

Healing the Blind Man ***(An Allegorical Miracle)*** (John 8-11)

INTRODUCTION

- The John 9:4 “(dark)-night” Fixation
- The Importance of the Context (8:54 to 11:1, 9, 10)
 - A miracle with allegorical intent
- To be considered later:
 - Prophetic synonyms for “The Night Wherein No Man Can Work”
 - Dying as “martyrs?”

THE UNIFYING ELEMENTS

- John 9 & 10 AS A UNIT (See 10:21)
 - Sheepfold Parable IS CENTRAL (Note 9:41-10:1.)
 - Therefore, ***the basic topic***: Various Sheepfolds (10:16)
 - “The lost ***sheep*** of the house of Israel” (Matthew 10:6; 15:24)
 - A separation that happens TWICE (Both Advents. See Ezekiel 20:38.)
 - Two Blindness-Removals
 - “Feed my ***sheep***” (John 21:17)
 - Perhaps from two folds: (Peter’s TWO keys to the kingdom) —
 - “lambs” (John 21:15) = NEW sheep (Gentiles)
 - “sheep” = Israel REMNANT
 - “Shepherd separates the ***sheep*** from the goats” (Matthew 25:32)
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- THUS: John 9:4 is all about removing blindness from different folds.

SOME PRIMARY THINGS TO NOTE

- John 8:55, 56 with John 9:1 (Israel = the blind man; Romans 11:5 “blindness”)
- John 9:4 DETAILS: “We,” “Sent,” “Light”
- John 9:5 DEFINES John 9:4
 - The “time” element: Compare John 11:9, 10 with Matthew 20:9, 12.
- The importance of “SENT” (9:4 & 7)
 - The possible hidden connection to 10:39-42
- “The work...” of John 9:4 **IS** removing blindness. (“The works of Him...”)
- The Lazarus connection (11:1) which gives Jesus the material for the Luke 16 “Rich Man & Lazarus” parable.

THREE APPLICATIONS OF JOHN 9 & 10

- (1) The actual event with its literal statements
- (2) The prophetic application at the First Advent
- (3) The prophetic application at the Second Advent

(1.) LESSONS IN AND FROM THE **LITERAL ACCOUNT**

- 9:2 A logical question
- 9:3 An unexpected response
- 9:4 A KJV mis-translation
Jesus’ mission
- 9:5 Compare Matthew 5:14 (“YOU are the light of the world.”)

THE FIVE QUESTIONINGS:

- 9:8 The Neighbors
 - 9:15 The Pharisees (First time)
 - 9:18 Jews ask Parents
 - 9:24 The Pharisees (Second time)
 - 9:35 Jesus
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- 10:1-18 The Sheepfold Parable & its explanation
 - 10:19-24 Jewish Reaction & Jesus’ location
 - 10:25-42 Jesus’ response

(2.) THE PROPHETIC APPLICATION AT THE **FIRST ADVENT**

- 8:55-59 Israel blind; want to kill Messiah (Cf. Acts 3:17.)
- 9:1 Jesus decides to use blind man as allegory of some in Israel (remnant).
9:2-3 Jesus makes his allegorical intent manifest.
9:4, 5 Israel's "night" would soon set in post-crucifixion.
First Advent "night" = siege of Jerusalem, but
A.D. 36 (end of 70 weeks) will have "anointed
the Most Holy" ones of Daniel 9:24.
- 9:6 The "formula" for blindness removal:
- "Dry ground" = Israel (Isaiah 53:2; Haggai 2:6)
+ water (spit) from his mouth (message)
9:7 + IMMERSION into the "sent" one
= SIGHT for the remnant (i.e., hear all; Emmaus)
(Luke 24:25, 26)
- 9:8, 9 FIRST RESULT: Those of his own community (other Jews) can't
figure out the transformation.
- 9:13ff SECOND RESULT: Established authorities scoff at the concepts.
(They are yet blind!) Compare the prodigal son.
Causes divisions: Nicodemus as an example
- 9:18 THIRD RESULT: Those of his household reject him for fear
(Matthew 10:34-36; 13:57)
- 9:24-27 FOURTH RESULT: Authorities *again* (perhaps post-Pentecost
approachers)
- 9:28 Compare Luke 16:29 (Rich man).
9:29 Says it all!
- 9:30-34 Firmness of conviction sets in. "That day...5000 added." Jesus
said he came to save sinners.
- 9:35-38 FIFTH RESULT: The TEST until A.D. 36. REQUIRES
CONSECRATION.
- 9:39 Judgment: Wheat/Chaff separation & blindness for Israel
9:40-41 Jews continue to show blindness &, therefore, justify rejection.
- Chapter 10 Shows NEW sheepfold opening
Parable: 10:1-6
Explanation: 10:6-15

