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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1996 ~ Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

Of all the disabilities a person can have, being born blind is one that greatly limits a person to live a normal life. Advances in modern medical eye surgery and treatments have helped many people to have their blindness reversed. What a blessing this is for those who can now see again!

Today's Bible Adventure has great significance in the ongoing ministry of the Lord Jesus and His claim that He indeed, was the Messiah. Never once in the Old Testament of the Bible is there an account recorded of a person born blind being cured. When Jesus healed the man born blind, Jesus' proof of being the Messiah stared the scribes and Pharisees in the face and they didn't like the implication of this healing one little bit!

DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound](#).

This account of the healing of the man born blind is recorded in John, Chapter 9.

Jesus healed many blind people in the Bible, but today's Bible Adventure story was the only recorded time Jesus healed a man blind from birth. Jesus could heal any sickness, disease or permanent injury that ordinary doctors can't cure. The Jews and also Jesus' disciples thought that some illnesses such as blindness were a punishment for some unknown but terrible sin.

But how could a man born blind have sinned before he was even born? So the people had decided that the blind man was suffering for his parents' sin if it wasn't his own.

The people would have remembered the passage in Exodus, Chapter 20, which speaks about God punishing children for the sins of their parents up to the third and fourth generation. Modern medical discoveries show that through the ancestral gene code, parents often pass diseases to their children before they're even born.

Jesus taught His disciples, however, that in this particular case, both ideas were wrong. The man's blindness had happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. Often God allows trials and tragedies to come upon people so that He has the opportunity to show that person His power and glory. If this man hadn't been born blind, he may never have met Jesus and believed in Him.

When we see someone with a big problem in their lives, we shouldn't automatically judge that person as a sinner. We've all sinned and fall short of God's holy, perfect standard of living. We cannot tell why troubles come to a particular person at a certain time of their life while it hasn't to others. Only God knows these things. If you see a person with an extra heavy load to carry, pray for that person instead. Sin isn't the only reason why trouble comes on people.

Jesus spoke of the urgency for Him to keep doing His Father's work. He warned the disciples that when a person dies, they can no longer do anything for God. The only exception to this is a dead Christian's testimony that is written down for later generations to read.

Opportunities to serve God in life come and quickly go. A good work for God may present itself today but not tomorrow. We must seek out these opportunities whenever we recognise them. A good work delayed is often a good work never done. In the coming Kingdom of Heaven, Christians are going to be judged by what they actually did while alive here on earth. It's important not to put off the work God has given each of us to do.

When Jesus healed people, He often spoke a word to them or touched them. For this man born blind, Jesus made mud and smeared it all over the man's eyelids, with instructions to go and wash himself in the pool of Siloam. At that time, water was brought into Jerusalem through an underground tunnel to this pool. 'Siloam' means 'sent', and Jesus Himself with His power to heal and forgive had been sent from God.

When the blind man obeyed, his eyesight was given to him. With great rejoicing, the healed man talked with his neighbours about being able to see. All were amazed. "How did this happen?" they asked. "Jesus did it." The once blind man didn't know anything about Jesus. So his neighbours brought him to a group of Pharisees. These men could have even been a committee from the Jewish Sanhedrin to investigate the healing of the once blind man, as again, it had been done on a Sabbath day.

The Pharisees were at first divided in their opinion regarding Jesus. Some said that because He didn't obey the Sabbath law, He couldn't be from God. Yet others said that only a man from God could do such a miracle. But their charge that Jesus didn't obey the Sabbath law was false. He didn't obey it according to the traditions of the Jewish leaders but He did obey it according to the commands of God.

The Jewish tradition said it was lawful only to save life on the Sabbath. All other works of healing had to wait until the next day. The Jews permitted the owner of a sheep to pull it out of a pit on the Sabbath day. Even though a man was worth much more than a sheep, the Pharisees maintained that no acts of mercy for a man's disabilities could be made on the Sabbath. Yet God had established the Sabbath day for man's benefit and therefore, people should do good deeds on that day also.

When the Pharisees couldn't agree on the goodness of Jesus' healing, they asked the healed man what he thought. He upgraded Jesus from being an ordinary man to a prophet. That wasn't what the Pharisees wanted to hear. They wanted to prove that Jesus was a sinner and a lawbreaker. They were convinced that the healed man was telling lies and hadn't been born blind at all. So to prove this, they sent for his parents. They hoped that they would admit that their son hadn't been born blind.

