

# JOHN 9 vs 1

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In this chapter, John who lived the longest of the 12 disciples; the original followers of the Lord; **eye-witnesses to Jesus Christ** John tells us about the sixth of seven miracles he records... that Jesus worked.

**<sup>1</sup> And as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth.**

**<sup>2</sup> And His disciples / His mathetes**, those doing the math, **asked Him, saying, Teacher, who sinned, this man, or his parents that he was born blind?** / faulty thinking... needing correction. That's a reason to have a metanoia moment.

**<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, neither this man nor his parents sinned** / period! Moses said to the LORD, O my LORD, I am not eloquent -- I am not a good speaker... but I am slow in speech and of a slow tongue. And the Lord said to him, Oh, really? I had not notice! No! HE said, Who has made man's mouth? or who makes the mute, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? Is it not I the LORD? Now go, and I will be with your mouth, and teach you what you will say -- Exodus 4.

In recent times, the very unlovely John Merrick wrote, Tis true my form is something odd; but blaming me, is blaming God. God makes the blind and the deaf... and the impaired... for examples in this world that God has created... this ever-complaining world.

**Jesus answered, neither this man nor his parents sinned** / period!

**But it was in order that the works of God might be displayed in him,**

**<sup>4</sup> I must work the works of Him who sent Me, while it is day** / now there are some people in the church world who say, I do no works! Hmm?! Well, Jesus said, My Father works; and so must I; and when He said that... HE was working on a Sabbath day! His Father worked on the Sabbath – so do the math!

**night is coming when no one can work** / the terrible night of darkness is coming. And for some, it will be too late to work!

**<sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.**

**<sup>6</sup> And when He had said this, He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and He applied the clay to his eyes man.**

**<sup>7</sup> And said to him, Go! Wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is interpreted, Sent). So, he went his way and washed, and came seeing.** / can you imagine? Born blind; blind from birth!



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suddenly he didn't come seeing, he came rejoicing!

**<sup>8</sup> So the neighbors, and those who previously saw him who he was blind – a blind beggar, said, Is this not he who sat and begged? / they were a little confused!**

**<sup>9</sup> Some said, This is he: others said, No; he looks like him: but he said, it's me / can't you see him pounding his chest? It's me!**

**<sup>10</sup> So they said to him, How were your eyes opened?**

**<sup>11</sup> He answered, the man who is called Jesus made clay, and anointed my eyes, and said to me, Go! to the pool of Siloam, and wash. So I went / just childlike obedience... and washed, and I recovered sight.**

And scratching their heads...

**<sup>12</sup> They said to him, Where is He?**

**He said, I do **not** know / help the guy out, he had been blind.**

The dubious reactions,

**<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees him who previously was blind.**

brought – to the inquisition.

**<sup>14</sup> And it was the Sabbath day! / Dang! Of all days! when Jesus made clay, and opened his eyes.**

**<sup>15</sup> And again the Pharisees also asked him how he had recovered his sight.**

**And he said to them, He applied clay to my eyes, and I washed, and I see.**

**<sup>16</sup> So some of the Pharisees said, This man is **not** from God, because He does **not** keep the Sabbath day; but others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles?**

**And there was a division among them / like when we read earlier, Nicodemus had come to Jesus by night. He was already doing the math as were others; there was a division among them.**

**<sup>17</sup> So they asked again the formerly blind guy,**

**What do you say of Him, who opened your eyes?**

**And he said, He is a prophet.**

**18 But the Jewish leaders did **not** believe it of him, that he had been blind and recovered sight, until they called the parents of him who recovered sight.**

**19 And they questioned** / who are these inquisitors asking? It fascinates me: the head of the Sanhedrin, the ruling religious body of the day; his title is: **Nasi!** Na-Si! And were they any different than the ruthless... inquisitors of the middle ages, or Nazi's of the modern times? But I guess they're all gone now, aren't they?

And the Nasi, checking their lists... **they questioned these parents,**

**Is this your son, who you all say was born blind? **Then how does he now see?**** / do you hear all the joy that they have for this man born blind? Blind from birth.

**20 So his parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind:**

**21 but how it is he now sees, we do **not** know. Or who has opened his eyes, we do **not** know. He is of age; he can speak for himself.**

**22 His parents said this, because they feared the Jewish leaders,**

Dr. Edersheim of Oxford University, who wrote that great volume: **The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah...** said of this verse, The religious leaders would come to the house; and say things like, **It seems to me your friends are leaving you.** You see, there were **three levels** of excommunication. The first level was... **one day of separation.** The second level of excommunication lasted **30 days of separation.** And the third and most severe level of separation: **they were treated as a leper, or as the dead.** In public, they had to keep away the distance of 4 cubits -- 12 feet! And approach no closer. They had no conversation with anyone; and in their need, no assistance was given.

**It seems to me... your friends are leaving you!** Can you imagine living... in solitary confinement? In public?! By the way, men and women of faith... in every nation, experience this level of fear and intimidation, and public isolation... everyday! Governments trying to control people -- even ours!

And John who experienced this incident, wrote...

**These words spoke his parents, because they feared the Jewish leaders: and the leaders agreed already, if anyone did confess that He was Christ / the promised Messiah coming,**

**he should be put out of the synagogue.**

**23 So his parents said, He is of age; ask him.**