his way rightly I will show the salvation of God!” Amen and Amen.