

A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED UPON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

BLINDNESS UNAWARE

Luke 6:39 "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit?"

There is nothing worse than a person in leadership who is unable to see the path that needs to be followed. In the 1960's, Reverend Jim Jones, a self-proclaimed prophet, founded the people's temple. Eventually, over 1000 people, donated their entire life savings to him and joined his commune. He moved them to Guyana. Eventually, he convinced almost all of his followers to join him in committing suicide.

Rev. Jones is an example of Jesus' statement in Luke 6:40. He claimed to have a vision from God to lead people out of poverty and to safety from what he thought was a nuclear holocaust. His vision was not from God. What he thought he saw and knew was in fact not right and he blindly led almost 1,000 people to follow him to their demise.

At the time of Jesus' words found here in Luke 6:40, the Jewish leaders were blind to God's plan of salvation although it had been revealed to them in the prophecies of the Old Testament. Many Jews blindly followed their leadership. As a result of their blind leadership and the masses of people who blindly followed them, they rejected Jesus as the Messiah, sent by God to save them from their sins and earn for them the way to heaven.

The people then, as is true yet today, need a Savior who not only sees the path to heaven, but is able to lead His followers there. Jesus declared, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6) Yet, people often become blind to Jesus who alone leads them to repentance, forgiveness and heaven.

There is only one who can lead you safely from this world to heaven, Jesus Christ! Satan will do everything possible to attempt to delude, trick, and tempt you to follow someone else. But the words of Jesus hold true, "I am the way. . .no one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)

Prayer: Jesus, lead me safely to heaven. Amen.

Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And although the way be cheerless,
We will follow calm and fearless. Guide us by Thy hand To our fatherland.

If the way be drear, If the foe be near, Let not faithless fears o'ertake us;
Let not faith and hope forsake us; For through many-a woe To our home we
go.

When we seek relief From a long-felt grief, When temptations come alluring,
Make us patient and enduring. Show us that bright shore Where we weep no
more.

Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won. Heav'nly leader still direct us,
Still support, console, protect us, Till we safely stand In our fatherland.
(LSB 718)