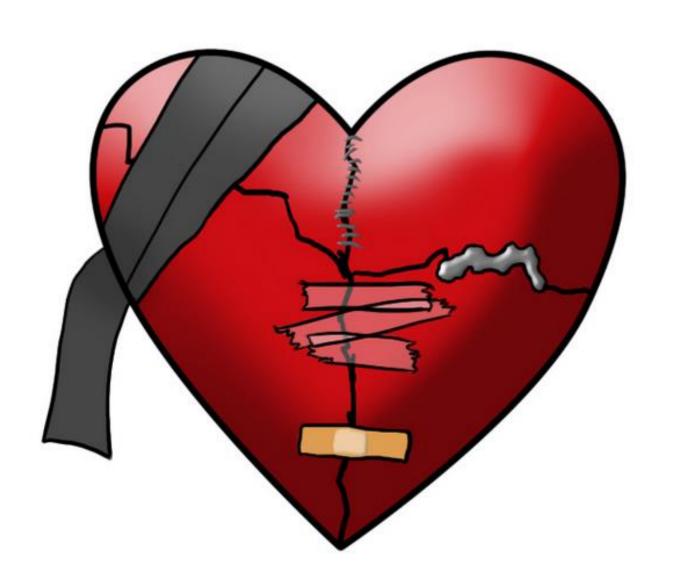
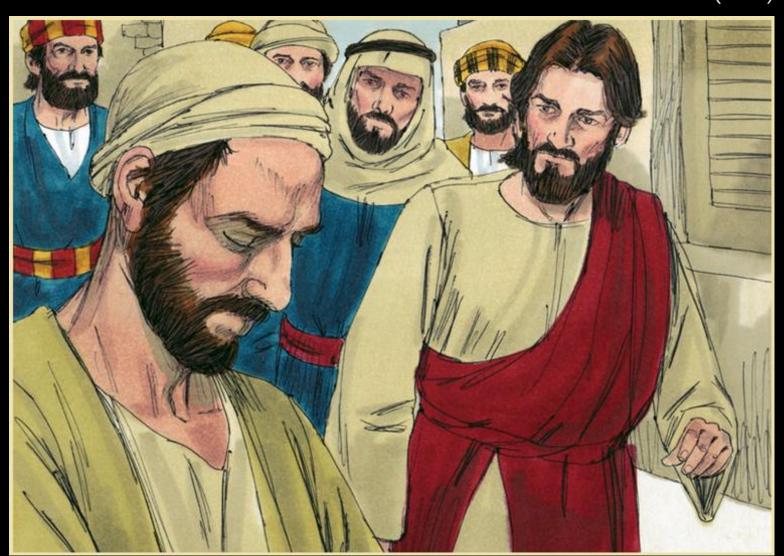
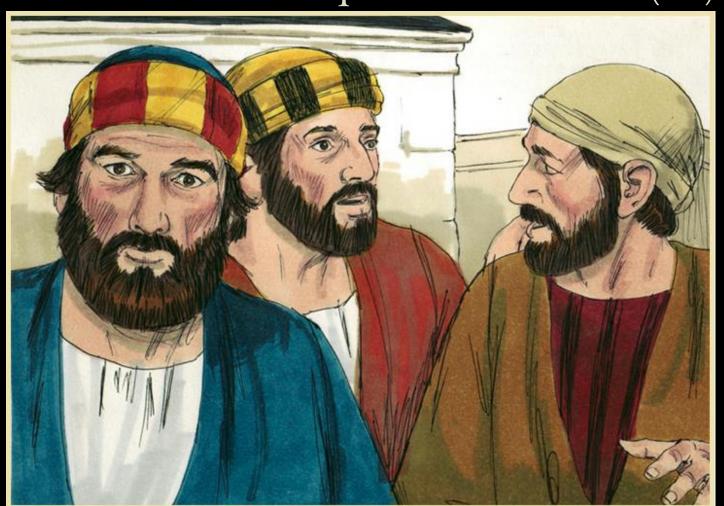
Jesus Heals