- 10:12ff Introduces symbols explained later:
 Door (Jesus)
 Sheepfold (place reserved for those in favor)
 Thief & Robber (Pharisees & like-authorities)
 Sheep (Those who are the Lord's)
 Porter (Holy Spirit)
 Wolf (Rome @ First Advent)
- 10:19-21 Connects ideas of Sheepfolds to Blindness Removal
 10:22, 23 Details show interpretation (1st Advent) relates to:
 Jerusalem (Fleshly Israel)
 Feast of Dedication (of Solomon's Temple)
 i.e., beginning of Jesus' temple
 Winter ("Your house is left to you desolate")
 Solomon's Porch (known as Porch of Judgment — I Kings 7:7)
- 10:24 Compare Rich Man: "A little water on my tongue!"
 10:25-39 Compare Rich Man: Doesn't believe (even with Lazarus!)
 10:40-42 Time for a NEW BAPTISM, and "many believed."
- 11:1 Connection to Lazarus because (Luke 16) he is the works they would not believe or "see." (10:38).

(3.) THE PROPHETIC APPLICATION AT THE **SECOND ADVENT**

- 8:56 Jesus had TWO days (advents) that Abraham "saw."
- 9:4 The 2nd Advent interpretation begins: "WE..."
 OUR works are many, but include the removal of
 blindness from Israel's Remnant now.
- 9:5 Jesus equates OUR leaving of earth with the onset of
 "the night." (I.e., Church GONE when night sets in. Night is
 "group death," NOT personal death.)
- 9:6 Still about FLESHLY Israel, but about its Gospel Harvest
 Remnant. (Purge out the rebels: Ezekiel 20:38)
 Blindness-removal FORMULA remains the same.
 (Isaiah 40:1, 2) But it awaits (Romans 11:25) the
 COMPLETION of the saints.
- 9:7 The formula WORKS when the Gt. Multitude departs:
 Song of Solomon 6:1; Micah 5:5,6. They accept him who was
 "SENT."
- 9:8-12 Reactions: Remnant will witness to neighbors — but must
 explain that Messiah is invisible!
- 9:13ff Unfaithful still can't see.
 9:14 It is now the Millennium.

- 9:16 Unfaithful argue based on the Law. Consequently division in Israel (Zechariah 14:2).
- 9:18-23 Still threats as of old — perhaps part of purging out rebels.
- 9:27, 28 They fail.
- 9:30-34 Remnant's firmness of faith
- 9:35-38 Jesus confirms faith of remnant
- Chapter 10 Entering a new sheepfold — now the Millennial Age New Covenant
- 10:22, 23 Jerusalem (New Jerusalem)
 Feast of Dedication (The body complete)
 Winter (Before "Be Still, and know I am God!")
 Solomon's Porch (Judgment has begun for humans!)
- 10:24-29 "Hear that Prophet!" — Acts 3:23

SYNONYMS FOR "THE NIGHT WHEREIN NO MAN CAN WORK"
ALL AFTER THE CHURCH'S DEPARTURE
 (Not exhaustive nor dogmatic)

- Seventh Plague (Revelation 16:17-21)
- 12th Hour (Matthew 20)
- One Hour (Revelation 17:12) and its accompanying Half Hour (Revelation 8:1)
- Winter (Matthew 24:20, 21; Jeremiah 8:20)
- "Great Time of Trouble" (Matthew 24:20, 21; Daniel 12:1)
- "Battle of the Great Day" (Revelation 16:14)
- Day of Distress (Habakkuk 3:16-19)
- Gog & Magog Invasion (Ezekiel 38 and 39)
- Winepress (Revelation 14:20)
- Morning & Night Also (Isaiah 21:11, 12)

V. DYING AS MARTYRS?

- Not implied in John 9:4
- The Greek word for martyr (and its modern evolution)
 - Hebrews 12:1
 - Revelation 1:2
- Why?

- The Seven “in the Lord’s right hand” —

YES: Paul

NO: John

Arius (Not certain)

Waldo

Wycliffe

Luther

Russell

- More likely for Great Multitude

- They carry (as scapegoat) willful sins since first advent — Leviticus 16 —
(much like Israel in Matthew 23:35).

- Involved in the most troublous time (winter, night).
