

Books of the Book Series

The Gospel of John Outline of Script for TV Production 3ABN Studios March 4-12, 2013

14. *Healing the Blind Man (9:1-41)*

14. Scene A. The Larger Context

Jesus visits the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7-10:21)

Major themes:

Water-- [John 7:37-39](#)

Light-- [John 8:12; 9:5](#)

In John 9 John uses the story of Jesus and the man blind from birth to illustrate two things (acted parable):

That He is truly the light of the world (healing = sign)

He acts it out by healing the man

That light produces rejection and opposition, and therefore judgment.

The Pool of Siloam is associated with the ceremonies of the feast, but the waters of Judaism heal only at the command of Jesus (replacement theme)

Chapter 9 is the story of a son of Abraham, a man afflicted

An acted parable of the Jews' need for the Messiah

cf. 8:33– we need nothing, we are children of Abraham

14. Scene B. Backgrounds

The Jews believed in rewards and punishments to the fourth generation.

Someone is to blame when something goes wrong.

Concept of the “merits of the fathers” ([Deut 7:7-9](#))

“We are children of Abraham”

The source of contention between Christians and Jews around 100 AD seems to have been the expulsion from the synagogues

Chapter 9 seems to reflect this contention

Contrast Acts, where the disciples worshiped freely

14. Scene C. The Story (9:1-34)

Contrast the claims of the blind man and the Pharisees

Man = ignorance

Pharisees = knowledge

12

16

25

24

Blind man grows in faith

11– “man they call Jesus”

17– prophet

33– from God

37– son of man

Pharisees grow in blindness

15– accept fact of healing

16-17– uncertain

27– entrapment

29– rejection

34– villification

39,41– guilty

Pharisees’ dilemma

Healing points to a man accredited by God

Sabbath healing shows him to be a sinner (Deut 13:1-5)

Blind man’s reasoning

If miracle —> prophet

An unprecedented miracle —> Messiah

9:35– Foretaste of the Good Shepherd

He cares for the outcasts

14. Scene D. The Climax of the Story (9:35-41)

Climax text: John 9:39-41

Summary of the theme of chapter 9

Draws the lesson from the story

Judgment by the light (9:5)

14. Scene E. Predestination and Human Responsibility

Two major assertions in John:

Human beings control their own destiny

God controls events

a) Human Responsibility

John 9:41; 12:42-43

Faith = condition to receiving the gospel

b) God's Sovereignty

John 9:39; 12:38-40

“Father sent” or “I have come” + *hina* with a statement about divine determinism very common in John

Faith = an attitude that humans must adopt for themselves, John 3:18,36

Unbelief is inexcusable 15:22

Underlying is a lack of will 7:17 and a moral problem 3:19-21

John 6:36-47

Faith is not possible without God's "pull" yet human beings are permitted, in the end, to make their own decision.

Unbelief is sin 16:9

When I look to the **past** it is clear that God has brought me to where I am in life.

When I look to the **future**, it is equally clear that I have decisions to make and actions to take. Both are equally true (paradox).