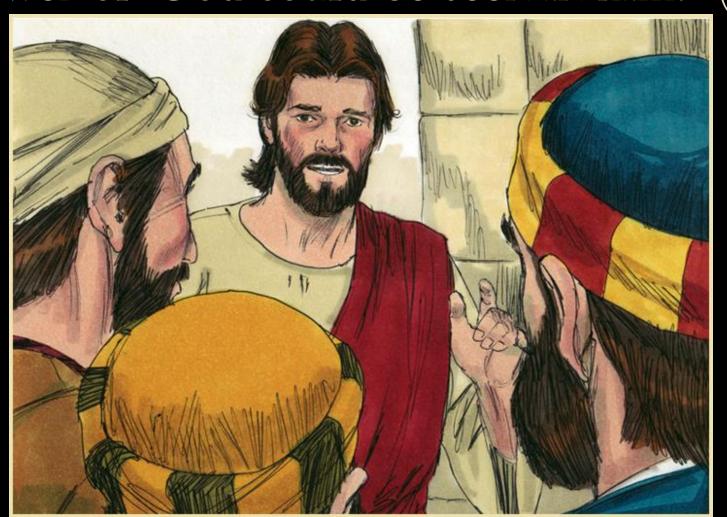
"As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth." (v1)



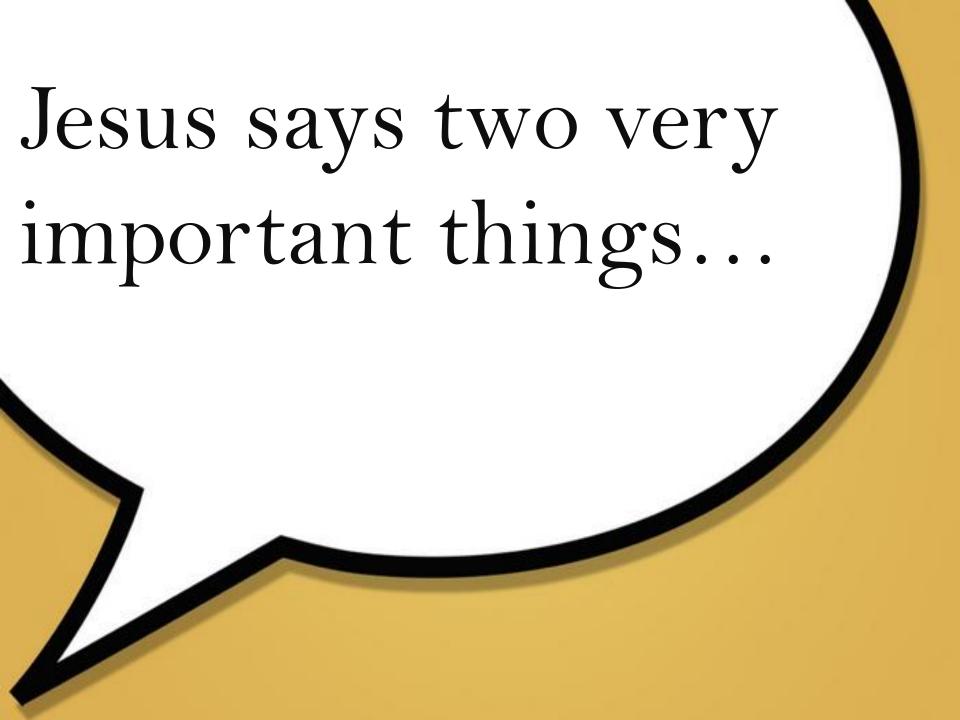
"Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?" (v2)

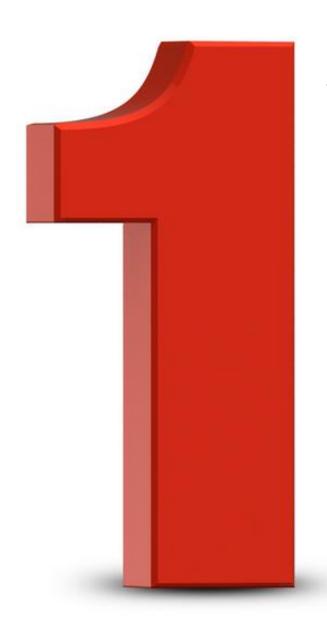


"It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him." (v3)

