

EVEN A BLIND MAN CAN SEE

Mark 10:46-52

Int: Every miracle of Jesus was an acted parable. Bartimaeus was a real man with real eyes. He really was blind and Jesus really gave him sight. But Bartimaeus' physical condition reflected the spiritual condition of many a person. Every man has two sets of eyes: one in the head; one in the heart. Some are blind physically; most are stone-blind spiritually (2 Cor 4:4; Eph 4:18; 1 Jn 2:11). But some things even blind Bartimaeus could see clearly. These are things any spiritually blind person can see that may lead him to Jesus. For instance, even a blind man can

SEE HE CANNOT SEE

Bartimaeus did. Some are blind to their blindness. They will not see that they cannot see. Not Bartimaeus. If born blind, it may have taken him a while to realize that not everyone walked in darkness. But eventually he saw that he could not see. It was no small problem he had. It was a big one! He needed sight.

There is a man in this room who will never be saved because he turns a blind eye to his blindness. He thinks he needs only small mercies from God. He refuses to see he is spiritually blind and needs a major mercy from God! No one will ever come to Jesus until he sees how great his need is. If he sees he cannot see, he is on his way to the Lord.

SEE JESUS IS HIS ONLY HOPE

Bartimaeus did. Doctors and home remedies had not worked. He was at the end of his rope. If Jesus did not help he would live and die in darkness.

Giving sight to the blind was something only messiah could do (Isa 35:5-6). No blind were healed in OT times and none after Jesus. The people said, "Jesus passes," but Bartimaeus used the messianic title, "Son of David." Only messiah could give him sight.

No blind man will ever turn to Christ until he sees Jesus is his only hope. There is a man here who will never be saved though he knows he is lost and wants to be saved because he is trying to save himself. If he sees Jesus is his only hope, he is on his way to the Lord.

SEE HE SHOULD CALL ON JESUS

Bartimaeus did. Some tried to keep him from calling on the Lord. But he just yelled louder. And when Jesus answered, Bartimaeus responded in faith. He "threw aside" his cloak. Normally a blind man would keep his garment in reach, but Bartimaeus believed he would be able to see to find it when he came back to that place. Had he just waited for Jesus to see him and help him, he might well have died blind..

There is a man in this room who will never be saved because he is passively waiting for "God to do his thing." If he sees he should call on Jesus he is on his way to Christ.

SEE IT COULD BE HIS LAST CHANCE

Bartimaeus did. When he heard Jesus was passing, he realized that in a few moments Jesus would be past and out of earshot. And that he might never come that way again.

In fact it *was* Bartimaeus' last chance to get his sight. Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem where he would be arrested and crucified. Never again would he set foot in Jericho. Bartimaeus could not have known all this but even a blind man can see that an opportunity not taken may never come again.

There is a man here who will never be saved although he wants to be saved and plans to be saved one day because he will put off calling on the Lord until his last opportunity runs out. If he sees he should call to Jesus now, he is on his way to the Savior.

Con: Call upon the Lord while he is near. He never turns anyone away (Jn 6:37).