

Are You Blind?

What does it mean to be Blind?

Illustration: Blind Individual, Limited travel, limited mobility, limited speed

English Phrases

- Blind as a bat, Love is Blind, Look in your Blind spot,
- Turn a Blind eye, Go on a Blind date, Blind leading the Blind

What does the Scripture say about Blindness?

John 9:39-41 And Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind.” **40** Those of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and said to Him, “We are not blind too, are we?” **41** Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

Since Blindness appears to be the opposite of seeing,

What does it mean to See?

Greek word ὁράω and its usage:

24.1 ὁράω^a; εἶδος^b, οὐς ⁿ — ‘to see, sight, seeing.’

- *to take responsibility for causing something to happen* — ‘to see to it that something happens, to arrange for something to happen.’
- *to acquire information*, with focus upon the event of perception — ‘to learn about, to find out about.’
- *to take special notice of something*, with the implication of concerning oneself — ‘to take notice of, to consider, to pay attention to, to concern oneself with.’
- *to come to understand* as the result of perception — ‘to understand, to perceive, to see, to recognize.’
- *to go to see a person* on the basis of friendship and with helpful intent — ‘to visit, to go to see.’

If sight is more than seeing,

What is Blindness?

- It is the failure to recognize that God has been at work, and is at work, in his created order. God is at work in nature and in humans.
- His work is seen in the splendor and glory of nature and in the pain and disability of humanity. God is at work.

- We can not write off the outcasts of society as beyond the work of God, we can not write off the poor, the less well mannered, the indigent of our community.

What is the Danger of Blindness?

Romans 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

Romans 1:21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

The danger of blindness is Idolatry!

So then, what is idolatry?

- Idolatry is giving the credit where credit is not due!
- It is giving the honor of God's work, deeds and actions to someone or something other than God.

Is your business successful? Who gets the credit?

Is your family at peace? Who gets the credit?

Is your body healthy? Who gets the credit?

Are you suffering because of health, family, job? Have you discounted that God is still at work?

Idolatry may seem like a problem of the ages past, but that is only because physical idols are a thing of the past.

- Idolatry is alive and well in the USA.

What is the cause of Blindness?

John 9:2 And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?" 3 Jesus answered, "*It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him.*"

What is the Cure?

- The only cure available is to see what God has done and is doing in Jesus. He came so that we might see, that we might live, so that we might care for those in whom God is at work.
- God wants us not only to see the physical manifestation of his work with our eyes, but to perceive and understand with our hearts, souls, mind, and strength that it is His work so we can give him the glory.

Are you Blind?

Blind Person: Knows who I am at a distance just by the way that I walk. I can't recognize people because of the background light.

- **Only Jesus can help you see.**