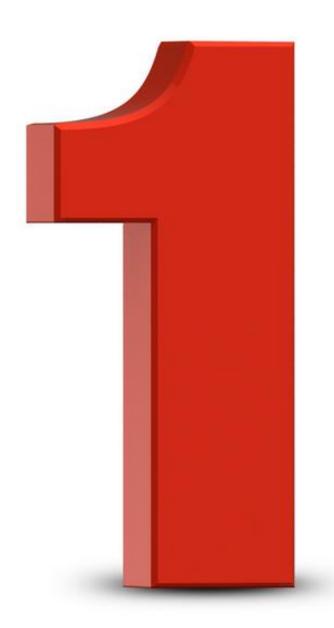


"We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work. But while I am here in the world, I am the light of the world." (v4-5)





Jesus says that this man was not blind because of anyone's sinning (though he was a sinner...and all illness is a result of the fall)



BUT so that God's power and glory would be seen through him

The Jews had adopted some notion, some mistaken theology, that all illness was the result of personal or parental sin.

However, the man's blindness did picture every person's spiritual blindness from birth!







God allows pain and suffering to individuals, not as punishment for sin, but so that God could use them as a means of displaying his power and glory.

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. (2 Cor 12:9)

"...we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts..."

(Rom 5:3-5)



"As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work."

The judgment is coming and when it comes, no one will be able to be saved any longer. It will be too <u>late</u>.



Jesus is saying that time is running out.

The daylight is almost over; we need to urgently work at God's business of saving the lost.



"We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work. ⁵ But while I am here in the world, I am the light of the world." (v4-5)

Jesus said something very similar just one chapter earlier...

Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

This is a clear illustration:

Although the blind man had lived in darkness all of his life...his healing by Jesus made him able to see the light!

This is a clear illustration:

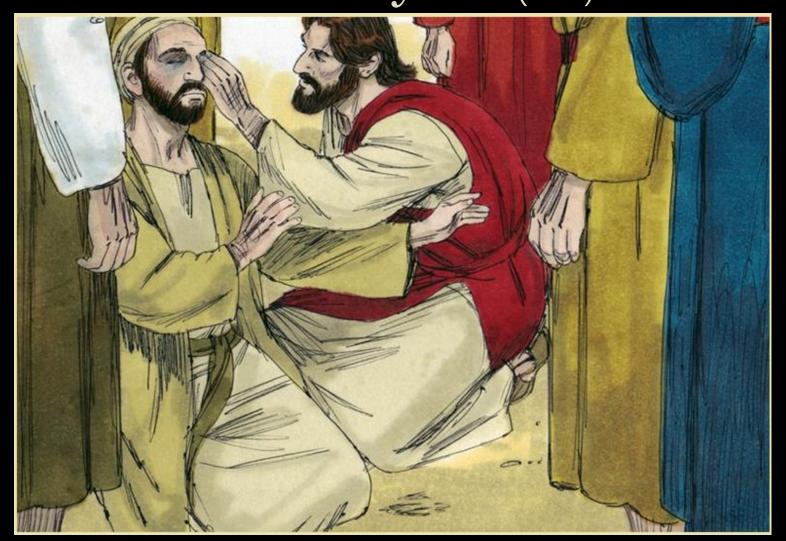
We each have lived in darkness all of our lives... born blind to the light of the gospel...until Christ opened our eyes allowing us to see and believe.

This is a clear illustration:

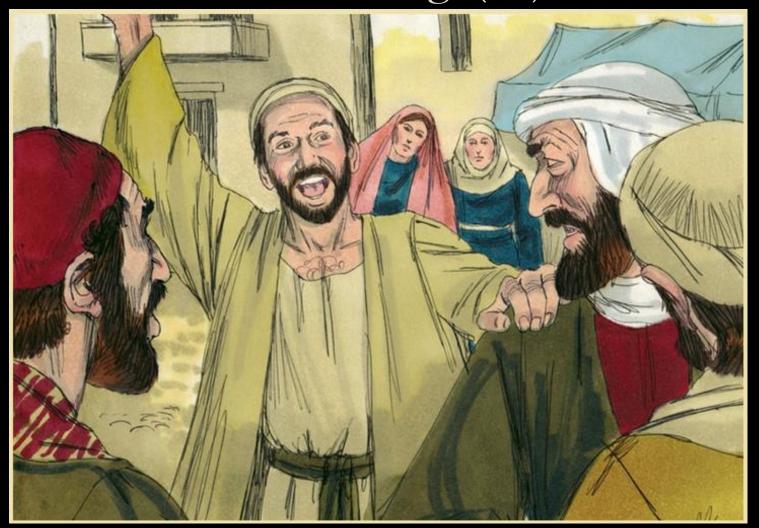
For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ. (2 Cor 4:6)

