

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE:	Jesus Is God's Answer to Man's Darkness
SERMON REFERENCE:	John 20:30-31
LWF SERMON NUMBER:	#5705

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) John had a purpose when he gave the Gospel of John.
 - i) It was that we might believe in Jesus; and believing, we might be saved.
 - ii) John 20:30-31
- b) John used a particular name for miracles.
 - i) The name he used was the word "sign".
- c) A sign was a miracle, but it was more than a miracle.
 - i) It was a miracle with a message.
 - ii) It taught as well as performed.
 - (1) G. Campbell Morgan said the following:
 - (a) Every parable that Jesus gave was a miracle of instruction.
 - (b) Every miracle that Jesus performed was a parable of teaching.
- d) It was not that the miracles did not happen; they literally happened.
 - i) But we need to look beyond the miracles and find the message in the miracle and the significance in the sign.
- e) God gave us these signs to tell us that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and when we believe on Him, we will have life.
 - i) John 20:31
- f) Some of these signs (miracles) include the following:
 - i) Jesus turned water into wine.
 - (1) John 2:1-11
 - (2) This was the first of these signs.
 - (3) This showed that Jesus is God's answer to man's disappointments.
 - ii) Jesus healed a nobleman's son.
 - (1) Jesus rebuked the man.
 - (a) John 4:48
 - (b) This man's problem was his doubt and unbelief.
 - (2) Jesus simply gave His Word.
 - (3) The man believed the Word, and his son was healed.
 - (a) John 4:50-53
 - (4) Jesus is God's answer to man's doubt.
 - iii) Jesus healed a man who was paralyzed.
 - (1) The man was waiting at the Pool of Bethesda for the water to be moved so that he could put himself in the water and be healed miraculously.
 - (a) John 5:1-5
 - (2) Jesus came to this man and asked, "Will you be made whole?"
 - (a) The man said yes, and the Lord healed him.
 - (b) John 5:6-9
 - (3) The message in this miracle is that Jesus is God's answer to man's disability.
 - (4) We are like this man.
 - (a) We are sinners.

- (b) We are completely without strength until we are touched by the power of God.
 - iv) Jesus took a little boy's lunch and fed five thousand men plus women and children.
 - (1) John 6:1-13
 - (2) Jesus is God's answer to man's desires.
 - (a) Jesus is the Bread of Life.
 - (i) John 6:35
 - g) In today's message, we will see that Jesus is God's answer to man's darkness as we look at the healing of a man who was born blind.
 - i) John 9:1-3
- 2) SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS MAKES BEGGARS OF US ALL (JOHN 9:1-3)
- a) John 9:1
 - b) Here was a man who was blind.
 - i) He was physically blind.
 - ii) He is an illustration of someone without the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (1) John 1:4
 - (a) This verse speaks of Jesus.
 - iii) What happened when Adam sinned?
 - (1) Adam became minus God in his spirit.
 - (a) Adam was made perfect when God created him.
 - (i) God lived in Adam.
 - 1. Adam was a temple in which God could live.
 - (2) Genesis 2:17
 - (a) When Adam sinned against God, Adam did die.
 - (i) He didn't die physically, but he died spiritually.
 - 1. The spiritual life went out of Adam.
 - (3) John 1:4
 - (a) When the Lord went out, the life went out.
 - (b) When the life went out, the light went out.
 - (c) In the Lord is life, and the life was light.
 - (4) Every man, who is a son of Adam, has the nature of Adam.
 - (a) He is minus God.
 - (b) He is minus the life.
 - (c) He is minus the light.
 - iv) This man, who was born blind, is illustrative of every man, woman, boy, and girl without the Lord Jesus.
 - (1) When the Lord went out, he was deprived.
 - (2) When the life went out, he was dead.
 - (3) When the light went out, he was darkened.
 - (a) This is what it means to be lost.
 - (i) To be lost, we don't have to be a murderer, bank robber, blasphemer, etc.

1. We just have to be minus God.
 - v) We are sons of Adam, and in Adam all die.
 - (1) 1 Corinthians 15:22
 - vi) Jesus says to every man and woman that you are blind.
 - (1) John 3:3
 - (2) We might see physical, material things, but we cannot understand spiritual things.
 - (a) Ephesians 4:18
 - (i) Not the eyes, but the understanding was darkened.
 - vii) There is more than one kind of blindness.
 - (1) There is blindness of the eyes.
 - (2) There is blindness of the heart.
 - c) He was born blind.
 - i) John 9:1
 - ii) The disciples asked a foolish question.
 - (1) John 9:2-3
 - (a) This man didn't sin that he was born blind, and neither did his parents.
 - (b) This was an opportunity for the work of God to be done in him.
 - iii) Spiritually, we are all born blind.
 - (1) Psalm 51:5
 - (a) We were conceived with a sinful nature.
 - (i) Even babies have a sinful nature.
 1. When they reach the age of accountability, they need to be saved.
 - (2) Ephesians 2:3
 - d) He became a beggar.
 - i) John 9:8
 - ii) God created man to be a king.
 - (1) When God created Adam and Eve and placed them in the Garden of Eden, He gave them dominion.
 - (a) They were to rule.
 - (2) Mankind was to have dominion.
 - iii) But man is now a blind beggar.
 - (1) Revelation 3:17
 - (a) This is a picture of mankind without the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - e) Spiritual blindness makes beggars of us all.
- 3) THE BLIND NEED MORE THAN LIGHT IN ORDER TO SEE (JOHN 9:2-7)
 - a) The meaning of this miracle is that Jesus is the light of the world.
 - i) Here was a man who was blind, and Jesus (the light of the world) was in his presence.
 - (1) He was there in the light, but he could not see.
 - (a) The blind need more than light to see.

