

I Came that the Blind May See

John 9, Eph. 2:10, Jer. 29:11-13, 2 Cor. 12:9-10, Jn 3:17-21

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Eric Northrup / May 8, 2022

Happy Mother's Day!

2 Corinthians 2:15-16 "For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life..."

Thanks for being the wonderful fragrance of Christ that fills up the room.

We love you and support you!

I. Jesus Sees You in the Midst of Your Suffering!

John 9:1 "As Jesus passed by, He saw a man blind from birth."

One of God's names is "El Roi," the God who sees me.

Genesis 16:3 "So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife."

This is a woman that has been emotionally and physically abandoned her whole life.

"First, Pharaoh gave her up in giving her to Abraham. Second, Sarah (whom Hagar served) gave her up to Abraham as a wife. And third, when conflict arises between Sarah and Hagar after she becomes pregnant, Abraham gave her up too!"

-Colin Smith

God never gives up on His people!

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

Jeremiah 29:11-13 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will hear you. ¹³ You will seek Me and find Me, when you seek Me with all your heart."

Stop hiding from your weaknesses, your insecurities, your hardships.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 “But He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

“The greatest good your suffering can do for you is to increase your capacity for God.”

-Joni Eareckson Tada

He is the God who sees you!

II. What Do You See?

John 9:2 “And His disciples asked Him, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’”

“This way of thinking derived from the desire to avoid making God responsible for afflicting suffering on the innocent. Wicked, sinful behavior led to suffering and punishment. The innocent should not suffer. Despite the popularity of these beliefs, the Bible does not teach a uniform **cause-and-effect relationship** between sin and suffering. For example, the main point of the OT book of Job is to demonstrate the theological possibility of righteous, innocent suffering.

Elsewhere, Jesus also affirms that sin and disaster are not always directly related (Luke 13:2–3).”

-Faithlife Study Bible

John 9:3 “Jesus answered, ‘It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.’”

“God deliberately chooses weak, suffering and unlikely candidates to get His work done, so that in the end, the glory goes to God and not to the person.”

-Joni Eareckson Tada

III. Who is Jesus to You?

John 9:25 “He answered, ‘Whether He is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.’”

When you have an encounter with Jesus, a true encounter with the God of the universe, your life is changed forever. There is this miracle that happens within your heart in which you were

- Once dead and now you are brought to life
- Once lost and now found
- Once a prisoner to your sin and now set free
- Once blind and now can see

No one here in this room has the power to save but Jesus can. Place your trust in Him today.