"Then he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva..." (v6)

"...and spread the mud over the blind man's eyes." (v6)



He told him, "Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam". So the man went and washed and came back seeing! (v7)



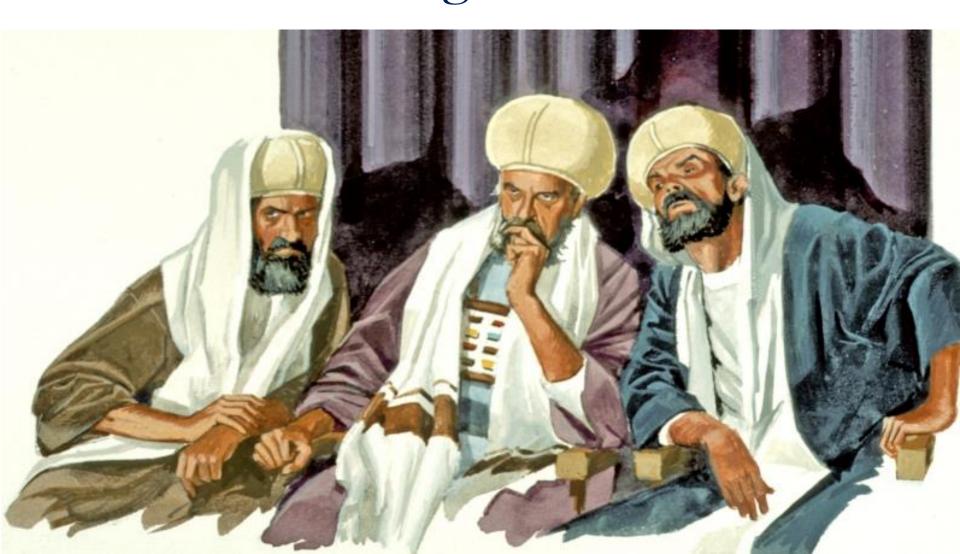
Jesus spit on the ground and made mud paste and rubbed it on the man's eyes...



Why would someone who spoke the world into existence, choose such a strange way to heal someone?



When Jesus performed this miracle, he was attacking the Pharisees.



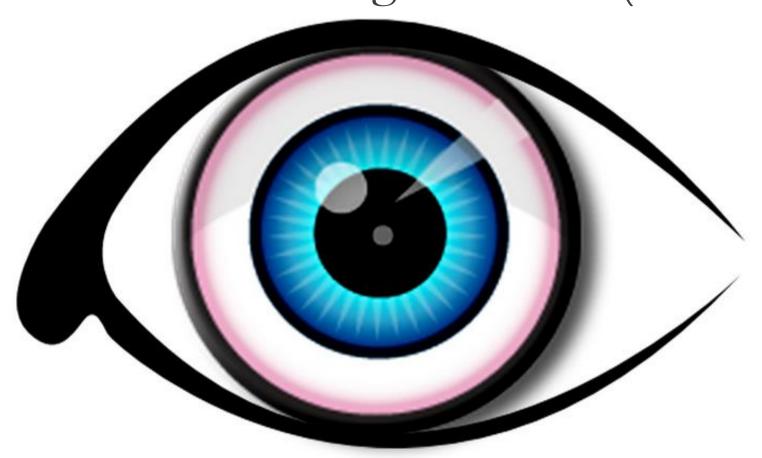
This event happened on a Sabbath day, which the Pharisees manipulated in order to **show** how 'holy' they were.



