

"1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? 3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. 4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. 6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, 7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. 8 The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged? 9 Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he. 10 Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened? 11 He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight. 12 Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not. 13 They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind. 14 And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes. 15 Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see. 16 Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them. 17 They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet. 18 But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. 19 And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see? 20 His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: 21 But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself. 22 These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. 23 Therefore said his parents, He is of age; ask him. 24 Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner. 25 He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see. 26 Then said they to him again, What did he to thee? how opened he thine eyes? 27 He answered them, I have told you already, and ye did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? will ye also be his disciples? 28 Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses' disciples. 29 We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence he is. 30 The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes. 31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. 32 Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. 33 If this man were not of God, he could do nothing. 34 They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out. 35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? 36 He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? 37 And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee. 38 And he said, Lord, I believe. And

he worshipped him. 39 And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. 40 And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also? 41 Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth." (John 9:1-41 KJV)

Evangelism is to spread the Word of God and to make His grace known to those who are in need of Him. Evangelism is the desire and the will of God to reach the lost world. It is started from God who sent His Son Jesus Christ to search and look for the lost. He came to save His own but His own did not receive Him. Evangelism is to reach to the people, to help them in their troubles, but most of the time the people react and misunderstand the good plan of God toward them as they misunderstood Jesus and rejected His help to them. But still few they received Jesus and were glad to follow Him and declared His Word and will to the whole world. Therefore we should not be discouraged or faltered when we face resistance and when the religious and traditional system and setup oppose us and consider us an enemy to them. *We are not better than Jesus; if they persecuted Him, they will persecute us, if they rejected Him they will also do the same with us, but we need to persevere and trust God that He will support us and He will help us and provide our needs and make our service and ministry to Him fruitful.*

We need to persevere even in the time of rejection and persecution and trust God that He will touch people's life and He will bring people near to Him, and all what we need to do is to continue to reach out new people.

Now let us continue what we started of how Jesus reached out the blind man in *John 9*.

"And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing." (John 9:7 KJV)

And said unto him, we can see very clearly that when Jesus wanted to heal that man He spoke to him directly on a personal level to instruct him of what he needs to do. *In the same way, in evangelism we need to speak to the people on personal level and to tell them of what they need to do.*

After Jesus anointed his eyes with the clay Jesus instructed that man to do the followings:

To, *Go, wash in the pool of Siloam.* Jesus could make it easier for this man to wash his eyes with any available water. But Jesus here chooses to put on him other responsibilities that he needed him to do. Why Jesus asked him to go to the pool of Siloam, that is located in the south east Jerusalem, while Jesus and His disciple can provide a water there so he can wash and does not need to go to other places? This man was blind and possibly he would need other people to drag with him till he reach the pool of Siloam. Although what was in Jesus mind and reason we cannot fathom, but we may put the following possible points:-

1. To test his obedience.
2. To test him, if he is willing to stand for his faith and face the critics of the Pharisees about the Sabbath. That man as he would be moving from one part of the city to the other, he might be accused as Jesus accused that he is a Sabbath breaker.

3. To make us realize that we still need to do our part so God would do his part.

***the pool of Siloam** is located in Jerusalem, the meaning of it is sent as John mentioned it. Jesus sent that new person to a certain place to a certain purpose and mission. When we evangelize, God is calling people through our lives, as well as when we evangelize God is directing people into a certain direction to do His will in full.*

Those who would listen to the instructions that we will be giving to them they will be healed, got blessed and their life will be directed toward doing the works of God.

The pool of Siloam is also mentioned in the book of Isaiah, **“Forasmuch as this people refuseth the waters of Shiloah that go softly, and rejoice in Rezin and Remaliah's son.” (Isaiah 8:6 KJV)** The Hebrews word for ‘Shiloah’ is ‘Shiloach’. The pool of Siloam is a fountain just southeast of Jerusalem, and the meaning of it is ‘sent’. Here the water of that fountain is soft, that it could be not deep, small current and easy to manage, but the people still does not like it. The water of Shiloah, may represent the easy government of Judah that the people of Israel rejected and wasn’t willing to follow but rejoice to be under the hard armies of Syria and Israel, under the leadership of Rezin and Remaliah’s son. The people did not take heed and repent and turn from their wrong doing and moved in the direction that God wanted them to go.

