

A DEVOTIONAL SERIES ON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

LORD, I BELIEVE

John 9:38 “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped Him.” (Read John chapter 9)

These are the words of the man born blind. After Jesus had given him the gift of sight the man was questioned several times by the Jewish leaders. These leaders even went to his family hoping they would confirm that the man had not been blind since birth. The parents, afraid they would be excommunicated from the temple refused to get involved. The leaders went back to the man for one last attempt to discredit Jesus’ miraculous gift of sight.

Up until this time the man did not know who Jesus was. When Jesus heard that the man had been cast out of the temple, He went to him and said, “do you believe in the Son of Man?” The man answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in Him?” Jesus then identified Himself! The man responded, “Lord, I believe.” John then states, “and the man worshipped Him.” (John 9:35-39)

The Pharisees, after all of this occurred, came to Jesus and asked, “Are we also blind?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.” (John 9:40-41)

Spiritual blindness is exponentially a greater malady than physical blindness. The Pharisees thought themselves spiritual, Biblically knowledgeable, and spiritual leaders. The truth was, none of this was true. They were blinder than a bat. They had Jesus, the Son of God, Savior of the world, in their very presence, but in their unbelief were blind to who He was, refused to believe He was God’s Son and wanted only to find a way to get rid of Him.

Jesus came to give spiritual sight to the spiritually blind. This Jesus did for the man born physically blind. Jesus gave him eyes to see the world in which he lived, but more importantly led Him to confess, “Lord, I believe.” Through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and the Gospel’s power Jesus comes to you to rid you of your spiritual blindness and give you spiritual sight. By this gift, brought to you by the Holy Spirit, you too say, “Lord, I believe.” While the majority of the world

lives in spiritual blindness you, by God's grace, have spiritual sight. You see the way Jesus has prepared for you to live eternally with Him.

Prayer: Thank you Lord for giving my heart eyes to see Jesus as my personal Savior from sins and the way for me to receive eternal life. Amen.

Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go, My daily labor to pursue,
Thee, only Thee, resolved to know In all I think or speak or do.

The task Thy wisdom has assigned, O Let me cheerfully fulfill;
In all my works Thy presence find, And prove Thy good and perfect will.

Thee may I set at my right hand, Whose eyes my inmost substance see,
And labor on at Thy command, And offer all my works to Thee.

Give me to bear Thine easy yoke, And ev'ry moment watch and pray,
And still no things eternal look, And hasten to Thy glorious day.

For Thee delightfully employ Whate'er Thy bounteous grace has giv'n,
And run my course with even joy, And closely walk with Thee to heav'n.
(LSB 854)