

Agape House of Worship
Wednesday Bible Study – May 13, 2026

Study Series: THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE: A Journey Through the Gospel of John.

Part15: The Man Born Blind — Spiritual Sight, Seeing vs Blindness, and the Cost of Testimony

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Scripture: John 9:1–41, Ephesians 1:17-18

Introduction

Gospel of John chapter 9 tells the powerful story of a man who was born blind and encountered Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Through this miracle, Jesus not only opened the man’s physical eyes but also revealed the deeper truth about spiritual sight and spiritual blindness. While the blind man gradually came to recognize who Jesus truly was, the Pharisees—who could physically see—remained spiritually blind because of unbelief and hardened hearts. This chapter teaches that humanity is born spiritually blind because of sin and cannot truly see or understand God apart from Jesus Christ and His gift of salvation. “I am the light of the world.” John 9:5

I. Suffering and God’s Glory: John 9:1–5

When the disciples saw the blind man, they assumed his condition was caused by sin. Jesus corrected them by explaining that the man’s blindness was an opportunity for God’s works to be revealed. John 9:3

Lessons:

1. God can use suffering for His glory. Romans 8:28
2. Jesus brings light into spiritual darkness. Psalm 27:1
3. Trials can become testimonies. Isaiah 61:1

Question: How do God use difficult situations in our lives for His glory?

II. Obedience Brings Transformation: John 9:6–12

Jesus made clay, placed it on the man’s eyes, and instructed him to wash in the Pool of Siloam. The man obeyed without hesitation, and he returned seeing John 9:7

Lessons:

1. Obedience is connected to breakthroughs. James 1:22
2. God may work in unexpected ways. 2 Kings 5:10-14
3. A transformed life becomes a testimony. John 2:5

Question: What areas of our lives require greater obedience to God?

III. What Is Seeing?

Seeing is more than physical vision. In the Bible, seeing also refers to:

- Spiritual understanding Ephesians 1:17-18, Colossians 1:9
- Discernment Hebrews 5:14
- Revelation Jeremiah 33:3, 1Corinthians 2:10
- Knowing God’s truth John 8:32

A person may see physically but still lack spiritual understanding.

Examples: The Pharisees saw Jesus physically but rejected Him; John 9:39–41, Luke 24:31, 2 Kings 6:17

IV. Spiritual Sight vs Spiritual Blindness:

John 9:13–34

Spiritual Sight

Spiritual sight is the God-given ability to understand, recognize, and respond to spiritual truth through faith in Jesus Christ. It is seeing beyond the natural and understanding God's will, truth, and purpose through the Holy Spirit. Psalm 119:18, Ephesians 1:17-18

Spiritual Blindness 2Corinthians4:4 , John 9:39

Spiritual blindness is the inability or refusal to recognize and understand spiritual truth, especially the truth about Jesus Christ. It is a condition where a person is spiritually darkened because of sin, unbelief, pride, or rejection of God.

2Corinthians4:4 , John 9:39

Differences between Spiritual Sight and Spiritual Blindness

Spiritual Sight	Spiritual Blindness
Understands God's truth Roman 8:17, John 9:32	<i>Rejects truth John 9:18,28-29</i>
Recognizes and believes Jesus John 9:17,38	<i>Rejects Jesus John 9:16, 1 Corinthians 2:14</i>
Walk in light. John 9:5, John 8:12, John 1:4	<i>Walks in darkness John 9:39</i>
Produces faith and obedience John 9:7, 36-38	<i>Produces unbelief and pride John 9:24-29</i>
Sensitive to the Holy Spirit Romans 8:14, Galatians 5:25, 1 Thessalonians 5:19	<i>Hardened in heart John 9:28-29, Ephesians 4:18</i>
Leads to worship John 9:35-38, Psalms 95:6	<i>Leads to spiritual confusion John 12:35, 2cor4:4</i>

The Pharisees focused more on religious traditions than the miracle Jesus performed. Instead of celebrating the healing, they rejected it. Meanwhile, the healed man's understanding of Jesus continued to grow. At first he called Jesus "a man," then "a prophet," and later he recognized Him as Lord. **The difference is not access to information but the posture of the heart.** "One thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see." — John 9:25

Question: What are some signs of spiritual blindness today and how do you overcome spiritual blindness?

V. The Cost of Testimony: John 9:22–34

- Rejection - Because testified about Jesus.
- His parents became **fearful** because anyone who confessed Christ could be cast out of the synagogue.
- Opposition, Death, Criticism .

However, believers are called to remain faithful and unashamed of their testimony.

Scripture References: Romans 1:16, Acts 4:19–20, Matthew 5:11–12 **Question: What fears hinder believers from sharing their testimonies today?**

Conclusion John 9 is more than a story about physical healing. It is a lesson about spiritual awakening. The blind man moved from darkness to light, from begging to boldness, and from healing to worship. The Pharisees, however, remained spiritually blind because of pride and unbelief.

Jesus is still the Light of the world, and through Him our spiritual eyes can be opened.

"Amazing grace! ... I was blind, but now I see."