

The Man Born Blind

John 9:1-7

Introduction:

- A. The issue forced on these witnesses to this miracle: “Is Jesus Divine?”
 - 1. Could admit the miracle — accept His deity.
 - 2. Could admit the miracle — attribute it another source.
 - 3. Could dismiss the evidence as a hoax.
 - 4. Could take a neutral stand.
- B. The attitudes of the witnesses teach us much about attitudes toward truth.

Discussion:

I. The Attitude of the Neighbors.

- A. Ignored the obvious (vv. 8, 9).
 - 1. Like many today (cf. Mk 16:16; Eph 4:4; Rom. 6:4; Gal. 5:4; Heb.10:25; Matt. 19:9).
 - 2. Even divided over the obvious (v. 9, 16).
- B. Carried problem religious leaders (v. 13).
 - 1. Think need religious leaders to give answers to common man.
 - 2. Let select group do our studying and supply our answers.

II. The Attitude of the Religious Leaders.

- A. Clouded the issue — Sabbath breaking not issue! (vv. 14-16).
 - 1. Denominationalist cloud the issue: Water-power? Church salvation?
 - 2. Brethren cloud the issue: “Let orphan’s and non-Christians die before church support”.
- B. Jumped positions — anything but the truth.
 - 1. First it was no miracle, then Jesus didn’t do it (vv. 16-24).
 - 2. People often change grounds for objecting to truth.
- C. Religious prejudice (v. 22).
- D. Religious pride (vv. 28-29, 34).

III. The Attitude of the Parents.

- A. Their fear (vv. 21-23).
 - 1. Many will not take stand because of consequences — marked.
 - 2. Had rather have favor of men than God (cf. John 12:42,43).
- B. The fate (Matt. 10:32, 33; Rev. 21:8).

IV. The Attitude of the Man Himself.

- A. Did not know everything, stuck by what he did know (vv. 25-28).
- B. Would not be intimidated (vv. 28-34).
- C. Willing to accept the evidence (vv. 35-38).

Conclusion:

- A. Let us be honest enough and courageous enough to accept truth based on evidence.
- B. Why not be washed from sins (Acts 22:16) by same power that healed the blind man.