The Pharisee's had two Sabbath laws that Jesus broke:



You can not heal or work with <u>eyes</u> (as a Dr. would) on the Sabbath...or with non life threatening illnesses. (Yoma 8:6)



You can not work with clay, knead dough or <u>paste</u> on the Sabbath. (Sabb 7:2)



The religious elite thought that they were acceptable to God and pleasing God when they followed these (and many other) laws.



Jesus was literally **spitting** on these two man made laws.

How do you think God feels about using man made rules in order to please Him?



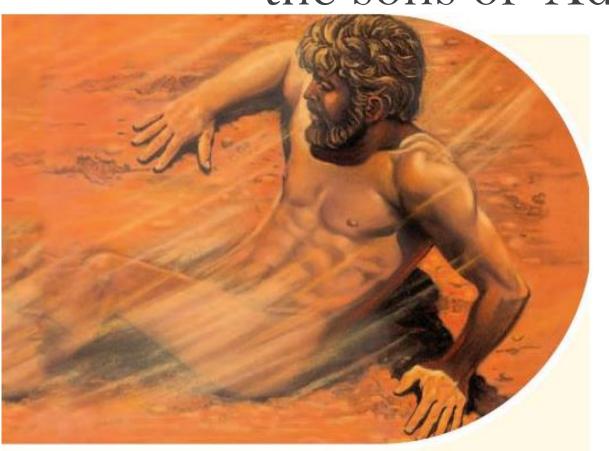
In this account, Jesus was showing that he not only can give sight to the physically blind but also the **spiritually** blind, if they would believe in him and come to him his way: by faith in what he said.

It is by hearing what Jesus says, believing what Jesus says and doing what Jesus says that actually can heal us... not man made laws.



When was the last time that God 'worked in the dirt with his hands'?

Jesus was showing that just as God gave physical life to Adam, in the Garden...Jesus can give eternal life to the sons of Adam.



Jesus was also showing that he was claiming to be the Potter (Rom 9:21, Job 10:9) and the one who makes the seeing see, the blind; blind and the hearing hear (Ex 4:11).



Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use? (Rom 9:21)

The LORD said to him, "Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD? (Ex 4:11)

Jesus was showing that only by his words and his works can any one be given eternal life!

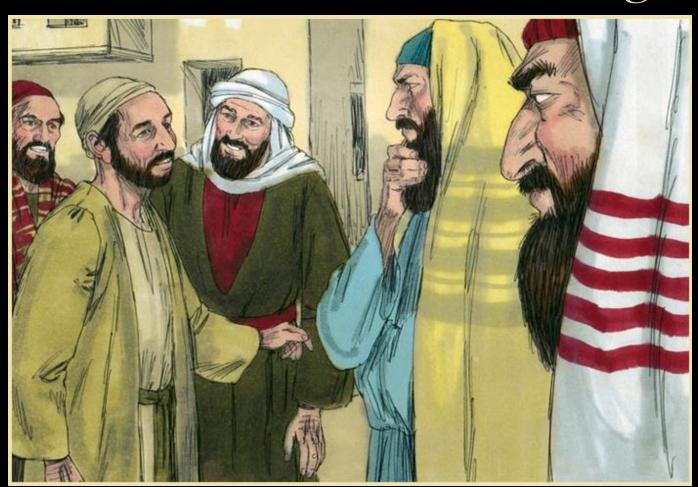
Jesus is also the pool of life...

that we must cleanse ourselves in.



Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink... (Jn 7:37) Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life. (Jn 4:14)

His neighbors and others who knew him as a blind beggar asked each other, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" (v8)

