

LESS TALK, MORE ACTION

v1 As he (Jesus) went along, he saw a man blind from birth. v2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" v3 "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. v4 As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. v5 While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." v6 Having said this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. v7 "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. v8 His neighbours and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" v9 Some claimed that he was. Others said, "No, he only looks like him." But he himself insisted, "I am the man." v10 "How then were your eyes opened?" they demanded. v11 He replied, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see." v12 "Where is this man?" they asked him. "I don't know," he said. John 9:1-12

Four people or groups of people occupy our attention:

I. The DILEMMA of a man blind from his birth, vs. 1

- A. **His blindness made it impossible for him to work (vs. 8)**
- B. **His blindness made it impossible for him to walk**
Isaiah 59:10 Like the blind we grope along the wall, feeling our way like men without eyes. At midday we stumble as if it were twilight; among the strong, we are like the dead.
Lam 4:14 Now they grope through the streets like men who are blind.
- C. **His blindness made it impossible for him to love as a man**
1 John 2:11 But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him.

II. The DEBATE of the disciples, interested in theology, vs. 2

- A. Christ saw the man, the disciples saw the problem.
- B. Christ was moved with compassion, the disciples were curiosity.
- C. Christ was interested in works, the disciples were in words.

III. The DEED of the Saviour, Who alone can bring Light, v3-6

- A. He finds the man in need and teaches a lesson.
- B. He anoints the man in need and demands obedience.
- C. He leaves the man, now seeing, and expects a worthy witness.

IV. The DEMAND of the neighbours, who could not deny the miracle and sought some explanation vs. 7-12

- A. They doubted their own eyes; after all, how could this thing be?
- B. They discovered a new creation; after all, who could deny the undeniable?
- C. They desired the presence of the Healer, after all, who are we to miss out?

INDEED, WHO ARE WE TO MISS OUT?

But there is a blindness worse than inoperative eyes:

It is to meet
the WAY and not to go,
the TRUTH and not to know,
the LIFE and not to grow.