

## **Jesus Went Looking For Him**

**By Kent Heaton**

*“They answered and said to him, ‘You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?’ And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, ‘Do you believe in the Son of God?’ He answered and said, ‘Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?’ And Jesus said to him, ‘You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you.’ Then he said, ‘Lord, I believe!’ And he worshiped Him. And Jesus said, ‘For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind.’” (John 9:34-39)*

Being born blind is a sad life in many ways. On the first level, there is no knowledge of what the world looks like so they never know what they are missing. There is no reference point to use if someone describes what he or she sees. A person born blind is not as handicap for the same reason because their world has always been in darkness. The greatest tragedy is the blind cannot see the beauty of God’s creation. There are many reasons why a child can be born blind and this would be especially difficult in the Bible times. Not understanding the science of blindness, people were treated harshly.

While in Jerusalem Jesus and His disciples came upon a man born blind from birth. The disciples used the poor man as an object lesson to inquire who was to blame for his condition. Always the teacher, the Lord took the opportunity to show His power among His disciples and healed the blind man; anointing the eyes with clay and saliva and telling the man to wash in the pool of Siloam. To the amazing joy of the man, he came back seeing. It is wonderful to consider what he thought of as he first viewed the world with his new eyes. There can be little doubt the first person he wanted to talk to was the voice that healed him. To his disappointment, the man called Jesus had left.

The first hours of his new life were very hard. He was taken before the Pharisees and grilled about his healing. His parents were brought in to confirm he had been blind. Finding no satisfaction to their questions, they cast the former blind man out of the synagogue. This must have been a horrible day for the man. He had been blind from birth. A stranger named Jesus had healed him of the impossibility. The first few hours of his sight-seeing life had been filled with anger and hatred. He may have wished he had his blindness back so he would not see the angry faces of the Pharisees. The Jewish leaders had ridiculed him and cast him out of the synagogue. How humiliating and sad he must have felt. Little did he know someone was coming to see him.

Jesus heard what happened to the man and here is where the story takes a powerful turn. The Lord came looking for him. Of all the people in the whole of the city, Jesus was looking for one man. Because Jesus had left before the blind returned from the pool of Siloam, he did not know what Jesus looked like. In a moment of great emotional relief, the blind man looked into the eyes of Jesus and saw his savior. Jesus came for him. Jesus came looking for one man and he was the one. What a joy to speak to the one who saved him. “Lord I believe,” he proclaimed and he worshipped Jesus.

This story is the revelation of God’s Son. I am blind but now I see. The sweat and tears of my Lord was mixed with blood and He anointed my eyes with His grace so that I can see His love. At the cross, Jesus bathed my life with the waters of life. He anointed me with His mercy to take away the darkness of my sin. He came for me. He came for you. His life will give you sight to see what cannot be seen without His power. We need to proclaim, “Lord I believe” and we must worship to one who gave us sight. He came to find us and to save us. Thank you Lord.

“Now it is faith to believe that which you do not yet see; and the reward of faith is to see that which you believe.” (Augustine; 354-430; Sermon XLIII)

## **A Quick Sprint or a Long Race?**

Cheetahs survive the African plains by running down their prey. These big cats can sprint to more than seventy miles per hour, but they cannot sustain their fast pace for long. Within their long, sleek bodies are disproportionately small hearts, which cause them to tire quickly. Unless the cheetahs catch their prey in their first fast sprint, they will abandon their chase.

Sometimes Christians seem to have the cheetah's approach to serving the Lord. They speed into projects with great energy, but lacking the hearts for sustained effort, they soon fizzle out. Let us have great staying power, stamina that comes from big hearts, so that we can patiently run the race set before us.

*"Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith" (Heb. 12:1-2).*

## **Secret of a Good Marriage**

To keep your marriage brimming,  
With love in the loving cup,  
Whenever you're wrong, admit it;  
Whenever you're right, shut up.  
(Ogden Nash)

## **A Moments Wisdom**

--The work of God is not held back by evil men and women, but by good men and women who have stopped growing and working.

--Self-respect is the basis of all good manners. It is the expression of discipline, good will, and respect for others' rights, comforts, and feelings.

--The secret of being interesting is in being interested.

--Blessed are those who can give without remembering and can receive without forgetting.

--Moderately religious people have been inoculated with a mild form of Christianity and are thus rendered immune from the real thing.

--Blessed is the man who, having nothing to say, abstains from giving worthy evidence of that fact.

--A well-developed sense of humor is the pole that adds balance to your steps as you walk the tightrope of life.

--One thing is certain about inviting trouble -- it always accepts the invitation.

--All great relationships require productive conflict in order to grow.

--The Lamb of God who died to save us is also the Good Shepherd who lives to lead us.

--When we see to bring out the best in others, we somehow bring out the best in ourselves.

--When Samson slept in the lap of Delilah, he was shorn of his power to act for God. A church that naps in the lap of the world will become a contributor to its evil rather than a disturber of its conscience.

--The only people you should try to get even with are those who have helped you.

--We should never permit our grievances to overshadow our opportunities.

--The best way to be missed when you are gone is to stand for something when you are here.

--If you really want to do something, you will find a way; if you really don't want to do a thing, you will find an excuse.

--Prayer is not a substitute for work; it is a diligent effort to work further and be efficient beyond the range of one's own powers. It is not the lazy who are inclined to prayer; those pray most who care most, and who, having worked hard, find it intolerable to be defeated without first soliciting the help of God.