What The Blind Man Saw

Robert Harkrider · Acts 9:1–18 · Series: **Turning to God**

INTRODUCTION

- This morning I want to talk about the conversion of Saul of Tarsus or of Paul. I'm calling the lesson what the blind man saw.
- Yet it is true that there are some who have taken the handicap of blindness and have in fact turned it into a blessing.

1 Being Good Morally by Itself Is Not Sufficient

Philippians 3:4–7

- He learned, first of all, that some things alone will not save.
- He learned that being good morally by itself is not sufficient to save.
- Touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. But what things were gained to me, those I counted lost for Christ.
- He was a good moral man. But he was not saved.

2 Having Religious Zeal Was Not Enough

Acts 22:3; Galatians 1:13

- He also learned having religious zeal was not enough.
- I was brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day.
- Beyond measure, I persecuted the church of God and wasted it.
- God wants us to be zealous, but that by itself isn't sufficient.

3 Sincere Following His Conscience Was Not Enough

Matthew 7:21–23; Acts 23:1; Acts 26:9–10

- He saw that sincere following his conscience was not enough.
- Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father, which is in heaven.
- It's important that we follow our conscience. We must never violate it. But conscience alone can be misguided.
- I verily thought with myself that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

4 The Tragedy of Believing a Lie

1 Timothy 1:12–16; Genesis 37; 2 Thessalonians 2:9–12

- He was honestly mistaken while he was persecuting Christians. But when he saw this vision on the road to Damascus, he had to make a choice.

- But I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.
- The same emotion that is produced by a lie is the same emotion that is produced by truth.
- We must be ever with an open mind and an open Bible.

5 He Needed to Do Something More to Be Saved

Acts 9:6; John 14:6; Acts 26:19

- What wilt thou have me to do, Lord?
- He saw that he needed to do something more to be saved.
- Though he had seen the Lord in the vision, he had to obey that vision.
- Nowhere do you find that the vision was the time at which he was saved.

6 Faith That Saves Is a Faith That Obeys

Romans 6:17–18; Acts 22:16; Romans 6:3–4

- Faith that saves is a faith that obeys.
- You have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, you became the servants of righteousness.
- Arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins.
- In the act of baptism, he was baptized into the death. That's where his blood was shed.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Do you accept Christ as a Son of God? Would you be willing as a believer in him then to arise and be baptized and wash away sins?**

MY NOTES