The waters of Shiloah it can be similar to the simple instruction of God’s commands that the Lord want us to obey so our lives will be changed and have better life.

The waters of Shiloah it can be the leadership of Jesus over our lives when we allow Him to be the Lord over the throne of our lives, rather than doing our own and carry on our own plans. The leadership of Jesus over our lives will give us better, smooth and life to the full.

Many people are the same now, they reject the easy and the smooth plan of God and they will be foolishly going into dreadful things that will cause them many sufferings and harms. Many people now a day they reject the Godly advices the church is giving them that will save their lives and spare them troubles, and go astray after worldly plans and put themselves in many bondages that would cause them much to be set free from them.

The prophet Isaiah took notice of that attitude of the people’s and their rejection to the water of Shiloach which is easy to handle, therefore, with that attitude and disobedience they stirred the displeasure of God, who promised them due to what they did the followings: **“7 Now therefore, behold, the Lord bringeth up upon them the waters of the river, strong and many, even the king of Assyria, and all his glory: and he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks: 8 And he shall pass through Judah; he shall overflow and go over, he shall reach even to the neck; and the stretching out of his wings shall fill the breadth of thy land, O Immanuel.” (Isaiah 8:7-8 KJV)** God when He saw His people are indifferent to the easy leadership and easy government that He gave them through the leadership of Judah, and prefer to be led by the King of Syria and the King of Samaria, He prepared for them the King of Assyria to come and sweep them.

This it can be similar to the rejection of the government of Jesus Christ, the son of David. Christ in sending this blind person to be washed at Siloam and got healed. In this Jesus is

giving reminder to the Jewish that they should take heed and not refuses His easy yoke and His government. *In Evangelism, we instruct the people to do certain commands of God so that their lives will be easier and they will get relieved. When they refuse then we need to warn them of the coming wrath of God and what God would put on them from discipline.*

Evangelism also is to instruct the people to repent and to send the people into the direction that God wants them to move, and to give them also the freedom to do their own will, so their obedience will be tested.

The prophet Elisha instructed Naaman to go and dip himself in the river of Jordan seven times, **“10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.” (2 Kings 5:10 KJV)** That was a simple instruction but he was angry with it, **“11 But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. 12 Are not Abana and Parpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.” (2 Kings 5:11-12 KJV)** Thanks be to God for his servants who convince him to obey and followed the instructions of the prophet when he told him. **“13 And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean? 14 Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.” (2 Kings 5:13-14 KJV)**

Repent, have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, get baptized and receive forgiveness of your sins is the way to receive eternal life and to live with God forever, and this is the message that we need to give when we evangelize. Every Christian should receive water baptism upon repentance and confession of Jesus as Lord over His life, **“And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.” (Acts 22:16 KJV)**

“The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?” (John 9:8 KJV) With such astonishing miracle, and the person was completely changed, his neighbors were doubting if he is the same person that was healed. Christ when enters into a person life, he completely changes the person’s life, that the people would wonder if this is the same person or he is someone else. They reached even to ask themselves the question ***Is not this he that sat and begged?*** That man was working as a bigger, and was getting his living through daily begging the people for some help, food and money. Therefore when Jesus healed him, he is now a new person. *We need to recognize that true conversion is when people who received Christ are completely changed.*

“Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he.” (John 9:9 KJV) There were people who knew that it was he, but there were others who did not recognize him, and they said, ***He is like him:*** It means he is another person who is similar in shape to the person that they knew. But himself declared proudly and confidently to the people: ***I am he.*** He was not ashamed neither of what he was before nor of what he was doing as a bigger. He confessed to them that he is the same person who was blind, and the same person who was begging, but now the Lord Jesus healed him and his eyes were opened.

Those who truly repented they will not be ashamed of their past and what they were doing from sins. But they are open to say and confess all what they were doing, and that is a good testimony toward Jesus that He changed their lives. Those who did not repent, they will still have the pride and they will still hide all their sins because they still want to continue in them.

“Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?” (John 9:10 KJV) Now when the people came to know that he is the same bigger after his eyes were opened, they should be glad and joyous with this news. But it seems not. They were more curious to know how that had happened to him, more than to express their joy to see him seeing. It is very strange thing that Jesus did such a miracle but the people are still very indifferent to it. In the same way, Jesus may do great things to the world and to others through our lives and they are still indifferent to what God did, therefore we should not be discouraged to the people ill response to Jesus’ work.

“He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.” (John 9:11 KJV) The man narrated to them all what was took place, with all the details. He also included the name of the man, Jesus, who healed him. So most likely he heard the name of Jesus while Jesus was making the clay or during applying it on his eyes. Or he might be was told by His disciples of His name, before he departed to go and wash in the pool of Siloam. The man told them clearly his testimony with all the details. People who are truly converted will narrate the events of their conversions as a testimony for all the world to hear and know about Jesus, and about what He can do in the peoples’ lives.

“Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not.” ((John 9:12 KJV) They started to inquire about Jesus where is He? As if they were willing to follow Him and to obey the commands of His voice. But rather they were resenting seeing such marvelous miracles. That should not take place. There is something that made them unhappy to see the blind man see. The prove of their unhappiness was evident from their inquiry about how he was healed. Instead they should at once praise God for the healing that took place, but their heart failed them to do that. Why? It could be jealousy, or selfishness, it could be lack of believe, or it could be fear from the persecution that was prevalent at that time against those who believe in Jesus.

In every miracle or interaction that Jesus would do in the people’s life, he would be away for a while from being with the people whom he did to them miracle, and would watch how they will respond and how they will interact with the people around them of what had taken place in their lives. The man answered them, **“I know not.”** True he did not know where is Jesus, because his eyes were opened after he left the Lord. Speaking the truth all the time it could be a sign of true conversion.

“They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind.” (John 9:13 KJV) This is now is the proof that they were not in a good spirit toward that miracle of Jesus, because they took the man that was healed to be questioned by the Pharisees. So here it is very clear, that the crowd was not ready to receive Jesus and accept what He did as a marvelous miracle and accept Him as God over their lives. Because if they had accepted Him, then, they don’t need to go and bring the man that was healed and present him to the Pharisees.

In evangelism whether using the Word of God, or through miracles that God is doing, or through reaching out people using physical aid, there will be a message that will be sent beyond the person concerned, reaching up to the crowd around the scene and ultimately the religious and the traditional foundation that the person is belong to. Finally as we can see, what Jesus did of the good works of God with that blind man hit the foundations of the Pharisees.

Certain times the people themselves, as had happened here, would not accept Christ and His teaching, even if He offered healing, miracles, provisions and the rest of the good work. Why the people were not willing to receive Christ’s grace and miracles? Possibly they were non willing to leave their own culture and tradition, or they got affected in one way or another. They were possibly jealous toward the man who received his sight or there was other reason made Christ not palatable to their taste.

“And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes.” (John 9:14 KJV) Here using the reason of the Sabbath being the day that no work should be done is just an excuse for their rejection of Christ, and not the reason nor the cause of their action. The people who brought the man to the Pharisees and they used the Sabbath as a reason of accusation. But if they would be the direct person who would take benefits of Christ, would they go and report that to the Pharisees that the miracle was done on the Sabbath Day? Absolutely not.

Rejection to Christ was the reason for them to bring the man to the Pharisees. When the message is said in a way God indented to be glorified, then rejection is of high possibility, unless the persons who hear are in desperate need for repentance and in desperate need for their sins to be forgiven.

What more we can say, and why the people were indifference to such a miracles? Christ’s speech and actions had reached Jerusalem and it found rejection in the hearts and minds of the Pharisees and the chief priests. The people of Jerusalem had also come to know that their leaders are not for it. Now for them to pursue Christ, they need to do certain changes that will cause them much disturbances. Many people when they will hear the teachings of Christ and like it, they will not be able to pursue in it, because they ought to face certain setups and struggle much to change it. Many they just want to live their lives in peace, even if it is a false peace, and they will not be willing that such peace will be disturbed in order for sin to be dealt with and for God’s will to be prevailed.

