

Bartimaeus Regains His Sight

Today we study the first of two famous Jericho encounters with Jesus Christ. One thing that made these two Jericho encounters special is that the names of two men were given by Luke. This is probably because they were known by the early Christians.

In our first encounter, we will study the healing of a blind beggar named Bartimaeus. However, his name is not given in the accounts recorded in either Luke 18 nor in Matthew 20. It is only recorded in **Mark 10:46-52**.

This lesson will study four aspects of Bartimaeus Regaining his Sight.

1. We will begin by examining our lesson text by the following six homiletic points.

- **Disability** (Lk.18:35a)
 - Blind man on heavily travelled Jericho road.
- **Destitute** (Lk.18:35b)
 - Road side beggar.
- **Desperation** (Lk.18:36-39)
 - Dependent on others for information but when interfered he screamed for help from Jesus.
- **Defining moment in life** (Lk.18:40-41)
 - Big question put to him and his answer resulted in regaining sight.
- **Deliverance** (Lk.18:42)
 - Words he will never forget, "Regain your sight! Your faith has made you well."
- **Declaration** (Lk.18:43)
 - Praise service led by Bartimaeus.

2. Recovery of the sight of the blind was 1 of 5 big signs to Israel of the Messiah (Lk.4:18-19; Isa.61:1-2).

Miracle Number 3:

(Lk.4:18) "He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind."

(Isa.61:1) "To proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners."

The fact that Bartimaeus was blind is essential to this story. The fact that he is blind dominates every verse of our lesson text. The more the story unfolds; the more his role in the Messianic Plan of God unfolds. How could you apply this principle to your life?

3. When the crowd told the blind man that Jesus was passing him by; the blind man did everything in his power to reach him (Lk. 18:36-39).

This blind beggar had been holding on to life by a thread of hope of regaining his sight. Then one day Jesus came along and changed his life forever. How could you apply this principle to your life?

What he didn't know, that is important for you to know, is that **Jesus did everything in His power to reach him!**

(Lk.19:10) "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

(2 Pet.3:9) "The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance."

(Col.1:13-14) "For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

Not only did Jesus Christ die for everyone **but he died for even one!** (John 3:16).

Jesus asked Bartimaeus an important question,

(Lk.18:41a) "What do you want Me to do for you?"

(Lk.18:41b) "And he said, "Lord, I want to regain my sight!"

4. Watch the sequence of events related to regaining his sight following this question by Jesus.

(Lk.18:41-43)

- "Lord, I want to regain (anabaino / a.a.subj) my sight!"
- "Receive your sight again (anabaino / a.a.impv.2ps); your faith has made you well!"
- "Immediately (parachrema) he regained his sight (anabaino / a.a.ind.2ps) and began following Him, glorifying God; and when all the people saw it, they gave praise to God."

Regain sight shows that he once could see but something happened to cause him to lose his sight.

But we must understand that it played an important role in the Messianic Plan of God as did like the raising of Lazarus.

(John 11:4) "This sickness is not to end in death, **but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it.**"

Dr. Luke is always impressed with the immediate restoration to good health (parachrema).

We know WHO healed the blind man but WHAT healed him?

Jesus told him, "Your faith (he pistis) has made you well (sozo/ perf.a.ind.2ps)." (Lk.18:42b)

- Faith must have a faithful working object (Rom.10:17; 4:21).
- He believed that Jesus of Nazareth was the Son of David (Christ, the Messiah).
- He believed that Jesus Christ could absolutely heal his physical blindness.
- His faith worshipped and glorified God and led others in praising God.

DON'T LET JESUS PASS YOU BY TODAY! "What do you want Me to do for you today?"