

Mar. 23 - Scripture: Luke 18: 18-43

Verses that speak to you: Luke 18:35-43 A Blind Beggar Receives His Sight

Observation: Many of us learned the story of the blind beggar, Bartimaeus in Sunday School. As Jesus was leaving Jericho the blind man called out to the crowd, "what is happening?" They told him "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by". Upon hearing that the blind man called out "Son of David, have mercy on me". Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but the blind man continued to shout until he got Jesus' attention. Jesus asked him what he wanted Him to do, to which Bartimaeus replied, "Lord, I want to see." Jesus restored his sight, telling him that his faith had healed him.

Application: This passage is no longer the simple story of a blind man healed as it was when I was a child. It is so much more. The crowd told Bartimaeus that "Jesus of Nazareth" was near. But, Bartimaeus shouted for the "Son of David" or the Messiah, to have mercy on him. Those leading were embarrassed by a beggars petition for money or food, but Jesus knew that it was more than that. He stopped and asked what it was the blind man wanted from him. His answer was not money, not food, but sight! Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem and Bartimaeus had recognized Him, even through his blindness, and was not going to let the rebukes of others keep him from his healer. Many of us have been there, spiritual eyes opened to who Jesus really is, Lord, Savior, Redeemer, our faith making us whole. Bartimaeus began to follow Jesus, praising God for what He had done. We too, need to ignore the world's demands for our silence and lift up our praises to the One who has heard our cries and saved us, perhaps pointing others to Him as we pass them by.

Prayer: Dear Lord, I pray that the eyes of our hearts may be enlightened in order that we may know the hope to which You have called us, the riches of Your glorious inheritance in the saints, and Your incomparably great power for us who believe. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Writer: Robin Bowden, I have been a member of Eastminster for about ten years. I desire for God to increase my faith and passion for His word and hopefully become contagious to others.