Also the people want to take something ready, and they don’t want to take part in the changes and suffer in that process. If someone will do the changes as Jesus was doing, they are just watching, and they will see the outcome, and they will move with the winner. Also the people will not be willing to get involve in sufferings.

Christ in what was doing in the midst of them, although He was performing much miracles and wondrous things, He was also calling the people and challenging them to get involved in the process of changing that entailed on them much suffering. Therefore you found them quitting from attending Christ and from walking in the truth of His word. Their agreement and walk with Christ means to wage war against the religious system that was existing at that time.

If Christ would heal the person not in the Sabbath, then they would surely entertain it and like it because in that they will not be struggling with the Pharisees and the chief priests. Many when it comes to tradition and culture that the Bible does not approve, they will start to compromise in order not to touch that particular area that needed to be changed. But that contradict the Word of God that says the following: “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” (2 Corinthians 5:17 KJV) A person in Christ is a new person, for the old things, the flesh and its sinful nature, the tradition and culture, should pass away, and the person becomes a new person, who is completely different from the old one; and his life is completely changed and transformed.

Christ intentionally healed the man on the Sabbath to challenge the people, and to tell them the message, that to receive the good things of God they need to do their part and come out from the wrong religious system that they were under.

My dear and beloved: Evangelism is willingness to suffer persecution, rejection and pressure from the community of the people who are non willing to give up their tradition and culture and the rest of the sinful setup that they are live in.

Evangelism is willingness to reach dangerous places and people with high resistance to the call of God and you will be at risk in preaching God's Word to them and in doing certain things that people will hate you because of such actions.

But as you persevere God will lead you to people who are ripened and primed to receive the gospel of Jesus Christ and to be saved. As you are willing to take the risk for the sake of the gospel, the Lord shall reward you by bringing new souls and new fruit into your ministry.

God is calling you today to be firm in carrying the message and in applying certain actions in the life of the people that God is leading you to reach out. As you obey God, He will work mighty miracles and He will do for you an outstanding events and you will see God's Word successfully reaching to new certain places as you obey Him and do His instructions.

You are also called to get involved in the process of changing, that God is doing, in removing the old and useless culture and tradition and replace them and adopt the Word of God instead of them.

Commit yourself to the principles that you had learned in the message, and commit yourself to the calling of God in your life to be a blessing to others in bringing them to Christ, and in bringing His salvation, healing and blessings to them.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death to give me eternal life.*

Lord I thank you for your word that makes your callings clear to me. Lord I commit myself to the principles that I learned from this message.

Lord I will go into the direction that you are leading me, to reach the people that you wants me to help them to know you and to receive your salvation, your mercy and your grace. Lord I commit myself to instruct them of what you want to implement.

Lord I renounce all the traditional and the social practices that is against your Word and your will. Lord I am willing to go against people's culture and traditions even if they will hate me for the sake of you message that they will hear from me.

Lord refills me with the Holy Spirit and gives me the spiritual gifts that I need in my life to serve you, to evangelize and to heal the sick. Lord sustains me with a good health and the needed strength to do this ministry.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and my Sisters who committed their lives to go and evangelize, Lord Baptize them with the Holy Ghost, and give them the spiritual gifts to go and spread your Word. Lord gives them boldness to stand firm and to abide in your Word. Lord I pray that you will protect them and provide their needs and do marvelous miracles in their lives and in their ministries.

Lord bless your church, and enable us Lord to reach new people, new families, new villages, and new areas with the gospel, impacting new cities, countries and nations with the gospel of Jesus. Lord enables us to preach boldly your Word and to do the very thing that you wants us to do.

Lord enables us to plant new Bible studies and more congregations in various places. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf
The Church Overseer
Church of God
United Arab Emirates
Email: thebread1@gmail.com
Mobile Tel #: 00971551902647

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Or contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email:

thebread1@gmail.com.

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