

Gotta Have Faith

Matthew 9:27-34

## **Recap**

The purpose of Matthews gospel is to show that Jesus is the Messiah.

Matthew is a Jew speaking to the Jewish people.

This is why there is an overabundance of references to the Old Testament scripture.

The Old Testament, or Tanach as the Jews would call it, would be common knowledge for most of his audience.

Jesus is still in Capernaum

He is leaving the house of a city leader after performing a miracle there.

Our passages today pick up here as Jesus makes his way through town.

## **2 events**

1. 2 blind men are healed because they had faith
2. Another demon is caste out.

Read Matthew 9:27-34

## Verse 27

Jesus' ministry is starting to gain traction.

Crowds of people are following him through town

Even though the two men can't see Jesus, they know he is there.

In spite of their physical blindness inhibiting their ability to see the world around them, their ability to see spiritual things is still firmly intact.

Not only do they know he is there, they have heard enough about him to know who he is.

They refer to him as Son of David

This is important because this statement acknowledges the fulfillment of prophecy found in [Jeremiah 23:5](#)

““The last days are coming”- this is the Lord's declaration – “when I will raise up a Righteous Branch of David.” He will reign wisely as king and administer justice and righteousness in the land. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. This is what He will be named: Yahweh Our Righteousness.”

Yahweh Our Righteousness translates to “The LORD is our righteousness”

These men didn't need to see Jesus to know that he was the Messiah.

They knew the prophecies spoken through the prophets, they heard the stories of the miracles that Jesus performed, and they had faith that they could be healed.

In faith they asked Jesus the Messiah to heal them.

## Verses 28-29

We see that Jesus enters a house and has a conversation with these two blind men.

The bible isn't clear on who's house this is but it's clear that he was welcome there.

Jesus asked them a simple question.

“Do you believe that I can do this”

When we are asking God for something how are we asking?

Are we asking with doubt in our hearts or are we asking with faith, knowing that nothing is too big for God?

### **Nothing is too big for God!**

God is more interested in the quality of our faith than the quantity of our faith.

“...If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will tell this mountain, move from here to there, and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”  
Matthew 17:20

What problems are there in your life that you think are too big for God to deal with?

If we come to Yahweh our Righteousness, with genuine faith the size of a mustard seed, he will give us the ability to move mountains in our own lives.

The two men answered Him earnestly, publicly, and without hesitation.

“Yes, Lord”

At that point Jesus touched their eyes, and they were healed.

They were not healed because of any power that they possessed, they were healed because they had faith in the one true Messiah.

### Verse 30-31

After they were healed, Jesus “warned them sternly” to not tell anyone what about what just happened.

#### **Why did he ask them to keep it a secret?**

Jesus did not want his entire ministry to be defined by him healing people.

The healing of people was a way for him to show compassion for the people he loves and prove that he is the long-awaited Messiah but it was not his main objective.

Jesus came here to offer repentance of sin through the shedding of his blood.

He wants people to follow him because they seek the eternal gift of the forgiveness of sins and not because they were going to get a worldly gift.

Unfortunately, the men were not obedient and told everyone what was done for them.

How many times do we see this played out in our lives. We get so excited about God delivering us from something that we fall into disobedience.

That could be things like: not praying or not reading his word as much as we did before.

## **Jesus Drives out a demon**

### Verses 32-34

Not all demons have the same characteristics.

This demon was not aggressive and hostile like legion was.

This demon possessed man had lost his ability to speak.

Jesus easily casts out the demon allowing the man to speak again.

Don't overlook the significance of this seemingly small event.

This simple act of restoring a man's ability to speak, and giving sight back to the two blind men, actually fulfilled prophecy given by Isaiah.

“...“God's retribution is coming; He will save you.” Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstoppable. Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute will sing for joy, for water will gush in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.”

Isaiah 35:4-6

Jesus is revealing to everyone through his actions that he is the Messiah.

How do the Pharisees react to this miracle?

They claim that Jesus is operating under the authority of Satan.

### Verse 34

This statement by the Pharisees is ridiculous at its best.

They are claiming that Jesus is fighting the enemy with the enemies help.

This reminds me of a game my grandfather, and uncles played with me. It was the “why are you hitting yourself? Stop hitting yourself” game.

I hated this game as a child, but loved playing it with my kids, nephews, and grand kids.

Matthew doesn't record how Jesus responds to this claim from the Pharisees. For that we need to head to the book of Luke.

“knowing their thoughts, He told them: “Every kingdom divided against itself is headed for destruction, and a house divided against itself falls. If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say I drive out demons by Beelzebul. And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, who is it your sons drive them out by? For this reason they will be your judges. If I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you.”

Jesus breaks this response down into three parts.

1. He relates his explanation with practical application that everyone will understand.
2. He gives his explanation
3. He explains where he actually gets his authority.

#### Practical application (**Verse 17**)

A house divided will surely fall.

Ex1. If you are at odds with your spouse in your home, how successful will your home be?

Ex2. How many of us have tried to accomplish a group project with a team that was constantly at odds with each other?

In both of these examples the desired outcome is almost guaranteed to fail because the participants are spending all of their time and energy fighting each other instead of working towards their common goal.

#### Applying it to Satan's kingdom (**verses 18-19**)

The same concepts that apply to our homes can be applied to the enemies.

We may not want to admit it but the enemy has a foothold in this world.

That very fact proves that his house is not divided but in fact united.

Don't let this discourage you. No matter how united his house is the enemies of God will not prevail against him.

I've read ahead and those that stand with God win!!!

What Jesus is saying here is that what the Pharisees are suggesting doesn't make any sense.

It's a weak argument and suggests an impossible situation.

#### The truth of Jesus's authority (**Verse 20**)

Jesus drops a bomb with this next statement.

Jesus just stated that it is impossible to use the authority of Satan to fight against Satan.

The only other option is that his authority comes from God.

What Jesus is doing here is presenting the only rational explanation for where his authority comes from, and then takes it a step further by revealing that he is the Messiah.

## **Conclusion**

1. Jesus is acknowledged, by the two blind men, as being the Messiah when they refer to him as the “Son of David”.
  - a. This is further proof that people are starting to see Jesus for who he really is.
2. The two men were healed of their blindness because they had faith enough to seek Jesus relentlessly.
  - a. With all of their roadblocks and excuses they persisted to chase after Jesus with unwavering faith knowing that he could heal them.
3. Jesus fulfills the prophecy about him in Isaiah 35:5-6 when he heals the blind men and the mute.
  - a. This is a prophecy that most of the Jewish population would know about. It further increased his credibility with the people.
4. Jesus makes the powerful statement that a house divided will fail.
  - a. This should serve as a warning to everyone to be diligent in staying aligned with Gods word in all avenues of our lives.
5. Jesus reveals that he is the Messiah.
  - a. He does this in a very creative way. He disproves the one accusation and then claims that the only other option for his authority means that the “kingdom of God has come to you”. Luke 11:20