

The Blind Man

Billy Graham

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Revelation 3.
- B. God looks upon the heart and sees a spiritual need for everyone.
- C. There is a fantastic spiritual world that we have not seen in our eyes.
- D. There is an unseen world of joy and peace that you have never found.

II. The example blind man Bartemaeus.

A. Bartemaeus was blind.

1. There is a supernatural veil under our eyes blinding us from spiritual matters. (2 Corinthians 2:13, 2 Corinthians 4:4)
2. One will never be able to come to Christ intellectually because the mind is infested with sin—that's why the Bible calls the gospel foolishness.
3. God had the Israelites do something foolish for healing in the desert so that it would be by faith. This is the same with the gospel.
4. When you come by faith as a little child and receive Christ, there is power to be obtained through the cross to change your life.

B. Bartamaeus was poor.

1. There is real poverty in the world.
2. There are also some who don't want to work. (2 Thessalonians 3:10)
3. There is a dignity to working with your hands.
4. Some have a burden for poverty for the wrong reasons, but the church still has a legitimate responsibility to help the poor.
5. There is a spiritual poverty too.
 - a. Woe to those who are at ease. (Amos 6)
 - b. Many are trying desperately to seek out meaning in life in vain.
 - c. The world is on edge and Jesus said there would be wars and rumors of war until the end of time.

d. The world needs a future intervention from God.

e. Spiritually we are simply hopeless.

C. Bartameus sought out Jesus and Jesus stopped.

1. If you call on Jesus tonight, He will stop for you.

2. Jesus did not come to be ministered to, He came to minister to you and He knows everything about you.

3. We have to become willing to give up our lives and our condition.

a. Bartameus was, and he was immediately healed.

b. Your life can be changed immediately and you can have Christ in your life.

c. It is not easy to follow Christ, but it is a challenge to commit to.

d. It will give you peace and fulfillment, and Christ will go with you .

III. Response: receive Christ by faith.

Application questions

1. How are we like Bartameus in his blindness?

2. How are we like Bartameus in his poverty?

3. How can we be like Bartemeus in his response to Jesus? What exactly must we do with Jesus to receive eternal life?