- b) A blind man may not see the light, but he would be foolish to deny the light simply because he cannot see it.
- c) This Scripture in John 9 tells us that man needs more than light; he needs sight.
 - i) There can be no sight without light, but there can be light without sight.
 - (1) Someone could be standing blind at high noon and still not see.
 - ii) People need more than light in order to be saved.
 - (1) They cannot be saved without the light, but they also need sight.
- d) 2 Corinthians 4:3-4
 - i) Satan cannot put out the light, so he blinds the heart and the mind.
 - (1) Therefore, it takes more than preaching for people to be saved.
- e) Some people think that all we have to do for others to be saved is to just tell them how to be saved; just turn on the light.
 - i) But it does not matter how much light there is if the person is blind.
 - (1) He cannot see it.
 - (a) It takes more than light; it takes sight.
 - ii) A person who is blind cannot see the light, no matter how strong the light is or how pure the light is.
- f) It takes more than preaching to get people saved.
 - i) The truth can be preached, but only the Holy Spirit can impart truth.
 - (1) That is the reason why we must have praying churches, and we must be spirit-filled soul winners.
 - ii) We are dependent upon God to open blinded eyes to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - (1) No one can be argued into the Kingdom of Heaven or educated into the Kingdom of Heaven.
 - iii) We must let the light shine, and we must preach; but there is another dimension.
 - (1) This man was blind, and he was face-to-face with the light of the world.
 - (a) But he could not see.
- g) John 9:5-7
 - i) Jesus is the light.
 - ii) The clay speaks of humanity.
 - (1) God made man of the dust of the Earth.
 - (2) Because the clay speaks of humanity, it also speaks of weakness, failure, and inability.
 - iii) Putting clay on his eyes represented that which would seal out the light.
 - (1) What was wrong with him was his humanity and his nature.
 - (a) That is what caused him to be blind.
 - iv) "Go wash in the pool called Siloam."
 - (1) Translated, it means, "Go wash in the pool called Sent."
 - (2) Why was he told to wash in a pool called Sent?
 - (a) In John 8, Jesus talks about being the light of the world.

- (i) John 8:12
 - (b) John 8:23
 - (i) Jesus belongs in Heaven; His origin is Heaven.
 - (ii) Jesus spoke about His identification with God the Father.
 - (c) John 8:26
 - (i) *"He that sent Me is true."*
 - (d) John 8:29
 - (i) *"He that sent Me is with Me."*
 - (e) John 9:4
 - (i) *"I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day."*
 - (f) John 9:7
 - (i) Jesus told him to go wash in the pool called Sent.
 - 1. This pool represented Jesus.
 - a. He is the one sent from Heaven.
 - b. He is Heaven's answer for man's darkness.
 - c. Our humanity blocks out the light, but Jesus has been sent from above.
 - h) Jesus is Heaven's light for Earth's darkness.
 - i) Jesus is the only one who can take away this darkness.
 - ii) He is the Heaven-sent Son of God.
 - i) We are by nature spiritually blind.
 - i) Man needs more than light.
 - (1) He needs sight.
 - (a) Jesus Christ is the only one who can give that sight.
- 4) OPENED EYES MUST LEARN TO SEE (JOHN 9:35-38)
- a) Once this man was healed, the Pharisees went after him.
 - i) Because he had allowed Jesus to heal him, they were going to put him out of the synagogue.
 - ii) They began to ask him all kinds of questions.
 - (1) The man could not answer their questions, but he could tell them one thing:
 - (a) *"Once I was blind, and now I see."*
 - (i) John 9:25
 - (ii) This infuriated the Pharisees.
 - b) The Pharisees shut him out, but Jesus sought him out.
 - i) They were the blight of the world; Jesus is the light of the world.
 - (1) Religion without Christ is a blight.
 - c) Jesus began to work with this man.
 - i) This man had his eyes opened, but he was not yet saved.
 - ii) The Lord enabled him to believe.
 - iii) The Lord gave him understanding.
 - iv) Jesus led him from a non-saving faith to a saving faith.
 - (1) He believed about Jesus before he trusted on Jesus.

