What The Blind Man Saw

Intro: Acts 9:1-9 “And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, 2And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. 3And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: 4And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? 5And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. 6And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. 7And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man. 8And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus. 9And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.” One of the three accounts of the conversion of Saul.

1. In both the Old and New Testament we read of the blind.
   a. Isa. 35:5-9 “Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. 6Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. 7And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes. 8And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. 9No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there:”
   b. Mat. 11:2-5 “Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, 2And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? 3Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: 4The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.”
   c. The man born blind whom Jesus heals; John 9:

2. One of the most precious gifts of life is sight, but if not used we are no better and have no advantage over the blind man (cf. Bible reading).

3. What did this blind man see?

I. THAT BEING RELIGIOUS AND A WORSHIPPER OF GOD IS NOT SUFFICIENT.
   A. Phi. 3:3-7 “For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh. 4Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: 5Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; 6Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. 7But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.”
   B. Gal. 1:14 “And profited in the Jews’ religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.”
   C. Consider:
      1. Jam. 1:26 “If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man’s religion is vain.”
2. Lev. 10:1-2 “And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the Lord, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them, and they died before the Lord.”

II. THAT BEING HONEST, SINCERE AND LIVING IN ALL GOOD CONSCIENCE IS NOT SUFFICIENT.

A. Acts 23:1 “And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.”

B. Acts 26:9 “I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.”

C. Rom. 10:2 “For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.”

D. Examples.

1. Gen. 27:23 Isaac: Jacob and Esau. “And he discerned him not, because his hands were hairy, as his brother Esau’s hands: so he blessed him.”

2. Gen. 37:33 Jacob: Joseph “And he knew it, and said, It is my son’s coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces.”

3. 2 Sam. 6:7 Uzzah “And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of God.”

E. Isa. 55:8-9 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

F. Man may think a way is right when it is not.

1. Pro. 14:12 “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”

2. Pro. 16:25 “There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”

III. SAW THAT EVEN A CHIEF OF SINNERS CAN BE SAVED.

A. 1 Tim. 1:13-15 “Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. 14And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. 15This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.”

B. Christ is “able to save them to the uttermost.” Heb. 7:25 “Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.”

C. Psa. 51:7 “Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.”

D. Isa. 1:18 “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.”

Conclusion: If you are in sin (because you have never obeyed the Gospel or because you have fallen back into sin), Christ will save you if you will come to Him.