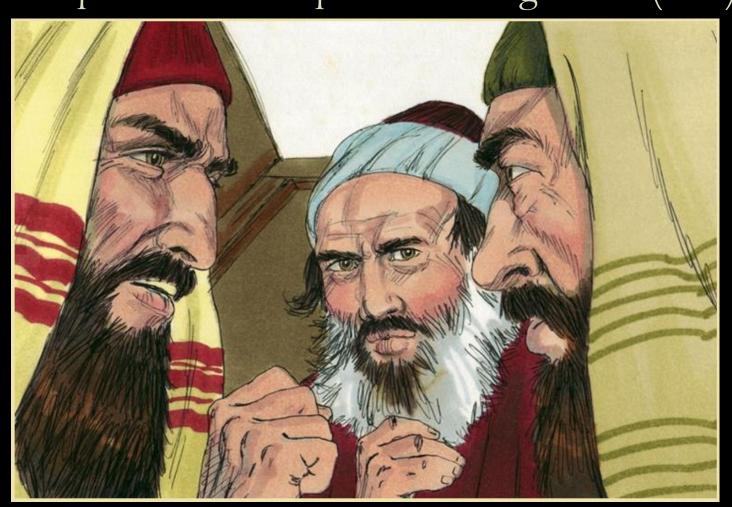


Some said he was, and others said, "No, he just looks like him!" But the beggar kept saying, "Yes, I am the same one!" (v9)

They asked, "Who healed you? What happened?" He told them, "The man they call Jesus made mud and spread it over my eyes and told me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash yourself.' So I went and washed, and now I can see!" (V1O-11)

Then they took the man who had been blind to the Pharisees, because it was on the Sabbath that Jesus had made the mud and healed him. The Pharisees asked the man all about it. So he told them, "He put the mud over my eyes, and when I washed it away, I could see!" (v13-15)

Some Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the Sabbath." Others said, "How could an ordinary sinner do such miraculous signs?" There was a deep division of opinion among them. (v16)



Then the Pharisees again questioned the man who had been blind and demanded, "What's your opinion about this man who healed you?" The man replied, "I think he must be a prophet." The Jewish leaders still refused to believe the man had been blind and could now see, so they called in his parents. They asked them, "Is this your son? Was he born blind? If so, how can he now see?" (v17-19)

A parallel of mistaken identities.



A parallel of mistaken identity.

- 1) Who is this blind man? Is he really who he says he is?
- 2) Who is this Jesus man? Is he really who he says he is?

The confusion over the identity of the blind beggar parallels

the confusion of the crowds over the identity of Jesus...

The blind man kept saying 'I am the one [I am he]' the exact Greek phrase Jesus uses to identify himself later in the event.

If the on lookers correctly recognized/identified the blind man, their eyes would be able to see accurately the identity of the one who heals spiritual blindness.

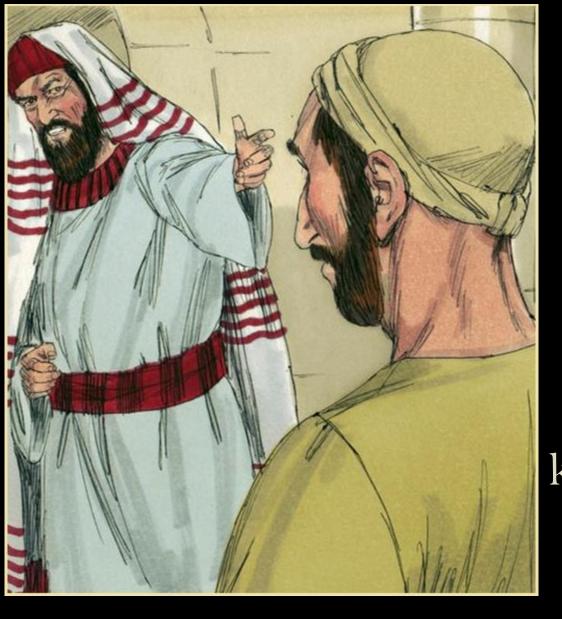
His parents replied, "We know this is our son and that he was born blind, but we don't know how he can see or who healed him. Ask him. He is old enough to speak for himself."

(v20-23)

His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who had announced that anyone saying Jesus was the Messiah would be expelled from the synagogue. That's why they said, "He is old enough. Ask him." (v20-23)

How can you believe since you accept glory from one another but do not seek the glory that comes from the only God? (John 5:44)

Anyone who was unwilling to admit the identity of the blind man (preferring the honor of men)...would not be able to see the identity of Jesus and get the honor of God.



