

# John 9:1–12 – “Jesus Gives Sight to the Blind”

*Jesus, the Light of the world, reveals the works of God, it is obedience to His word that gives sight to sinners, who are spiritually blind from birth.*

## **The Biblical World – Understanding the Context:**

In the ancient world, blindness was often viewed as divine judgment. The blind were excluded from temple service and reduced to begging. Scripture used blindness as a metaphor for spiritual ignorance (Isaiah 42:7), and the Messiah alone was promised to open blind eyes (Isaiah 35:5). John records this healing as the sixth sign, showing Jesus fulfills prophecy and reveals His mission. Coming after the intense disputes of chapter 8, this miracle is not just about sight—it’s about Jesus proving He is the Light of the world who brings salvation.

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## **Passage Outline**

- **I. A question about sin. (vv. 1–3)**
  - **II. Jesus’ purpose and identity. (vv. 4–7)**
  - **III. A powerful testimony for God’s glory. (vv. 8–12)**
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## **Passage Notes**

### **I. A question about sin. (vv. 1–3)**

The disciples assumed the blind man’s condition was punishment for sin. Jesus corrected them: this man’s blindness was not caused by sin but allowed so the works of God could be revealed. Likewise, our hardships can become opportunities for God to display His power. Suffering is not always the result of guilt—it can be the platform for God’s glory.

### **II. Jesus’ purpose and identity. (vv. 4–7)**

Jesus declared, “I am the light of the world,” then healed the man by making clay, anointing his eyes, and commanding him to wash in Siloam. The man obeyed, and for the first time he could see. The method pointed back to God’s creative work in Genesis 2:7, showing that the One who formed man

from dust now restores sight. Transformation came not by ritual or human effort, but by trusting and obeying the word of Jesus.

### **III. A powerful testimony for God's glory. (vv. 8–12)**

Neighbors were divided—some doubted it was the same man, others were amazed. The man simply testified: “A Man called Jesus... I received sight.” His life became undeniable evidence of God's work. Just as his old neighbors struggled to understand his new identity, so too the world is baffled when sinners are transformed. Yet obedience to Jesus always produces a testimony that points to Him.

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#### **The Modern World – Relevance Today:**

We often view suffering as punishment, but Jesus reframes it as opportunity. Blindness—whether physical or spiritual—shows our need for His light. Today, many chase money, status, or pleasure to fix emptiness, but only Jesus gives true sight. Every act of obedience becomes a witness to those around us.

#### **The World of the Congregation – Applying This Passage Today:**

Many in the church feel weighed down by past sins, generational struggles, or lifelong battles. This passage reminds us: Jesus sees us, transforms us, and uses our story to glorify God. Our role is to obey His word and testify to what He has done.

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#### **What This Means for Us**

- **Your trials can become testimonies.**
  - *What condition in your life could God use for His glory?*
    - → Instead of blaming, invite Him to display His works through you.
- **Obedience brings transformation.**
  - *Where might you still be spiritually blind?*
    - → Let His word wash you and reveal His light.
- **Your story points others to Christ.**
  - *How did others respond when you trusted Jesus?*
    - → Live boldly as a witness and share His gospel freely.