

Man born blind

John 9:1-5 1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? 3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. 4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

This passage has been very controversial for many people. Many have developed teachings from how they have interpreted this passage.

- A) Jesus saw the man who was blind from birth. Notice this does not say, "Jesus saw a man who He made blind from birth."
- B) The disciples having been around the Lord and heard Him tell the man found at the pool of Bethesda to sin no more lest a worse thing come upon her, they asked a question that I believe was valid. Additionally, during those days as we see today, people believed that sin was a direct result of individual sin.
 - a) Furthermore, they did not ask an accusatory type of question or one with a preconceived conclusion about God. They did not say, "Why did You make this man sick or why did God make him born blind or allow it."
 - b) The disciples having lived and seen Jesus knew well that He had nothing to do with the blindness of this man. They knew He did not cause it and wouldn't. This is a lesson that many people need to learn about God. He has nothing to do with our sickness and diseases and sufferings.
 - c) These verses do not teach that Jesus caused or allowed this blindness, but rather reveal the extent He is willing to go to heal this man. You can't read this passage and genuinely conclude that God causes people to be sick or ill. You could not prove

that Jesus made this man blind, so that He could heal him. Conversely, I can prove that Jesus wished and willed this man to be healed which is why He healed him.

- C) In John 5:14, Jesus linked sickness to the individual sin of the man, but this is not ALWAYS the case for every situation.

It is wrong to make this conclusion in every case and it has done a lot of damage. Many people who want to be healed yet struggle to be healed were told that the sickness or disease was a result of their sin, and this brought in condemnation and guilt conscience which are barriers to receiving healing

"A misrepresentation of this has caused many people to reject the truths of healing. They know they are not great sinners and therefore feel condemnation when someone tries to tell them they are sick because of some individual sin. They know that condemnation isn't from the Lord and mistakenly throw the healing out with the condemnation." –Living Commentary.

Condemnation hinders people from getting healed and experiencing the power of God. Jesus offered the woman caught in the "very act of adultery" no condemnation then He told her to go and sin no more. He did not disregard her sin but did not front her sin while ministering to her.

- D) We need to let all people know including sinners or those we think and believe that sin is the cause of sickness or disease to know that God wants and wills to heal them regardless. This causes they step out in faith and receive from the Lord.

Looking at the man in John 5:14, Jesus did not tell him anything about sin until he was healed to help him stay healed. He did not do as many do today telling people about their sin before they are healed and as a result, they do not get healed.

- E) Who sinned?

The answer is none of the above. This blindness was not a result of the man's sins (past or future) or the sins of his parents. While all men have sinned according to Romans 3:23, sin in general is responsible for the mess, and corruption including sickness and diseases. The issue here was sin in general that caused sickness and diseases having corrupted the earth.

- F) Relieved – Jesus' response gave this man and his parents a lot of relief which allowed him to receive.

- G) Regardless of who sinned, it does not matter because, "I am going to heal him and God's works, power, and glory will be manifest.
- H) Healing is the work of God while sickness and disease is the work of the devil. Jesus did the work of God.

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