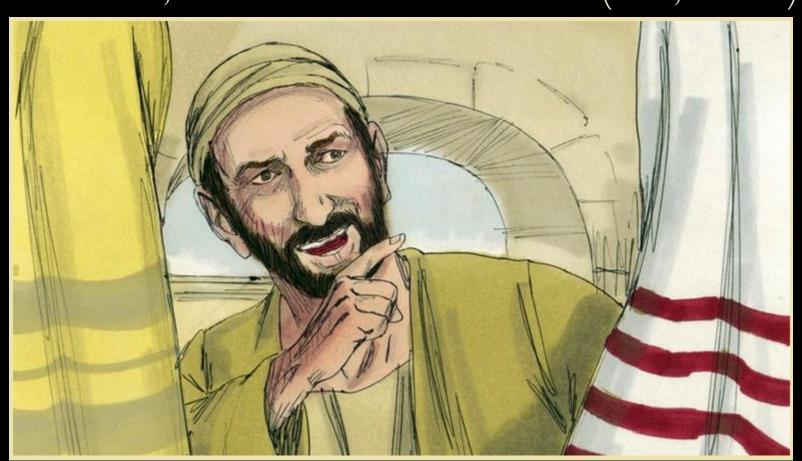
So for the second time they called in the man who had been blind and told him, "God should get the glory for this, because we know this man Jesus is a sinner."(v24)

"I don't know whether he is a sinner," the man replied. "But I know this: I was blind, and now I can see!" (v25)

"...what did he do?" they asked. "How did he heal you?" "Look!" the man exclaimed. "I told you once. Didn't you listen? Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" (v26-27)

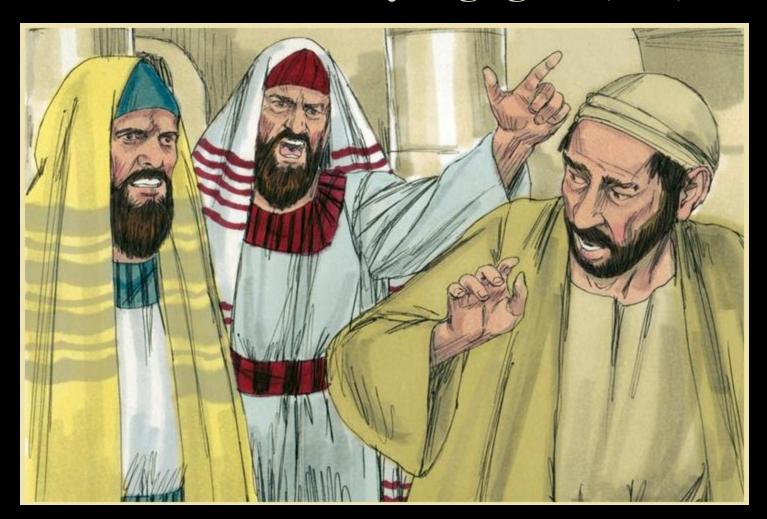
Then they cursed him and said, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses! We know God spoke to Moses, but we don't even know where this man comes from. (v28-29)

"Why, that's very strange!" the man replied. "He healed my eyes, and yet you don't know where he comes from?. Ever since the world began, no one has been able to open the eyes of someone born blind. If this man were not from God, he couldn't have done it." (v30, 32-33)

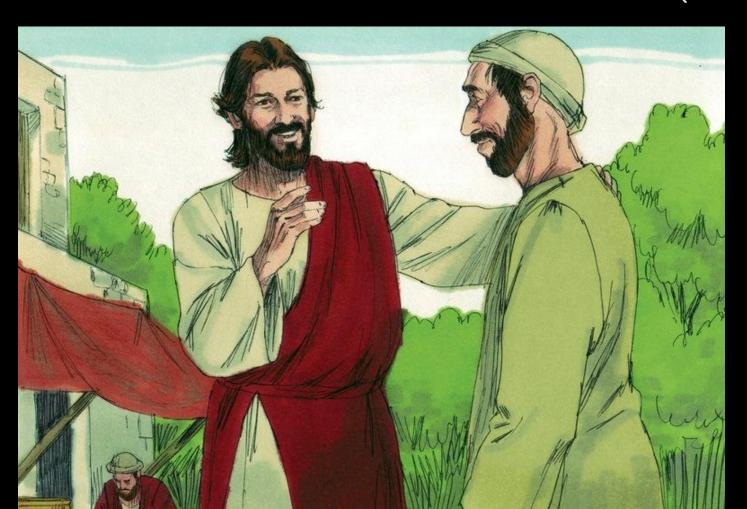


"You were born a total sinner!" they answered.

