
The Blind Man Bartimaeus

Introduction

Scripture Reading: Mark 10:46-52

1. In Luke 18:35-43, as Jesus was making His way to Jerusalem before being put to death, a “certain” blind man, Bartimaeus, was healed.

Luke 18:35-43

- A. The parallel passage beginning in Mark 10:46 identifies this man as Bartimaeus. The parallel passage beginning in Matthew 20:29 states that there were two blind beggars who called out to Jesus.
 - 1) The fact that Matthew refers to two blind men rather than one shows his personal knowledge of the events.
 - 2) There may have been many blind people in the Jericho area; that region produced large quantities of balsam, believed to be beneficial for many eye defects.
2. There are four noble observations to consider about this healing.

Observations

1. **The first important observation was the good news!**
Luke 18:35-37
 - A. **The good news was that Jesus was passing by. Luke refers to the crowds here (v. 36) to explain how the blind beggar knew that something special was happening (v. 37).**
 - B. **This incident shows that Jesus was actually the “Son of David” (vv. 38-39), i.e. the Messiah.**
 - 1) **It also allows Luke to point again to Jesus’ concern for the needy and especially to show His healing of the blind as a Messianic work.**
 - 2) **In addition, this miracle emphasizes the importance of faith (v. 42) and the glory that God receives through the work of the Lord.**
2. **The second important observation is the great cry in vv. 38-41.**
 - A. **Bartimaeus continued to cry out to Jesus for mercy. When Jesus summoned him and asked what he wanted, he asked for his sight.**
 - B. **The description of the man’s insistent calling draws attention to his faith, which was based on the Messiahship of Jesus.**
 - 1) **So does Jesus’ question in v. 41, which allows the man to voice his request and demonstrate a wonderful faith in the power of the Lord.**

3. The third important observation is the gracious announcement in v. 42.

- A. It was the faith of Bartimaeus that brought him his lost sight. That faith was squarely in the Lord Jesus.**
- B. Likewise, for spiritual sight, we have to also put our faith in Christ.**

John 8:21 Then Jesus said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin. **Where I go you cannot come.**"

John 8:24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for **if you do not believe that I am He**, you will die in your sins."

- 1) Most importantly, to do His will! Which we should do based on the strong faith that we have in Him.**

Matthew 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, **but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.**

Luke 6:46 "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' **and not do** the things which I say?"

4. The fourth important observation is the grand results in v. 43.

- A. Not only was he healed, but he followed Jesus and "glorified God."**
- B. Only Luke speaks of the praise that both the man who had been blind and the people gave to God after the miracle.**
 - Luke 5:26** (the healing of the paralytic)
 - Luke 17:18** (the cleansing of the ten lepers)
 - Acts 2:47** (fellowship of all the believers)
 - Acts 3:9** (lame beggar healed)

Conclusion

- 1. Our faith will save us as well if we act on it.**
- 2. Faith without works is useless or dead (James 2:26).**
- 3. I encourage all of us to allow that gracious announcement be made to each of us:**

Acts 22:16 And now **why are you waiting?** Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'

