



John

Lesson 9 Chapter 9

At this point in his treatise, John has identified three of the seven "I Am" statements Jesus made. He revealed Himself as the "I Am" to the Samaritan woman, He told those who were part of the 5,000 people He provided bread for "I am the bread of life," He declared to the crowd in Jerusalem "I am the light of the world," and He also added that "before Abraham was "I AM."

By the end of Chapter 7, the altercations between Jesus and the religious leaders had magnified to the point of death threats against Him. In each of the previous confrontations and the ones to come, Jesus continued to tell them that the reason they don't know Him is because they don't know God. In action and speech, He reflected the person of the God they claimed to know, yet they rejected Him. Had they really known the Father, they would have identified Him in Jesus.

In Chapter 8, the scene shifts to an attempt to trick Jesus into saying something in an application of the Law of Moses that would give them justification to arrest Him or kill Him. Their plan backfires which only increases their hatred of Jesus. Now, in Chapter 9, on the final Sabbath of the Feast of Tabernacles, John records Jesus' next sign; He heals a man who has been blind from birth. When the Pharisees hear of it, they believe this might be another chance to arrest Him. Obviously, the traditions of men had become more important than the brokenness of people. Compassion, love, and forgiveness were superseded by legalism, and the spirit of the Law had been lost. Jesus obviously considered human suffering and need a top priority. It was because of men's suffering due to sin that He had been born, and it would be because of their suffering due to sin that He would suffer for them and die.

READ CHAPTER 9

1. *Consider the question that the disciples ask Jesus in vs.2. What does this tell you about their perception of sin and physical infirmity? See also Luke 13:2 and Acts 28:4.*

2. *What was the purpose of this healing? John 9:3 and 10:37-38.*

3. *What method did Jesus use in this healing, and how had He used it before? Mark 7:31-35; 8:22-25*



In the eyes of the Pharisees, Jesus broke two Sabbath laws in healing the blind man. Making efforts to heal anyone who was not in risk of dying was considered breaking the law. If you sprained your ankle, you were not to even put cold water on it because that had a healing effect. Also, to make clay would have been considered work which broke Sabbath law.

4. *What was the crowd's reaction when the man came back seeing? Vs 8-12. What might be some reasons why the crowd took the man to the Pharisees? Vs. 13*
5. *Why were the man's parents brought in? Vs. 18 What does their response tell you about them?*
6. *What was the assessment of the religious leaders as to who Jesus was? Vs. 24 What did they base that conclusion on?*
7. *What was the healed man's assessment of Jesus? Vs. 25*

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
