

A Simple Bible Study on "Believing"

John 1:7; 1:12; 1:50; 2:11; 2:22-23; 3:12; 3:15-16; 3:18; 3:36; 4:21; 4:39; 4:41-42; 4:48; 4:50; 4:53; 5:24; 5:38; 5:44; 5:46-47; 6:29-30; 6:35-36; 6:40; 6:47; 6:64; 6:69; 7:5; 7:31; 7:38-39; 7:48; 8:24; 8:30-31; 8:45-46; 9:18; 9:35-36; 9:38; 10:25-26; 10:37-38; 10:42; 11:15; 11:25-27; 11:40; 11:42; 11:45; 11:48; 12:11; 12:36-39; 12:42; 12:44; 12:46-47; 13:19; 14:1; 14:10-12; 14:29; 16:9; 16:27; 16:30-31; 17:8; 17:20-21; 19:35; 20:8; 20:25; 20:27; 20:29; 20:31.

Chapter 9 (9:18; 9:35-36; 9:38)

TITLE: **_Believing...can be difficult IF THE HEART IS HARD; Believing comes only after confessing Jesus, and not just because of a physical miracle_.**

Lesson on *Blindness* Believing— The Man Born Blind is Healed

For the first time since chapter one John's text of an entire chapter deals with one event, and it is directly related to **believing!**

We therefore offer a summary of the event for context's sake:

Jesus, while walking with His disciples, notice a man who was blind from birth and they ask Him a typical question: 'Was his parents or himself guilty because he was born blind?' Jesus corrected them by rejecting judgment type thinking, and instead emphasized acknowledgment of God in all the unexplainable questions of life – with a view to glorifying God through diligent work. He then made a clay paste with His own saliva, anointed the eyes and commanded the blind man to wash in the Siloam pool.

With humility the man obeyed and was immediately healed. This caused such a fracas with the religious leaders especially when they were told Jesus had done this on the Sabbath. When asked if Jesus had done this, his parents were very afraid of the synagogue leadership and asked that he be personally questioned. He answered truthfully and hence put out of the Synagogue.

*Jesus found, and questioned him then, and the man believed in Jesus as Messiah thereafter immediately worshipping Him. Jesus then says, **For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.** V. 39*

So this chapter is a commentary on religious leaders and how impossible it is for them to accept contradictory teaching and their pride generates hard heartedness by such thinking, but yet how simple it was for the less educated to accept the reality of miracles. It also show *confession of Jesus* is essential even after a miracle!

(1)

Joh 9:18 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.

- Does this chapter teach *there are people who find believing difficult*?
- Who were those *not believing* without physical proof?
- Were the religious leaders the only group NOT believing?
- Why is *believing on the Son* difficult?
- Is it significant *this whole chapter* deals with one event?
- Do people today act like this man's parents did? Why?

(2-3)

Joh 9:35-36 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?

- Why did Jesus look this man up?
- Why didn't He ask him who made him see?
- What did the man mean by the word **believe**?
- Do you think this man would have believed in Jesus if Christ had not come asking?
- Why did Jesus answer with the word *both*: "**Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee...**"

(4)

Joh 9:38 And he said, Lord, I **believe**. And he worshipped him.

- What is different about this confession of belief as compared to the curing of his blindness in v. 7?
- Was he saved from his sin immediately after he was healed?
- When, exactly then, is a person in possession of eternal life?
- Can people think they have eternal life *after a physical miracle* and not be saved?
- How can describing *believing* be made in the simplest and clearest terms?
- How did Jesus handle the unbelieving religious leaders who had hard hearts?