

**Spiritually Speaking,
the way we see things is not
how they really are**



**Pin The Tail
On The Horse**



**We do not
see properly
because we
are wearing
a spiritual
blindfold**



Spiritual Blindness

Matthew 23:16-22



Blind Guides

They are blind because they refuse to look making them **careless leader**

Guides are supposed to be **knowledgeable leaders.**

They are supposed to know **how** to get there
Where the **dangers** are and **who** is in the group

The fact the Pharisees could not see past their own silly statements blinded them to guiding people toward God



Blind Fools

A fool is a person who acts **unwisely** or **imprudently**

The Pharisees could not see their own foolishness

They split hairs and parsed words

They swore oaths they never intended to keep

Their foolishness began to give power to trivial things and spiritual loopholes



Blind Men

At the end of the day the Pharisees were just men

They were trying to be righteous by living by a bunch of manmade laws (Religion**)**

When they could not keep the laws, they made exceptions to the rules

They literally allowed themselves to become blinded by themselves



Seeing Our Blind Spots

**Can You See a Blind Pharisee?
Not if he is me!**

A Man Born Blind (John 9)

**5 Things that
cause Spiritual
Blind Spots**



Judgmental Attitude

The Disciples (v. 2-5)

His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”



Judgmental Attitude

The Disciples (v. 2-5)

Ironically the first signs of spiritual blindness came from Jesus followers

They immediately assumed there was a sin issue

They did not know this man nor his parents

Jesus quickly rebukes their attitude making them aware it was not sin.



Cynical Attitude

The Crowd (v. 8-9)

His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, “Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?” Some claimed that he was. Others said, “No, he only looks like him.” But he himself insisted, “I am the man.”



Cynical Attitude

The Crowd (v. 8-9)

They **refused** to believe the change they saw

They **questioned** the man's identity even though they had known him his entire life

They should have been **celebrating**

Instead, their blindness just left them looking



Legalistic Attitude

The Pharisees (v. 13-16)

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. Therefore, the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath."



Legalistic Attitude

The Pharisees (v. 13-16)

Jesus had healed on the **Sabbath**

In his healing he "**made**" mud a pack

He told the man to **go wash**

Both would have been considered **work** and in **violation of the rules** for the **Sabbath**

However, their love of their laws robbed them from seeing it



Fearful Attitude

The Parents (v. 18-20)

They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. "Is this your son?" they asked. "Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?" "We know he is our son," the parents answered, "and we know he was born blind.



Fearful Attitude

The Parents (v. 20-23)

But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself." **His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.** That was why his Parents said, "He is of age; ask him."



Stubborn Attitude

Are we Blind? (v. 39-40)

Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.” Some Pharisees, who were with him, heard him say this and asked, “What?****

Are we blind too?”



Spiritual Blind Spots

Matthew 13:13-15

This is why I speak to them in parables: “Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: “‘You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise, they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn, and I would heal them.



Spiritual Blind Spots

You might think you see truth, but you do not

You see fact but are unable to perceive application

Our hearts will grow hard (calloused)

The real issue is **not that we are blind we have closed our eyes and refuse to open them**

Unless we open our eyes, we will not turn

Jesus: Overcome or we can never be healed



**Are You Willing to
Take a Closer Look?**