"Are you trying to teach us?" And they threw
him out of the synagogue. (v34)



When Jesus heard what had happened, he found the man and asked, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" (v35)



Jesus loved to refer to himself as "The Son of Man"

The term the Son of Man occurs in Matthew 32 times, in Mark 15 times, in Luke 26 times, and in John 12 times. In the Gospels the title is always recorded as having been used by Christ of Himself and never by angel, by man, or by demon.

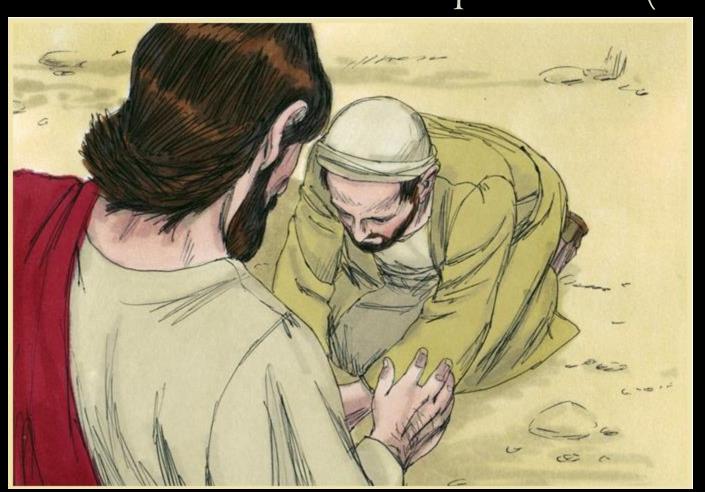
He was quoting a prophecy of Daniel:

In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. (Daniel 7:13-14)

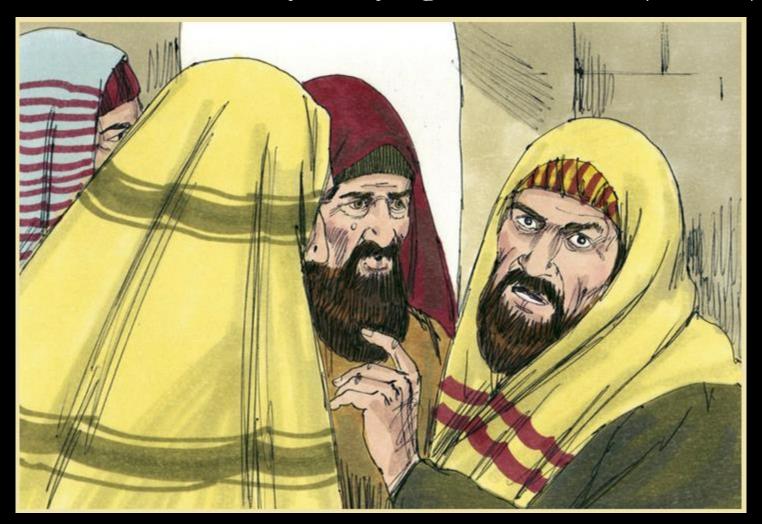
He was quoting a prophecy of Daniel:

He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. (Daniel 7:13-14)

The man answered, "Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him." "You have seen him," Jesus said, "and he is speaking to you!" "Yes, Lord, I believe!" the man said. And he worshiped Jesus. (v37-38)



Then Jesus told him, "I entered this world to render judgment—to give sight to the blind and to show those who think they see that they are blind." Some Pharisees who were standing nearby heard him and asked, "Are you saying we're blind?" (v39-40)



What's the purpose?



We are all born as "total <u>sinners</u>" separated from God…and we are all **spiritually blind**, unable to <u>see</u> the way to God. He must perform a miracle in us.



We are <u>helpless</u> to save ourselves. Our man made laws, traditions and ideas about God and how to get to God, will never work. We can not please God in our own

strength



Jesus is God, our creator. Our only hope is in hearing-believing-doing what he says...and putting our total trust in him.

