INTRODUCTION

- Jesus heals one more person on the Sabbath and further irritates the establishment. The healing of this blind man is the 6th of 7 signs John records in his Gospel:
  1. Turning water into wine in Cana 1:11
  2. Healing an official’s son in Capernaum 4:46-54
  3. Healing at the Pool of Bethesda on the Sabbath 5:1-18
  4. Feeding the 5,000 6:5-14
  5. Walking on the water 6:16-21
  6. Healing a man on the Sabbath who was born blind 9:1-7
  7. Raising Lazarus from the dead in Bethany 11:1-45

Again, why did John only pick these 7 signs out of 10,000s he could have chosen from?

Can’t Satan duplicate these wonders? We have all heard stories of resurrections & people walking on water, BUT are they verifiable?

Passage | Comments
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Historical Note | According to the ETB Teacher’s manual, the Jews of the 1st Century considered all diseases and disabilities to be traceable to an individual’s specific sin, not just to the general presence of sin in the world. For example, they held that an unborn child could commit sin in the womb or that the parents sinned, resulting in a child’s birth defect. This was part of the Retributive Justice principle (aka the “Deuteronomic formula”), where good people are blessed and the wicked are punished for their deeds. We see this principle erroneously applied throughout the Book of Job by Job’s friends. Thus, the disciples wanted to know whose sin caused this man’s blindness.

Who Sinned?
- v3. Jesus stated that direct sin was not involved in this man’s blindness. Just like many birth defects, such as Down Syndrome, are not due to direct sin. God makes the blind blind for reasons of His own... cf Ex 4:11
- v4-5. “We must work the works of God while it is day.” Principle – Know the times we are in and how God is working or not working to better accomplish God’s will for our day and age.
  - Hebrews 1:1 God works in “sundry times and in divers manners”
  - 1Chron 12:32 “The sons of Issachar understood the times, with knowledge of what God’s people should do”
  - Do we still have Apostles and Prophets today? Is Scripture still growing? We must acknowledge God is working differently today than how He did in the 1st century and work within those different parameters

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- The blind man receives both his physical sight and his spiritual sight – but the religious leaders became blinded to the truth because of their willful ignorance.

NEXT WEEK: John 10:1-42. The Jews asked Jesus to tell them plainly if He is the Christ, and Jesus replies back “I told you already.” Willful ignorance is a killer.

God has no phone – But I still talk to Him
God doesn’t use Twitter – But I still follow Him
God is not on Facebook – But He is still my Friend

SS-John-09

Sunday School Lesson

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