

# The Touch of Jesus

*“Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them.” (Luke 4:40)*

Lessons from miracles Jesus did, as they are recorded in the Book of Luke.

## LESSON 10: Healing A Blind Man

*“And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee.”  
(Luke 18:42)*

As you listen to the teacher, fill in the blanks!

1. At the Lord’s transfiguration, some of the disciples got a glimpse of the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A man begged Jesus to help his \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The disciples were faithless and \_\_\_\_\_.

In the ninth chapter of Luke there is an important transition in the story of Christ’s earthly ministry. The first chapter of the Book of Luke indicates that the account it relates is in *chronological order* (See vs. 1-4). The accounts of Matthew and Mark are more in *logical* than in chronological order, giving the stories and sayings of Jesus in groups according to subject. In Luke 1 through most of 9, we have an overview of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ which contains most of the miracle stories. Then in Luke 9:51 we read that *“it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem.”* What follows this verse is a detailed report of the Lord’s final journey to the city of Jerusalem. It continues through chapter 19, verse 44. Then the rest of the book takes place in and around Jerusalem and includes His crucifixion and resurrection. When you look over Luke 9:51 through 19:44, you find that there are fewer stories and more sayings of Jesus than in the first part of the book. There are also fewer miracle stories. But then we find Him in Jericho, His last stop before Jerusalem, and there He heals a blind man (18:35-43). Before we study this story, we should compare Luke’s version of it with the record in Matthew 20 and Mark 10. Notice that Matthew 20:29-34 says that there were *two* blind men healed at Jericho. Notice that Mark 10:46-52 says that a blind man named *ftlineBartimaeus* was healed as Jesus *left* Jericho. Luke 18 says that Jesus healed a blind man as He *entered* Jericho. The three stories have great similarities, but these differences cause us to ask questions. The explanation of the differences is simple. Jesus healed two blind men on His final visit to Jericho, one as He came into town, and the other as he left town! Bartimaeus obviously

heard about the previous healing and had hope to be healed himself. This explains why he repeated somewhat the actions and words of the first man that was healed.

### ***“So Much the More”***

The thing about this blind man that is emphasized in the Book of Luke is his *persistence* in seeking a blessing. When he was told that Jesus was passing by, he cried, “*Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me*”! Then people in the crowd told him to be quiet (vs. 35-39). But he paid them no attention. “*He cried so much the more, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me*”! The blind man believed that Jesus was the promised Christ. That’s why he called Him the Son of David. Isaiah, the prophet who emphasized that Christ would be a descendent of David (Isaiah 7:13-14, 9:6-7, and 11:1-4), said that He would “*open the blind eyes*” (35:5 and 42:6-7). So this man had a scriptural reason to hope for a miracle. Based on this hope, he persisted in asking for mercy, in spite of the folks who tried to discourage him. In the Bible, we are encouraged to keep on praying for something if we have reason to believe that it would please the Lord to grant it. Don’t give up if the answer doesn’t come right away. Read the parable in Luke 18:1-7.

### ***“What Wilt Thou”***

How amazing it would have been to hear the Lord Jesus respond to the poor man’s cry! He said, “*What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee?*” (vs. 40-42) What would your answer have been? God calls on us to be specific in our prayers. We are told, “*Let your requests be made known unto God*” (Philippians 4:6). Tell Him what you want. This shows faith and it pleases the Lord. Read Luke 11:5-8 to get faith to be persistent in prayer. Then read Luke 11:9-13 to get faith to be specific in prayer. Give God praise for specific answers to specific requests!

### ***“Glorifying God”***

It is interesting to see what the man did after he “*received his sight*” (v. 43). He “*followed him*” (Jesus) and was “*glorifying God.*” Jesus never seemed to attach “strings” to the granting of miracles. We don’t read of Him saying, “I’ll do this for you if you will . . .” Yet in many cases, and this is one, the healed person began following the Lord in gratitude for His mercy to him. Look back at Luke 8:2-3 and 8:38-39.

We also read that some who were healed loudly praised God for the miracle (Luke 5:25 and 18:43). These are two things all of us who have been touched by the hand of Jesus really ought to do: follow Him and glorify Him. Look up and read carefully Romans 12:1-2 and I Corinthians 10:31.