

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Twenty-Seven

Healing the Blind Man at Bethsaida

Text: Mark 8:22-26

Introduction:

1. Due to division among the Jews, Jesus continued to remain on the eastern side of the Jordan River, in Gentile territory.
2. After He feed the 4,000 men, Jesus used that miracle to teach an important lesson to His disciples (Mark 8:14-21).
3. This lesson was taught while they were traveling toward Bethsaida – on the north coast of the Sea of Galilee.
4. Upon arriving there, Jesus performed another marvelous miracle.

I. The Miracle

- A. Jesus had worked many miracles in Bethsaida, but the people refused to repent (Matthew 11:21-24).
- B. Upon His return to the city, they brought a blind man to Him to be healed.
- C. In order to heal him, Jesus led the man out of the town.
 1. This is similar to His healing of the deaf man (Lesson 24).
 2. The town's rejection of Jesus might be part of the reason for this (cf. Mt. 25:27).
- D. Then, He spit on his eyes and put His hands upon him – and the blind man was healed.
- E. This miracle is presented as two healings to emphasize the power and wisdom of the Son of God.
 1. Some claim that Jesus did not heal this man perfectly at first, so He had to try again.
 2. Nothing could be farther from the truth!
- F. First, Jesus healed this man's vision.
 1. Notice that the blind man's eyesight was perfectly restored.
 2. He was blind, but now he could see – period.
- G. Second, Jesus healed this man's perception.
 1. The ability to see is more than just a function of the eyes.
 2. One who has his sight restored must also have his mind taught to understand what he now can see.
 3. He could see perfectly, but did not comprehend what he was seeing.
 4. Thus, Jesus performed a second miracle on his mind so that he could see *clearly*.

II. The Manifestation

- A. Of course, Jesus proved His power and His deity.
- B. He also demonstrated great wisdom and understanding of man both physically and intellectually.

III. The Message

- A. Carefully consider this miracle of seeing but not perceiving in the context of the misunderstandings of the disciples.
- B. The great message of this miracle is the importance of seeing things in focus.