

THE MAN BORN BLIND

Seeing is Believing

We don't have to understand everything about something to believe in it.

People can reject Jesus because some things about Him are just not logical.

- Jesus' Conception.
- Jesus' Incarnation.
- Jesus' Resurrection.
- Jesus' Ascension.

Big Idea: We don't need all our questions answered to believe in Jesus!

People may reject Jesus and His message of hope if they only focus on the unexplainable aspects about Jesus and His ministry.

John 9:1-38 As He went along, He saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

In the Jewish world at that time, there was a belief that suffering and misfortune, was the penalty of sin.

But how could this man's blindness be a result of his own sin when he was born blind?

At the time, Jewish theologians had three possible answers for this.

Prenatal sin. Someone could sin while in their mother's womb.

Pre-Existence of the Soul. Before the creation of man, souls existed waiting to enter a body.

Parental Sin. A child's affliction or sickness was due to the sin of their parents.

³ “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴As long as it is day, we must do the works of Him who sent Me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶After saying this, He spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷“Go,” He told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam.” So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. ⁸His neighbours and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, “Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some claimed that he was. Others said, “No, he only looks like him.” But he himself insisted, “I am the man.” ¹⁰“How then were your eyes opened?” they

asked. ¹¹He replied, “The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.” ¹²“Where is this man?” they asked him. “I don’t know.” ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. ¹⁴Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man’s eyes was a Sabbath. ¹⁵Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. “He put mud on my eyes,” the man replied, “and I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.”

The Pharisees couldn’t explain this healing and therefore tried to discredit Jesus’ reputation.

But others asked, “How can a sinner perform such signs?” So they were divided. ¹⁷Then they turned again to the blind man, “What have you to say about him? It was your eyes He opened.” The man replied, “He is a prophet.” ¹⁸They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man’s parents. ¹⁹“Is this your son?” they asked. “Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?” ²⁰“We know he is our son,” the parents answered, “and we know he was born blind. ²¹But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don’t know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who

acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³That was why his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." ²⁴A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God by telling the truth," they said. "We know this man is a sinner." ²⁵He replied, "Whether He is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!" ²⁶Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?" ²⁸Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses!" ²⁹We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will. ³²Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when He found him, He said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶"Who is He, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in Him." ³⁷Jesus said, "You have now seen Him; in fact, He is the one speaking with you." ³⁸Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped Him.

People can doubt in Jesus when they only focus on the things that are unexplainable, losing sight of the things that are undeniable!

When our focus shifts from the unexplainable things about Jesus and onto the undeniable things about Jesus, our faith and trust in Him grows even with unanswered questions.

There will always be pieces of God's puzzle that are unexplainable but as we journey with God many of these pieces are found and so much more becomes clearer and undeniable.

Would you be prepared to shift your focus from the unexplainable to what is undeniable about Jesus Christ?

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