- d) John 9:25
 - i) This was a good testimony for this man at this stage because it was all he knew.
 - (1) He didn't know anymore.
 - (2) All he knew was the following:
 - (a) He had been blind.
 - (b) He was born blind.
 - (c) He was a beggar.
 - (d) Jesus put spit and clay on his eyes.
 - (e) He washed in the pool whose name was "Sent".
 - (i) Now, he could see.
 - (3) He didn't know anything about Jesus.
- e) His eyes were opened physically, but now Jesus was also going to open his eyes spiritually.
 - i) What was He illustrating here?
 - (1) It takes more than light; it takes sight.
 - (2) Once someone gets both light and sight, they still have to learn to see.
- f) Notice the progression in this man:
 - i) This man had honest ignorance.
 - (1) It has been said that a person does not show his ignorance by not knowing so much, as he does by knowing so much that is not so.
 - (2) This man only knew what he knew.
 - (a) Remember this is in your testimony.
 - (i) Don't be afraid to give your testimony.
 - (ii) Don't be afraid that someone will ask you something that you don't know.
 - 1. If someone asks you something that you don't know when you are sharing Jesus, then just tell them that you don't know.
 - 2. When you tell them that you don't know what you don't know, then they will believe you when you tell them what you do know.
 - (iii) A Christian with a glowing testimony is worth a library full of arguments.
 - 1. The Pharisees wanted to argue with this man.
 - a. But he said, "Once I was blind, and now I can see."
 - i. They could not argue with that.
 - ii) The Holy Spirit guides us into truth.
 - (1) The Holy Spirit does not give us truth.
 - (2) John 16:13
 - (3) Once we have the light, we must learn to see.
 - iii) John 9:10-11
 - (1) In this passage, he said that some man had opened his eyes.
 - (a) His name was Jesus.

- (b) He made clay.
- (c) He was just a man.
 - (i) That was all he knew about Jesus.
- iv) John 9:17
 - (1) Now, he was beginning to think on it a little bit.
 - (2) He said that this man (Jesus) was more than a man.
 - (a) He was a prophet.
- v) John 9:31-33
 - (1) He was beginning to see more and more.
 - (a) First, he called Jesus a man.
 - (b) Then, he said that Jesus was a prophet.
 - (c) Now, he said that Jesus was a man sent from God.
- vi) His faith completely ripens.
 - (1) John 9:35-38
 - (2) The man who had been given sight was learning to see.
 - (a) That is how people come to the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (i) God has to open their eyes.
 - (3) The Holy Spirit of God has to give them spiritual insight.
 - (a) Then, they begin to learn to grow in knowledge until they come to a full faith.
 - (b) Luke 8:18
 - (i) Be very careful when you come to church, how you hear.
 - 1. If you have a desire for truth, then you will be given more truth.
 - 2. But if you do not have a desire for truth, then even that which you seem to have will be taken away from you.
 - (c) Romans 1:17
 - (i) God speaks to us from faith to faith.
- vii) Here was a man who said that Jesus had opened his eyes.
 - (1) That was a little bit of faith.
- viii) Then, he went from that faith to this faith:
 - (1) He said that Jesus was a prophet.
- ix) He went from that faith to this faith:
 - (1) He said that Jesus was sent from God.
- x) He went from that faith to this faith:
 - (1) He said that Jesus is the Son of God.
- xi) This man believed and was saved.
 - (1) He went from faith to faith.
 - (2) "To him that has will be given."
 - (a) Luke 8:18
- g) Once the eyes are opened, then you need to be able to understand.
- h) Proverbs 4:18
 - (i) That is the way God gives us spiritual wisdom.

- 5) WE MUST CONFESS AND ADMIT OUR NEED (JOHN 9:39-41)
 - a) It is said that there are none so blind as those who refuse to see.
 - i) Those who claimed to be full, Jesus sent away hungry.
 - ii) Those who claimed to be righteous were sent away unforgiven.
 - iii) Those who claimed to see remained blind.
 - b) A person's greatest need is to see his spiritual blindness.
 - c) Just as light obeyed increases light, light refused increases darkness.
 - i) Romans 1:21
 - (1) In this verse, "When they knew God" means "When their eyes were opened".
 - d) There can be no greater sin than to reject the light.
 - i) Once someone hears the Gospel and his heart is open to the Word of God, if he does not act upon that light and go from faith to faith until he believes in Jesus Christ, then his condemnation is doubled.
 - (1) Not only is he judged for the disease, but he is also judged that he refused the cure.
 - ii) John 3:19-20
 - iii) When God comes to judge the world, He is not going to judge the world primarily by the sin that was committed but by the light that was rejected.
- 6) CONCLUSION
 - a) What does this miracle show?
 - i) That Jesus is the light of the world.
 - b) We are born blind beggars, but blind eyes can be opened and will be opened by the grace of God.
 - c) It is not just turning on the light.
 - i) The heart and mind have to be opened and quickened to understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - ii) Once the heart and mind are opened and quickened, then we live up to the light that we have.
 - (1) We step in the light until we come to Jesus.
 - d) Man's greatest need is to admit and confess his spiritual blindness.
 - i) When he says, "I see," he remains blind.
 - ii) But when he says, "God help me; I am blind," then God opens his eyes and gives him light.
 - e) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
 - f) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16