Things Seen When Blind

Introduction

Scripture Reading: Acts 9:1-9

- While Saul was on the road to Damascus, he was blinded by a light from heaven Acts 9:1-9
- 2. During the time that Saul was blind, he saw a number of things that most people today don't see.
- 3. In this morning's lesson, let's look at three things that Saul saw while blind.

Conscience is Not Always a Safe Guide

- 1. One can live in all good conscience and still be in error.
 - A. The trend in religion today seems to be "just let your conscience be your guide."
- 2. Saul was guided by his conscience, but he was guided into error.
 - A. Saul "made havoc" of the church! Acts 8:3
 - Did Saul's conscience bother him while he was persecuting the church of our Lord? Acts 23:1

- 3. It is so unfortunate that many people today may be living in all good conscience in regard to religious matters but still be engaged in religious error.
 - A. To be blunt to be living in sin!

Zealousness in Religion Can Be Wrong

- 1. Just because a person is zealous in their religion doesn't mean that they are right.
- 2. Saul revealed to the Galatians that he was a religious man.

Galatians 1:14 And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers.

- A. He was not your ordinary religious man. He was zealous in his religion!
 - Zealous: "showing great energy or enthusiasm in pursuit of a cause or objective"
- B. Saul testified that he was "zealous toward God."
 - 1) He announced to the brethren in Galatia, that he was "exceedingly zealous" (Galatians 1:14 - above).
- The Bible teaches that zeal is essential if one is to please God.
 Titus 2:14
 - A. Yet, some today may be in the same condition that Saul was in "concerning zeal, persecuting the church."
 Philippians 3:6

• It takes more than just being zealous to be pleasing to God!

What One Must Do to Wash Away Sin

- Saul learned what a man must do in order to have his sins washed away – to be in a saved condition. Acts 9:6
- 2. While Saul lay trembling, he asked, "Lord what do you want me to do?"
 - A. Notice Jesus' response: "Arise, and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."
- 3. Whatever Saul was told to do in Damascus, it was imperative that he do it in order to have his sins washed away.
 - A. His sins were not forgiven by Jesus on the road to Damascus. Saul believed in Jesus, He loved Jesus – yet he was NOT saved before or during his moment with the Lord on the road.
- Saul was told by Ananias, "Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord."
 Acts 22:16
- 5. Saul, while blind, saw that in order to have his sins washed away, he had to be baptized!

Conclusion

- 1. Saul saw these things while blind. Can each one of us see these things?
- 2. Saul had an honest heart, a heart determined to do God's will.
- 3. When he learned the truth, he responded and did what he needed to do, what he MUST do in order to be saved.
- 4. If one thinks and believes that an individual can be saved without being baptized into Christ, then that person is not being open and honest about the Bible – which is God's Word to us.
- 5. Saul was asked "why are you waiting?"
 - A. Jesus invites you right now to come to him. He will not make you be obedient to His words that will judge us (John 12:48), but He is offering you His dear invitation.

Matthew 11:28-30 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

Invitation

Place	Date

Things Seen When Blind.wpd Richie Thetford, April 2025 (Based on a lesson by John Isaac Edwards)