

# All for God's Glory & Belief

## John 9:1-38





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## John 9:1-38

- ♦ We're obsessed with health and healing because we're sick and decaying
- ♦ This obsession reveals what we truly value ~ what we overvalue and what we undervalue

## **John 9:1 (English Standard Version)**

**<sup>1</sup>As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth.**

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## John 9:1-38

- ♦ This blind beggar had been prepared from eternity past for Jesus to come by
- ♦ He represents us as blind, completely unable to see God, without hope until Christ sees us

## **John 9:2 (English Standard Version)**

<sup>2</sup>And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

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## John 9:1-38

- ♦ Rabbis had a doctrine of "prenatal sin" - sin in the womb!
- ♦ All suffering was directly related to the acts of a person or his parents
- ♦ Reveals another obsession for many of us – legalism
- ♦ Thinking we can keep the law
- ♦ Thinking that we get to judge others

## **John 9:3 (English Standard Version)**

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.

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## John 9:1-38

- ♦ Christ rejects both and understands that all suffering comes from sin (Romans 8:18ff)
- ♦ Turns us away from:
  - ♦ Nihilism or futility or random chance
  - ♦ Judgmental theology
- ♦ Turns us to God's purposes
- ♦ He suffers so God's works can be displayed

## **John 9:3-5 (English Standard Version)**

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

# All for God's Glory & Belief

## John 9:1-38

- ♦ Christ's time was short and our time is short
- ♦ We do the works of God - how?
- ♦ WORK
- ♦ We can debate verse 2-3 later - work!

## **John 9:6-7 (English Standard Version)**

<sup>6</sup>Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud <sup>7</sup>and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

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## John 9:1-38

- ♦ Christ sends him to a pool called "Sent"
- ♦ "Go wash at Sent by the One who was sent from God"
- ♦ Great controversies arose

## **John 9:8-12** (English Standard Version)

<sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" <sup>9</sup>Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." <sup>10</sup>So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup>He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." <sup>12</sup>They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

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## John 9:1-38

- ♦ We should be like this; touched and healed and unrecognizable and different

## John 9:13-17 (English Standard Version)

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>

So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

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## John 9:1-38

- ♦ It was against the law to make clay on the Sabbath!
- ♦ Christ did this - initiated this conflict - on purpose

## John 9:18-23 (English Standard Version)

<sup>18</sup> The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them,

"Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind.

<sup>21</sup>But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." <sup>22</sup>(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

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## John 9:1-38

- ♦ Parents are afraid of being cut off
- ♦ Be careful about trying to please men and God

## John 9:24-34 (English Standard Version)

<sup>24</sup>So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." <sup>25</sup>He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." <sup>26</sup>They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" <sup>27</sup>He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" <sup>28</sup>And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."

## John 9:24-34 (English Standard Version)

<sup>30</sup>The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." <sup>34</sup>They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

# All for God's Glory & Belief

## John 9:1-38

- ♦ The healed man is being tested; it will come for us too
- ♦ Will you confess Him at that time, or shrink away?

## John 9:35-38 (English Standard Version)

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup>He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." <sup>38</sup>He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

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## John 9:1-38

- ♦ Jesus comes back to find him; healing is not the point – it's our obsession!
- ♦ The man had multiple encounters with Christ that lead to worship and belief
- ♦ If your soul is healed but not your body, is that a raw deal?
- ♦ You only think that if you undervalue God being forgiven and worshiping Christ is better than all else
- ♦ If not, God's goodness and plans are not very helpful

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## John 9:1-38

- ♦ Christ is seeking worshipers; it's all for His glory
- ♦ God has a plan for everything for my good

**Romans 8:28** (English Standard Version)

<sup>28</sup>And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

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## John 9:1-38

- ♦ Does your worship increase or falter when threatened?
- ♦ Does your worship increase or falter when your family threatens?
- ♦ What is God's glory?
- ♦ Do you need to see and worship and believe?
- ♦ Do you need to work?



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