But the parents confirmed that their son had indeed been born blind. They declined to say how he was healed because they hadn't been there and as their son was an adult, he could speak for himself. The man's parents were afraid to say anything good about Jesus. They knew that all who called Jesus the Messiah were being expelled from the synagogues and they didn't want to lose their rights as Jews.

How severe a punishment was this for all who believed in Jesus! Why did the Pharisees oppose Jesus so much? They certainly didn't accept Him as the Messiah. His teaching opposed the teaching of the Jewish rulers. They followed the Jewish law outwardly but Jesus said the law must be followed inwardly, in the heart. When Jesus exposed the Pharisees' deceit and hypocrisy that they had inside, they'd become defensive and angry with Him. As Jesus hadn't come in the way they had expected the Messiah to come and He hadn't been trained in their religious schools, they fully rejected Him.

After the Pharisees had spoken to the healed man's parents, they called him back in to ask more questions. They told the man to give glory to God for his healing, rather than giving any credit to Jesus, who they called a sinner. The healed man didn't care if Jesus was a sinner or not. He wasn't going to change his mind. He insisted that he had been blind but now he could see. They asked him the same question again, hoping he'd make some mistake or contradict his previous story so they could accuse him of telling lies.

There's always been the saying, "Honesty is the best policy." And people who always tell the truth have much less chance of being inconsistent with the details of an event. The very quickest way to destroy one's own credibility is to tell different versions of the same detailed account. Another famous saying quoted against telling lies is: "Oh what a tangled web we weave when first we set out to deceive." This very apt statement shows that if you tell a lie, then in no time at all, you have to tell a few more to prop up the first lie. After a while, it becomes impossible to keep track of the truth or what it originally was.

The same questions asked by the Pharisees over and over again caused the healed man to become irritated. Did they want to become disciples of Jesus too? He had stepped up a further level in his belief in Jesus. The healed man knew that the Pharisees weren't interested in following Jesus at all. They insulted the healed man and said that they were disciples of Moses. As the Pharisees knew that God had spoken through Moses, they claimed that they didn't even know where this Jesus had come from. They implied that Jesus was a 'nobody' and therefore, couldn't possibly be the Messiah.

Then it was the turn of the healed man to show their lack of knowledge. He answered them, "What a strange thing that is! You do not know where he comes from but he cured me of my blindness! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners; he does listen to people who respect Him and do what He wants them to do. Since the beginning of the world, nobody has ever heard of anyone giving sight to a person born blind. Unless this man came from God, He would not be able to do such a thing."

The Pharisees became even more angry when this uneducated beggar lectured them, and of course, expelled him from the synagogue. When Jesus heard this, He went to find the healed man. The healed man didn't know what Jesus looked like but he may have recognised Him by His voice. When Jesus explained He was the Son of Man, the healed man believed in Jesus and knelt down before Him to worship Him as God.

When Jesus came into the world to save people, He brought judgment with Him also. Whoever believes in Jesus receives salvation but whoever does not is condemned and receives judgment. Even worse than physical blindness is spiritual blindness! All people are born spiritually blind and separated from God, but Jesus came so that all people can receive spiritual sight and be reconciled to God instead. Sadly, the Pharisees, scribes and rulers were willingly blind to Jesus' goodness and care for suffering human beings. They proved to be spiritually blind by their own words and actions and remained blind because they had rejected the Lord Jesus.

Have you been through that same path as the healed man did? At first he believed that Jesus was a good but ordinary man, then a prophet and then someone who must be from God to do such a miracle as He had. The man then decided he was Jesus' disciple too. Finally, he came to the place where he met the Lord Jesus and told Him, "Lord, I believe."

When Jesus comes into our lives when we ask Him to, He brings our sins into the light of truth and holiness – His light. Our inner thoughts and motives become revealed. In Christ's light, all people stand condemned. Only through faith in Him can our condemnation be removed and we are made innocent of all sin that we have committed.

Hebrews, Chapter 2, Verse 3, says: “How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?” Always keep short accounts with God. Ask for forgiveness for your wrongful thoughts, judgments of others and the temptation to live independent of Him in some areas of your life. In His kindness and care, He can forgive you and heal your sinful heart. Hallelujah! Praise God!

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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