

Curing the Blind (*Samio*)

Mark 10:46-52

- 46 They came to Jericho. And as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a sizable crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging.
- 47 On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me."
- 48 And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he kept calling out all the more, "Son of David, have pity on me."
- 49 Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take courage; get up, he is calling you."
- 50 He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus.
- 51 Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see."
- 52 Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.

Deuteronomy 25:13-19

- 13 You shall not keep two differing weights in your bag, one heavy and the other light;
- 14 nor shall you keep two different ephahs in your house, one large and the other small.
- 15 But use a full and just weight, a full and just ephah, so that you may have a long life on the land the LORD, your God, is giving you.
- 16 For everyone who does these things, everyone who does what is dishonest, is an abomination to the LORD, your God.
- 17 Bear in mind what Amalek did to you on the journey after you left Egypt,
- 18 how he surprised you along the way, weak and weary as you were, and struck down at the rear all those who lagged behind; he did not fear God.
- 19 Therefore, when the LORD, your God, gives you rest from all your enemies round about in the land which the LORD, your God, is giving you to possess as a heritage, you shall blot out the memory of Amalek from under the heavens. Do not forget!

Job 42:1-9

- 1 Then Job answered the LORD and said:
- 2 I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be hindered.
- 3 "Who is this who obscures counsel with ignorance?" I have spoken but did not understand; things too marvelous for me, which I did not know.
- 4 "Listen, and I will speak; I will question you, and you tell me the answers."
- 5 By hearsay I had heard of you, but now my eye has seen you.
- 6 Therefore I disown what I have said, and repent in dust and ashes.

- 7 And after the LORD had spoken these words to Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My anger blazes against you and your two friends! You have not spoken rightly concerning me, as has my servant Job.
- 8 So now take seven bulls and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and sacrifice a burnt offering for yourselves, and let my servant Job pray for you. To him I will show favor, and not punish your folly, for you have not spoken rightly concerning me, as has my servant Job."
- 9 Then Eliphaz the Temanite, and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite, went and did as the LORD had commanded them. The LORD showed favor to Job.

1 Kings 3:4-15

- 4 The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, because that was the great high place. Upon its altar Solomon sacrificed a thousand burnt offerings.
- 5 In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said: Whatever you ask I shall give you.
- 6 Solomon answered: "You have shown great kindness to your servant, David my father, because he walked before you with fidelity, justice, and an upright heart; and you have continued this great kindness toward him today, giving him a son to sit upon his throne.
- 7 Now, LORD, my God, you have made me, your servant, king to succeed David my father; but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to act—
- 8 I, your servant, among the people you have chosen, a people so vast that it cannot be numbered or counted.
- 9 Give your servant, therefore, a listening heart to judge your people and to distinguish between good and evil. For who is able to give judgment for this vast people of yours?"
- 10 The Lord was pleased by Solomon's request.
- 11 So God said to him: Because you asked for this — you did not ask for a long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies—but you asked for discernment to know what is right —
- 12 I now do as you request. I give you a heart so wise and discerning that there has never been anyone like you until now, nor after you will there be anyone to equal you.
- 13 In addition, I give you what you have not asked for: I give you such riches and glory that among kings there will be no one like you all your days.
- 14 And if you walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and commandments, as David your father did, I will give you a long life.
- 15 Solomon awoke; it was a dream! He went to Jerusalem, stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, sacrificed burnt offerings and communion offerings, and gave a feast for all his servants.

Jeremiah 51:10-19

- 10 The LORD has brought forth our vindication; come, let us tell in Zion what the LORD, our God, has done.
- 11 Sharpen the arrows, fill the quivers; the LORD has stirred up the spirit of the kings of the Medes, for his resolve is Babylon's destruction. Yes, it is retribution from the LORD, retribution for his temple.
- 12 Over the walls of Babylon raise a signal, reinforce the watch; post sentries, arrange ambushes! For the LORD has both planned and carried out what he spoke against the inhabitants of Babylon.
- 13 You who dwell by mighty waters, rich in treasure, your end has come, the time at which you shall be cut off!
- 14 The LORD of hosts has sworn by himself: I will fill you with people as numerous as locusts, who shall raise over you a joyous shout!
- 15 He made the earth by his power, established the world by wisdom, and by his skill stretched out the heavens.
- 16 When he thunders, the waters in the heavens roar, he summons clouds from the ends of the earth, makes lightning flash in the rain, and brings out winds from their storehouses.
- 17 Every man is stupid, ignorant; every artisan is put to shame by his idol: He molds a fraud, without life-breath.
- 18 They are nothing, a ridiculous work, that will perish at the time of punishment.
- 19 Jacob's portion is nothing like them: he is the creator of all things. Israel is his very own tribe; LORD of hosts is his name.

1 Peter 4:12-19

- 12 Beloved, do not be surprised that a trial by fire is occurring among you, as if something strange were happening to you.
- 13 But rejoice to the extent that you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that when his glory is revealed you may also rejoice exultantly.
- 14 If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.
- 15 But let no one among you be made to suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as an intriguer.
- 16 But whoever is made to suffer as a Christian should not be ashamed but glorify God because of the name.
- 17 For it is time for the judgment to begin with the household of God; if it begins with us, how will it end for those who fail to obey the gospel of God?
- 18 "And if the righteous one is barely saved, where will the godless and the sinner appear?"
- 19 As a result, those who suffer in accord with God's will hand their souls over to a faithful creator as they do good.

Romans 14:10-23

- 10 Why then do you judge your brother? Or you, why do you look down on your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God;
- 11 for it is written: "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."
- 12 So [then] each of us shall give an account of himself [to God].
- 13 Then let us no longer judge one another, but rather resolve never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.
- 14 I know and am convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; still, it is unclean for someone who thinks it unclean.
- 15 If your brother is being hurt by what you eat, your conduct is no longer in accord with love. Do not because of your food destroy him for whom Christ died.
- 16 So do not let your good be reviled.
- 17 For the kingdom of God is not a matter of food and drink, but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the holy Spirit;
- 18 whoever serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by others.
- 19 Let us then pursue what leads to peace and to building up one another.
- 20 For the sake of food, do not destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to become a stumbling block by eating;
- 21 it is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble.
- 22 Keep the faith [that] you have to yourself in the presence of God; blessed is the one who does not condemn himself for what he approves.
- 23 But whoever has doubts is condemned if he eats, because this is not from faith; for whatever is not from faith is sin.

John 9:1-41

- 1 As he passed by he saw a man blind from birth.
- 2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"
- 3 Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him.
- 4 We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work.
- 5 While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."
- 6 When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes,
- 7 and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed, and came back able to see.
- 8 His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?"
- 9 Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am."

10 So they said to him, "[So] how were your eyes opened?"
11 He replied, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went there and washed and was able to see."
12 And they said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I don't know."
13 They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees.
14 Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath.
15 So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see."
16 So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath." [But] others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them.
17 So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."
18 Now the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight.
19 They asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?"
20 His parents answered and said, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind.
21 We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself."
22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged him as the Messiah, he would be expelled from the synagogue.
23 For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; question him."
24 So a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give God the praise! We know that this man is a sinner."
25 He replied, "If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see."
26 So they said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"
27 He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?"
28 They ridiculed him and said, "You are that man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses!
29 We know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from."
30 The man answered and said to them, "This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes.
31 We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him.
32 It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind.
33 If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything."
34 They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out.
35 When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"
36 He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"

- 37 Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he."
- 38 He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him.
- 39 Then Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind."
- 40 Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not also blind, are we?"
- 41 Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, 'We see,' so your sin remains.