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Dost Thou Believe On The Son Of God?

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DOST THOU BELIEVE ON THE SON OF GOD?*Study of a
Chapter.*

John 9:1-41

INT: Text another interesting story in the ministry of Christ.
 39-41e Concluded with paradox: Blind see, those with eyes blind.
 Lesson answers several deep questions of human mind.
 Story: Case of physical and spiritual healing of blindness

I. WHOSE SINS PRODUCE SICKNESS AND TRAGEDY? Vs. 1-7.

- A. Christ's disciples asked the age-old question: V. 2
1. Ancient idea: All suffering because of someone's sin.
 - a. Directly? No. Job an exception. Text another. V 3.
 - b. Indirectly? Yes. Began with Adam and Eve etc.
 2. Transmigration?
- B. Sickness and suffering can come from other sources too.
1. Sin. Direct result. Uzzah touched the ark of God.
 2. Weakness in too close mating in human race. Ancestors
 3. Test of our faith from God. Job's was. Abraham too.
- C. Jesus also used some cases to glorify God. Vs. 3-4.
- D. Christ healed him through: faith, clay, pool of Siloam and obedience. Requires: means and obedience.

II. IS IT RIGHT TO HEAL ON THE SABBATH DAY. V. 8-17.

- A. Pharisees notorious in bigotry in small things. M. 23:24.
1. Trashing on Sabbath. Washing hands. Fasting. Etc.
 2. Were hard on others. Blind to own sins. M. 15:1-9.
- B. The law was made to help man, not hinder him. Sabbath was made for man's benefit then. Mk. 2:27-28.
- C. Pharisees would readily rescue a sheep. Matt. 12:11-12.
- D. Some church members try to bind O. T. Sabbath rest on N. T. church and Christians. In error when we do.
1. Sunday is the day to remember Christ and worship God.
 - a. What can we do after services? Where has God said?
 2. All activities should be consistent with Rev. 1:10.
 - a. Some drive 100 or so miles to relax. Others fish.
 3. Question is: Does it interfere with worship? Is it out of harmony with spirit on Lord's day?

III. DOST THOU BELIEVE ON THE SON OF GOD? Vs. 18-38.

- A. Blind man, parents and neighbors compelled to believe because of the evidence. Honest hearts. Vs. 9.
1. Their faith grew. "A man, prophet, from God!!" V. 11-17
- B. Pharisees were determined not to believe regardless.
1. A. J. McCarty's favorite expression: None are so blind as those who will not see.
 2. They first tried to make Jesus law-breaker. V. 16.
 3. Second they tried "mistaken identity". V. 18.
 4. Third tried to charge fraud and deception. V. 26.

5. They ended up trying to smear ^{Jews?} his name and blacken his reputation. Vs. 28 and 34.

C. Jesus then reappeared to strengthen this brave man. V. 30

D. Jesus revealed Himself only to honest seekers. 37-38

IV. WHAT CONSTITUTES TRUE FAITH? Mental acceptance? Action?!!! *27 days!*

A. Faith standing alone amounts to nothing. Jas. 2:17-18.

1. Suppose the blind man had forgotten Christ like the nine lepers. Still a man of faith? *no faith*

B. Worship was the man's proof of his faith. Ours! V. 38.

C. We cannot brag about our faith when we fail to meet the standard set before us.

1. "I don't attend much, but believe in it!" One's faith is equal to his obedience.

D. No believer's life is the same if his faith is the kind that avails salvation. II Cor. 5:17. *Something extra*

INV: Some in this audience need to become new creatures through the New Birth. Why not tonight? B-R-C-E.

Loss of faith is the basis of all neglect. R-P

I John 1:9.